

Master of Business Administration (MBA) Provision

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Introduction and points available

The 2004 Budget announced a new provision for graduates of some of the world's top business schools to work in the UK upon completing their MBAs.

The MBA remains one of the most widely recognised and respected management qualifications. The MBA provision, launched on 12 April 2005, is a provision within the Highly Skilled Migrant Programme (HSMP). It will enable the more highly qualified and talented managers to come to or remain in the UK.

To meet the requirements of the MBA provision, and qualify for HSMP approval, the applicant must:

- **Have graduated from an eligible MBA programme** (see MBA eligible programmes below) at the time the MBA was on the list of eligible programmes. The first list was published on 2 December 2004, so the earliest eligible graduation date will be 2 December 2004. The date of graduation will be taken as the date on the graduation certificate.
- **Provide evidence** that clearly demonstrates they have graduated from an eligible MBA programme (see MBA eligible programmes below). The MBA course must have been completed. The applicant cannot apply for this provision whilst part-way through their MBA programme.

Applicants who meet these requirements will be awarded the 75 points required to meet the HSMP criteria. However, they must also meet the English language requirement in order to qualify for HSMP approval.



MBA eligible programmes

Annex A of these instructions lists the 50 MBA eligible programmes as compiled by the Treasury, based on criteria that meet the requirements of the UK economy. For more details of the list please go to

<http://www.hm->

[treasury.gov.uk/pre_budget_report/prebud_pbr04/assoc_docs/prebud_pbr04_admba.cfm](https://www.treasury.gov.uk/pre_budget_report/prebud_pbr04/assoc_docs/prebud_pbr04_admba.cfm)

The list contains 10 UK institutions and 40 from the rest of the world. The inclusion of 10 UK institutions reflects the commitment these graduates have already shown to the UK and the knowledge they have of UK society. This list will be reviewed and re-published periodically by the Treasury.



What if the applicant has graduated on an MBA programme from an institution not on the list?

If an applicant has graduated from an MBA programme but the institution is not on the eligible list at the time of graduation then they are not entitled to apply under the MBA provision. The caseworker should not award any points and should refuse the case. The caseworker should inform the applicant in the refusal letter that if they still wish to apply under HSMP then they should make a fresh application (including the appropriate fee) and complete the standard sections of the HSMP1 application form. However, if the applicant fails to meet the MBA criteria, but has claimed under other sections in the application, the caseworker should continue to assess the rest of the application.



What if the applicant has graduated from one of the eligible institutions prior to the list being published?

If the applicant has graduated from an MBA programme from one of the eligible institutions, but they graduated before the list was published, then they are not entitled to apply under the MBA provision. The caseworker should not award any points and should refuse the case. The caseworker should inform the applicant in the refusal letter that if they still wish to apply under HSMP then they should make a fresh application (including the appropriate fee) and complete the standard sections of the HSMP1 application form.



What if the applicant has graduated on another course at one of the eligible institutions?

The MBA provision within the HSMP scheme is only for MBA graduates. If the applicant states in their application form that they have graduated from any other course at an eligible institution, whatever the level, they are not entitled to apply under the MBA provision. The caseworker should not award any points and should refuse the case. The caseworker should inform the applicant in the refusal letter that if they still wish to apply under HSMP then they should make a fresh application (including the appropriate fee) and complete the standard sections of the HSMP1 application form.



What if the list has been updated and the institution the applicant graduated from is no longer on the list?

The list of the 50 eligible institutions will be reviewed and re-published by the Treasury periodically. If an applicant has graduated from an institution that was on the list at the time of their graduation but the institution has since been removed from the list they will still be entitled to apply for the MBA Provision.



What supporting evidence is required for the MBA Provision?

To support the application for the MBA Provision the applicant must provide an original MBA certificate issued by one of the 50 eligible institutions. The date of graduation will be taken as the date on the graduation certificate. The certificate should show all of the following:

- the date of the award;
- the Institution awarding the MBA; and
- the applicant's name.

Original provisional MBA certificates are not acceptable. If the applicant has only recently completed the MBA and the certificate has yet to be issued, they should provide an original, official letter from the institution, and an academic transcript. The letter should be written on the institution's letter headed paper and confirm the details of their qualification. It should clearly state:

- the applicant's name;
- the qualification awarded; and
- the date of the award.

The academic transcript should clearly show:

- the applicant's name;
- the institution awarding the MBA;
- the course details; and
- confirmation of the award.

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Alternative evidence required for the MBA Provision

In exceptional circumstances caseworkers can consider evidence of academic qualification in the form of a **letter from the awarding institution** AND an **academic transcript**.

The original letter on the headed paper of the awarding institution from an authorised official should show:

- The applicant's name; and
- The qualification awarded; and
- The date of the award.

The academic transcript must include:

- The applicant's name;
- The name of the academic institution; and
- Course details; and
- Confirmation of the award.

If the letter/transcript does not state what qualification has been 'granted'/'conferred'/'awarded' it cannot be considered as suitable evidence.

Assessing the evidence provided in support of the MBA Provision

What process should the caseworker follow?

The caseworker should first check that the applicant has provided an original certificate or, where they are awaiting graduation, an original letter and academic transcript. The caseworker should also check that the awarding body is on the list of eligible institutions at the time of graduation.

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Making the decision

If the applicant has provided sufficient evidence of their MBA qualification and the MBA was awarded by an eligible institution and the HSMP team is satisfied that the requirements of the scheme have been met, the caseworker should award 75 points. This is the minimum number of points required to meet the HSMP criteria. However, applicants **must** also meet the English language requirement in order to qualify for HSMP approval.

If the applicant has not provided sufficient evidence to show they meet the English language requirement the application should be refused, irrespective of the points awarded in the MBA provision criteria. (Please see the chapter on English language.)



Annex A - The list of eligible MBA programmes

UK

- Ashridge
- Bradford School of Management/ Nimbas
- City University: Cass
- Cranfield School of Management
- London Business School
- Manchester Business School
- University of Cambridge: Judge
- University of Oxford: Said
- University of Strathclyde
- Warwick Business School

USA

- Babson College: Olin
- Boston University School of Management
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Columbia Business School
- Cornell University: Johnson
- Dartmouth College: Tuck
- Duke University: Fuqua
- Emory University: Goizueta
- Georgetown University: McDonough
- Harvard Business School
- MIT: Sloan
- New York University: Stern
- North Western: Kellogg
- Rice University: Jones
- Stanford University
- UC Berkeley: Haas
- UCLA: Anderson
- University of Chicago
- University of Maryland: Smith

- University of North Carolina: Keenan-Flagler
- University of Pennsylvania: Wharton
- University of Rochester: Simon
- University of Southern California: Marshall
- University of Virginia: Darden
- Vanderbilt University: Owen
- Yale's School of Management

Australia

- Australian Graduate School of Management
- Melbourne Business School

Canada

- University of Toronto: Rothman
- University of Western Ontario: Ivey

Ireland

- University College Dublin

Germany

- Bradford School of Management/Nimbas

China

- Ceibs

Italy

- SDA Bocconi

Switzerland

- IMD

France

- Insead

Singapore

- Insead

Spain

- University of Michigan

- Iese Business School
- Instituto de Empresa

Netherlands

- Bradford School of Management/Nimbis
- Rotterdam School of Management
- Universiteit Nyenrode