

## Timeline: MBA

### FIRST YEAR:

**Think about your options.** Ask yourself: Why do I want an MBA? Where do I want to go to school? Does this school require me to work before attending school? Discuss graduate school with an advisor, PGP staff, faculty and other professionals.  
**Fall of your first and second years:** Apply for REU (Research Experience for Undergraduates) and internships.

### SECOND YEAR:

**Beginning in the Fall:** Research programs and schools. Speak with knowledgeable alumni, establish contacts with faculty at that school. Entrance to business school is based on your undergraduate GPA, GMAT (General Management Test) score and experiences. Consider the Babson MS in Technological Engineering Program. You can begin this your junior year, and have one semester remaining after you graduate from Olin. If you do this, you will need to register for and take the GMAT earlier!

### THIRD YEAR:

**Summer before:** Register, study for and take the GMAT.

**Summer and Fall: If applying directly after undergrad**—begin essays and applications.

**Spring:** Request letters of recommendation.

Think about how you will fund graduate school. You can select programs based on reputation, location, how courses are taught (theory-based or case-based), cost and financial aid assistance.

### FOURTH YEAR:

**Fall:** Take the GMAT if you haven't already. This is only if you are planning to work after undergraduate graduation. Complete applications if you are applying for admission directly after graduation. Your application will include: essays, resume, recommendation letters, transcripts, GMAT score and work experience.

**Spring:** Schools you apply to will then contact you to set up interviews. Be sure to answer these requests promptly, spaces fill up quickly and not all students will be able to interview.

### POST GRADUATION:

Generally, most business schools like students to work for at least two years prior to entering an MBA program. MBA programs accept students from all walks of life, and like to create a diverse class. They especially like to see students with diverse educational backgrounds and with economic, mathematic, oral and written skills. It is possible that your employer will pay for the MBA, if you agree to stay with the company for a set number of years.