

MBA Exchange Program

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR INCOMING EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Please feel free to email the MBA Exchange office at RHLglobal@sauder.ubc.ca if you have further questions.

Application Response Time

- Q. When will I know if I have been accepted to UBC?**
- A.** Once the Exchange Coordinator at your school informs us that you have been formally nominated to attend the Sauder School of Business for the Fall 2024 term, we will then contact both you and your Coordinator by e-mail with a *Welcome* letter. We will also mail your Exchange Coordinator a formal Letter of Acceptance that you may use to secure an entry visa (if needed).
- Q. Once I send in my application, how long will it take me to get a response from the MBA Exchange Office?**
- A.** Once we receive your application form and supporting documentation you will be assigned a UBC Student Number by e-mail. You cannot be registered for courses until we have your completed application form.

Exchange Dates: Orientation & Vancouver Tour

- Q. When do I need to arrive at UBC?**
- A.** You should plan to arrive before August 29, 2024. Orientation will be held on August 29 and 30, 2024. The itinerary will be sent to you via e-mail.
- Q. Do I need to attend Orientation?**
- A.** Yes. Attendance to the Orientation is mandatory for all exchange students.
- Q. When will final examinations finish?**
- A.** MBA students will finish their exams by mid-December, 2024 at the latest. However, the dates are subject to change.

Visa Information

Q. Do I need a Visa to study in Canada?

- A. A Study Permit (a Student Visa) is required for all students who are not Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada planning to study in Canada for longer than 6 months. **Students studying in Canada for less than 6 months are not required to obtain a Study Permit.**

Students will need a study permit in order to work on Campus. In addition, if students wish to extend their stay at UBC and do not have a Study Permit, they will need to apply for one OUTSIDE of Canada. In effect, this means that they would need to leave Canada and re-enter after applying for, and obtaining, a Study Permit. This could be quite costly.

We highly recommend that you contact the Canadian Embassy or Consulate in your country to verify current Permit requirements for your nationality. Information can also be found by visiting the website for International Students at <http://students.ubc.ca/international/>.

Q. Why do I need the UBC Letter of Acceptance?

- A. You will need this letter as it confirms your acceptance to the UBC MBA program as an exchange student. This letter must be shown to Canadian immigration authorities upon arrival to the country irrespective of whether or not you will require a Study Permit or entry visa.

Course Registration

Q. What is a *Term*, a *Period* and an *MBA course*?

- A. A *Term* refers to the Academic Term of the university. There are two terms in each of the Winter and Summer sessions; Term 1 and Term 2. You will be arriving during Winter Term 1, which is from September to December.

A *Period* is the length of MBA courses. In Term 1, there are two Periods, which are each six weeks in length. Period 6 is from early September to mid- October, and Period 7, is from November to mid-December, 2024. Please refer to the exact dates in the Factsheet.

You will be registering in MBA courses, which have prefixes of BAAC, BAFI, BAMA, BAHM, etc., to identify the subject area. For instance, BAAC is an Accounting Course, BAMA is for Marketing, BAFI is for Finance, etc.

Q. How many courses do I have to register for?

- A. You must take **4 courses** per Period, for a total of 8 courses. Each Course is worth 1.5 credits, for a total of 6 credits per Period, which equates to 12 credits during Term 1. In the event that you are not registered in all of your first-choice courses, or you

would like to change your registration, there is the possibility to add or drop classes during the first week of each Period.

Q. Can I take other courses besides MBA courses?

A. Most Exchange students only take MBA courses. You may take 1-2 graduate courses from other Faculties or Departments, provided you meet all the prerequisite requirements. However, please note that we cannot guarantee registration in courses outside of the MBA Program, as each Faculty/Department at UBC has their own rules and regulations concerning registration of students from outside of their programs.

Please also be advised that MBA Courses follow a different schedule than courses in other UBC programs, and subsequently, will have different examination dates.

Q. How can I register for courses / courses?

A. You must receive a UBC Student Number from the RHL and will need to create a Campus Wide Login (CWL) in order to be registered for MBA courses. You will receive information on how to select courses in June.

Q. Can I change my course registration?

A. Yes, in the event that you are not registered in all of your first choice courses, or if you would like to change your registration, there is the possibility to add or drop classes during the first week of each Period.

After two weeks of classes, you may not change your registration, and you must complete the courses that you are registered in.

