Your Guide to the
PROFESSIONAL MBA

Our MBA students and alumni represent a diverse range of employers, including:

Adventist Health System • AT&T • Capital One • Catalina Marketing • Citigroup • Clear Channel
Cott Beverages • Deloitte • DTCC • Ernst & Young • Geico • General Dynamics • Gerdau Steel
Goldman Sachs • Jabil • JPMorgan • KPMG • Marine Max • Merrill Lynch • MetLife
Morgan Stanley • Nielsen • Novo Nordisk • PricewaterhouseCoopers • Publix • SunTrust
Tech Data • Tribridge • Verizon • Moffitt Cancer & Research Center
Why a USF MBA?

EXPANDED LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGING EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Team collaborations are part of your learning experience at USF that help hone your leadership skills in real-life situations. Most courses require collaboration with a team of students in order to do research, analyze case studies, and deliver presentations. The capstone course is Integrated Business Applications, involving an in-depth consulting project for a live company in strategy, marketing and finance with actionable recommendations.

CHOOSE YOUR CAMPUS AND SCHEDULE

Most USF business students continue in their professional careers while completing the MBA program. The program is available at USF’s Tampa and Sarasota-Manatee campuses. Classes on the Tampa campus feature fast-track semesters with courses available in 1-week, 4-week, 8-week and 12-week formats enabling unique and efficient scheduling. Classes on the Sarasota-Manatee campus are held on Saturdays throughout the semester, allowing students to maintain a consistent balance with their professional obligations.

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES AND EMPLOYER INFORMATION SESSIONS

Networking with classmates and employers is a very important part of your MBA experience. You will develop your professional network as you go through your courses. Beyond the classroom, student organizations and signature college events offer several opportunities for social interaction.

To help you advance your career, the college hosts two Corporate Connections events annually. These networking events are exclusively for graduate students and allow you to interact with corporate recruiters.

We also host employer information sessions throughout the semester, bringing in hiring managers from large and small companies to talk about the skills needed to land a job with that firm and the opportunities available to our graduates.

MENTORS AND COACHES

Our MBA students have an opportunity to request placement with an alumni mentor. A mentor might provide tips on how to balance your new work-life-study obligations or discuss potential career paths you might take when you graduate. Mentors help expand your professional network and provide access to networking opportunities in the field.

Working with career services, students may be paired with an MBA coach to tackle unique career related goals. Our MBA coaches are established executive level leaders in industry that offer a deep understanding of what it takes to climb the corporate ladder.

A GLOBAL APPROACH

We live in a global market and international issues affect all segments of business. USF’S MBA curriculum takes an international approach as faculty include international business models and case studies as part of the classroom discussion.

This global approach extends to study abroad opportunities. USF offers study abroad experiences for graduate students — shorter experiences for working adults as well as semester-long opportunities for those who are able to spend more time overseas. These powerful experiences help students understand how business differs from nation to nation and helps them learn how to adapt and succeed in a changing business world.

For those who want to spend an entire semester overseas, USF offers exchange programs for graduate students, allowing you to study at select colleges, taking electives that count toward your MBA and paying USF tuition rates.
Coursework

Business Foundation (16 Credit Hours)
The business foundation courses provide background in several functional areas in order to prepare for more advanced studies. Students who have a recent undergraduate degree or coursework in business may be able to waive some or all of the business foundation courses.

- ACG 6026 - Accounting Concepts for Managers (3 Credit Hours)
- ECO 6005 - Introduction to Economic Concepts for Managers (3 Credit Hours)
- FIN 6406 - Financial Management (2 Credit Hours)
- ISM 6021 - Management Information Systems (2 Credit Hours)
- MAR 6815 - Marketing Management (2 Credit Hours)
- QMB 6305 - Managerial Decision Analysis (2 Credit Hours)
- QMB 6603 - Operations Management & Quality Enhancement (2 Credit Hours)

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN BUSINESS FOUNDATIONS
Some students choose to complete the Business Foundations graduate certificate prior to enrolling in the MBA. This option may be attractive for students that do not have a bachelor’s degree in business and have not yet met all admission requirements to the MBA. Connect with a recruiter for more details.

