

Overview

About the Maroon MBA Scholars Program

The Maroon MBA Scholars Program is designed to allow students graduating from the College during the 2020-21 academic year to enroll as a Full-Time MBA student in Autumn Quarter 2021. After completing their first year, Maroon Scholars will be required to pursue professional experience for two to three years before returning to Booth for their second year of coursework. Maroon Scholars must complete their MBA (20 courses) within five years.

All Maroon Scholars will have completed at least two years of post-graduate full-time work experience before completing their MBA, ensuring they are competitive in the search for post-MBA level positions and increasing their potential for future earnings and advancement.

Who is this program for?

The Maroon Scholars Program is for those who will benefit from one year of business education prior to joining the workforce. The program is ideal for undergraduate students interested in business but are still in the early stages of their career exploration. Maroon Scholars will pursue undergraduate-level positions after completing the first year of their MBA degree.

The Rudolph Scholarship for the 2021-22 Academic Year

To help support their success, all Maroon Scholars will receive a \$15,000 scholarship from the College towards the cost of tuition in their first year. All students who apply to the program will be automatically considered for the scholarship – no separate scholarship application is required!

How can I apply?

The application is available at this [link](#).

Program Logistics

Can I complete both years of MBA coursework consecutively?

To ensure students are competitive candidates for post-MBA opportunities, all Maroon Scholars will spend two to three years working full-time before completing their second year of MBA classes.

Am I able to take classes on a part-time basis as a Maroon Scholar?

All Maroon Scholars enroll in the Full-Time MBA program. This allows students to make timely progress toward their degree and meet the five-year graduation requirement.

Am I able to pursue a joint degree as a Maroon Scholar?

Maroon Scholars can only enroll in the MBA program and are not eligible for joint degree programs.

I have completed 6 BUSN courses as an undergraduate and am eligible for the Chicago Booth Scholars Accelerated Option. Can I accelerate my degree as a Maroon Scholar?

Due to the unique structure of the Maroon MBA Scholars Program, Maroon Scholars are not able to apply BUSN courses taken in undergrad towards their MBA. Students who have completed 6 BUSN courses are encouraged to apply to the [Chicago Booth Scholars: Accelerated Option](#).

What is the cost of the program?

The cost will be comparable to that of Chicago Booth's Full-Time MBA Program. You can find an estimated cost of attendance [here](#). As a Maroon Scholar, you will receive a \$15,000 scholarship from the College for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Eligibility & Application Questions

When will my application decision be released?

Applications to the Maroon Scholars Program are due on April 1, 2021. All decisions will be released on May 21, 2021.

Am I required to complete an application interview? Where and when do the interviews take place?

Yes, after applications are reviewed, you will be invited to interview if selected. These interviews will be conducted by the admissions committee virtually.

Can I apply to both the Maroon MBA Scholars Program and the Chicago Booth Scholars MBA Program?

Students should apply to only one of these programs. However, if after being admitted to the Maroon MBA Scholars program you opt to pursue full-time employment for Fall 2021, you can petition for your application to be moved to our Chicago Booth Scholars Program or the Chicago Business Fellows Program. These petitions are approved by the admissions committee on a case-by-case basis. Keep in mind that Chicago Booth Scholars are required to complete at least 2 years of work experience prior to starting their degree at Booth. In addition, you would no longer be eligible for the \$15K Rudolph Scholarship which is part of the Maroon Scholars Program.

I already have a job secured for Summer/Fall 2021. Is this the right program for me?

Since the Maroon Scholars Program requires students to be enrolled full-time for the first year of the program, students who intend to pursue full-time employment in Fall 2021 should consider the [Chicago Booth Fellows](#) or [Chicago Booth Scholars](#) programs.

I am an international student. Can I participate in the program?

Yes, international students are welcome to apply and participate in the program! International students follow the same program structure and will likely need to complete their two to three years of work experience outside of the U.S. Please contact the [Office of International Affairs](#) in advance to discuss how you might be able to complete the Maroon Scholars Program as an international student.

How will having Pass/Fail courses on my transcript impact my eligibility for the program?

The admissions committee does prefer quality grades when possible. However, we understand that the current COVID-19 crisis may have negatively impacted you academically, and are allowing all students to apply with Pass/Fail grades.

Am I required to take the GMAT or GRE?

If students meet one of the following criteria, they are not required to submit a GMAT or GRE score:

1. Obtain a 3.5 cumulative GPA at the time of application with no grades lower than a C on their transcript.
2. Submit an additional letter of academic recommendation and, if available, submit an ACT or SAT test score.

Students who meet these criteria are still welcome to submit a GMAT or GRE score if they'd like.

If an applicant does not meet either of the above criteria for the GMAT/GRE waiver, they are required to submit a GMAT or GRE score.

*Note: Please keep in mind the testing requirements above only apply to the Maroon Scholars Program and not to other Chicago Booth MBA Programs including the Chicago Booth Scholars MBA Program.

Career Questions

What support will I receive in the recruitment process in my first year?

As a Maroon Scholar, you will have robust career mentorship and support while pursuing employment opportunities. During the first year in the program, Maroon Scholars will work closely with the Career Advancement team in the College to secure post-undergraduate work experience. Drawing on their strong employer partnerships and expertise in helping students secure terrific entry-level opportunities, Career Advancement will provide personalized advising and recruiting guidance, industry exploration, and employer networking opportunities.

What support will I receive in the recruitment process in my second year?

During year two of the MBA, Maroon Scholars who have completed one year at Booth and 2+ years of work experience will be supported by Chicago Booth's Career Services Team. They will work closely with you to ensure you have the tools necessary to help secure a full-time MBA-level position.

Student Life Questions

Can I study abroad through the Maroon MBA Scholars Program?

Due to the unique structure of the Maroon MBA Scholars Program, Maroon Scholars are not able to participate in study abroad programming.

Can I participate in student life activities at Booth as a Maroon Scholar?

During your first year as a Maroon Scholar you are welcome to get involved with Booth's social and educational programming. Given the significant focus on post-MBA roles in career-focused student groups and programming, participation in these groups will be open to Maroon Scholars in their second year only.

Are leadership opportunities available for Maroon Scholars interested in participating in Booth groups?

While you are welcome to participate in Booth's student organizations, the full spectrum of leadership opportunities may not be available to Maroon Scholars because co-chair and other leadership positions assume continuous enrollment at Booth across a two-year timespan. However, there are certainly opportunities to participate in volunteering with Admissions, Career Advising, and being a non-co-chair member of many Booth groups.

When You Return to Booth

How do I confirm when I would like to return to Booth during my deferment period?

After your first year at Booth, you will pursue two to three years of work experience. During January of each year in your deferment period, we will reach out to you to confirm your plans for the upcoming academic year.

How do I engage with the Booth Community as a Maroon Scholar during my deferment period?

During your deferment period, you will continue to have access to the Chicago Booth student directory, and will also have access to the Full-Time student slack page and events hosted by Booth's research centers. In addition, Maroon Scholars will have continued access to programming and workshops designed for students deferring admissions to Booth, including Chicago Booth Scholars programming.

What does career support look like upon returning to Chicago Booth?

The summer before you return to Booth, you will be able to participate in workshops hosted by Career Services, and will be able to fully access Career Services resources as a second year Booth student.