Q. What percentage must I achieve to pass MBA courses?

A. You must achieve 60% or above for a pass.

Course Information

Q. Where can I find more information about courses, including course descriptions?

A. You can read through our current course descriptions at [FT MBA Class of 2024 Website](#)

Please note that you will be taking courses with the [Full Time Class of 2025](#).

Q. Where can I find more information about study costs and courses I'm registered in?

A. The on-line Student Service Centre (SSC) can be accessed through the following website: www.students.ubc.ca. From this web page, click on the Student Service Centre link on the "SSC" button on the top left of the screen. Once you log-on with your CWL and password, you can access your student account including outstanding

fees and a complete list of courses you are registered in for the Fall 2022. Please note that the system will not reflect your current status until late July.

UBC Housing

Q. Where should I live?

- A.** UBC Housing is only guaranteed to all incoming first year undergraduate students, making on campus options extremely limited for exchange students. We suggest that you focus your efforts on securing [off campus housing](#) near campus in Point Grey or Kitsilano ideally. If you can secure letters of reference from previous landlords before you travel to Vancouver this may be helpful in the approval process. Most rental agreements in Canada begin on the 1st or 15th of the month.

Try these sites to get an idea of pricing

<http://www.kijiji.ca/b-apartments-condos/british-columbia/kitsilano/k0c3719007>

<http://vancouver.craigslist.ca/search/apa?query=Kitsilano&srchType=A>

<http://www.makeyourselfathome.com/>

Medical Insurance

Q. I hear medical costs are expensive in Canada. Do I need to purchase medical insurance upon arrival in Vancouver?

- A.** Health Insurance for New International Students (IMED) is the **mandatory** basic health insurance program the University provides for new international students, including exchange students. You are automatically enrolled and the fee will be assessed before the start of classes and will be listed on your statement as a student fee.

The fee is \$252 (subject to change). The plan will provide coverage if you become sick or get into an accident from the beginning of September to December 2022, plus up to ten days travel between your home country and Canada. No other medical insurance is required. Please visit <http://www.david-cummings.com/imed/index.htm> for more information. You will be covered from end of August to end of December 2024.

Q. I have medical coverage from my home country; do I need to purchase the UBC medical insurance?

- A.** Yes, IMED is a mandatory service for exchange students regardless of their health insurance coverage at their home country. UBC has ensured that all exchange students have the same level of coverage for the duration they are in Canada.

For more information about the IMED insurance policy, please visit <http://www.david-cummings.com/imed/enrolment/index.htm>.

Transportation Costs

Q. What is the cost of a bus pass to get around Vancouver?

A. All incoming exchange students are automatically assessed a UPASS, Compass Card fee of \$180 (CAD) for the exchange term (4 months). This will provide you unlimited access to TransLink Bus, SkyTrain and SeaBus services (all zones) in Vancouver making transit travel cheap and convenient.

What to Bring to Vancouver

Q. Is a laptop computer required for the MBA program?

A. Students in the MBA program are not required to purchase a laptop. However, due to the business hours of computer labs on campus, students generally prefer to use their laptop to complete their work on campus, especially for exchange students who live on campus. The UBC campus and all residences are equipped with wireless internet network, and this service is provided for students for free.

If you plan to bring your laptop it is a good idea to bring your wireless network card, or purchase one when you arrive Vancouver. UBC MBA program has a lids-down policy in class.

Arriving in Vancouver

Q. How can I travel from the airport to my Housing?

A. Taxis, buses and Canada Line (Skytrain) normally operate between the airport and Vancouver.

For more information regarding getting to Vancouver, please visit the International House website at <http://www.students.ubc.ca/international/international-students/before-you-arrive/getting-to-vancouver/>.

Q. Where can I find other information about Vancouver from the perspective of an International Student?

A. The International Student Guide (www.students.ubc.ca/international) is a great resource for all of your questions about Vancouver and UBC.

Q. Will the MBA students offer assistance/guidance to help incoming exchange students adapt to their new environment?

A. Yes! The MBA Student Society has a 'buddy system' in place to provide information and support to incoming exchange students. In May/June the RHL will send you information on your 'buddy' who will be in touch with you and answer your questions.

MORE QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT THE MBA OFFICE FOR ASSISTANCE:
RHLglobal@sauder.ubc.ca.