Required Courses (18 Credit Hours)
Advanced core courses are required courses for every MBA student. No exceptions are granted.

- MAN 6055 - Organizational Behavior & Leadership (3 Credit Hours)
- GEB 6445 - Social, Ethical, Legal Systems (3 Credit Hours)
- GEB 6215 - Communication Skills for Managers (3 Credit Hours)
- FIN 6465 - Financial Statement Analysis (3 Credit Hours)
- QMB 6358 - Data Analytics for Business (3 Credit Hours)
- GEB 6895 - Integrated Business Applications (3 Credit Hours)

(Please note this is the capstone requirement. It is taken as the final course of the MBA program.)

Elective Courses (15 Credit Hours)
Students may select courses from many business disciplines to round out their professional and personal goals. At least three credit hours must be a designated global elective. Some students may elect to complete a study abroad course to satisfy the global elective requirement.

Customized Areas of Study
We know that the reasons for pursuing your MBA are varied and, as a result, we don’t follow a “one size fits all” approach. You choose your electives according to your career aspirations. We offer individualized areas of emphasis in:

- Accounting
- Analytics & Business Intelligence
- Compliance, Risk & Anti-Money Laundering
- Creativity and Innovation
- Digital Marketing
- Entrepreneurship
- Finance
- Healthcare Management
- International Business
- Leadership Concepts & Organization Theory
- Management Information Systems
- Marketing Strategy
- Project and Process Management
- Sustainable Business

In addition to the above areas of study, we also offer a separate, full-time, cohort-based dual degree program where students earn both a Master of Science and an MBA in Sport and Entertainment Management.
Admission Requirements

The USF MBA admission committee uses a portfolio approach: the strength of each applicant is determined based on the entire application. Candidates must submit the following to be considered for admission:

- Bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited university (or equivalent if bachelor’s degree was earned at a foreign institution)
- Valid GMAT or GRE score*
- Statement of purpose
- Resume
- Three Reference letters (at least one must be a professional reference)

*A waiver of the GMAT/GRE requirement may be requested when a candidate meets one or more of the following criteria:

- 3.5 cumulative undergraduate GPA from either USF, a preeminent university in Florida or an AAU institution.
- Minimum three years professional or managerial work experience
- Active professional license or certification of significant merit
- At the discretion of the admission committee conditional admission may be offered to candidates who display a high capability to succeed in the MBA, but do not meet one or more admission standards.

How to Apply

Applications are submitted online at grad.usf.edu and are evaluated as they are received. Admissions decisions are usually made within four weeks. Non-USF transcripts must be submitted with application. Application deadlines are:

Application Deadline
Fall Start
June 1
For Domestic Students
Spring Start
October 15
For Domestic Students

TOEFL score for international students not coming from English speaking countries or who have not earned a bachelor’s degree from the United States (IELTS and PTE-A also accepted)

Please contact International Services at global.usf.edu/is for more information on international requirements.

Financial Aid

A limited number of scholarships and graduate assistantships are available each year to full-time MBA students. Assistantships provide part-time (20 hours per week) employment in various academic departments. Duties may include research, teaching and administration. Graduate assistant hiring decisions are made by individual departments.

Scholarship applications will automatically be sent to qualified candidates and recipients are required to attend the annual Scholarship Luncheon. For other sources of financial assistance, please visit the USF Financial Aid website at usf.edu/finaid.

Please note that financial aid is limited. Both domestic and international students should plan on financially supporting themselves throughout the program.

Cost to Attend

Resident | $467.34 per credit hour
Non-Resident | $913.08 per credit hour

Total program cost is estimated to be between $18,000 to $26,000 (resident) or $33,000 to $48,000 (out-of-state) including materials and fees and dependent on the number of foundation credit hours required.