Overview of the GMAT

Registration

Fees
Scheduling fee: $250
Rescheduling fee (more than 7 days in advance): $50
Rescheduling fee (less than 7 days in advance): $250
Updated information on fees

Purpose
This test is for people wanting to enter MBA programs, although some MBA programs accept GRE scores as well. Make sure to check which tests the MBA program you want to attend accept.

The GMAT evaluates problem solving, critical reasoning, logic, analytical writing, and data sufficiency, with particular emphasis on skills specific to business and management.

Scoring
The analytical section is scored from 0-6 in half point intervals
Integrated reasoning is scored from 1-8 in single digit intervals
Verbal and quantitative sections are scored from 0-60
Total score: 200-800 (does not include the integrated reasoning section – it is an independent score and is not included in the total GMAT score)

What is a good score?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Average GMAT</th>
<th>Average GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stanford University</td>
<td>732</td>
<td>3.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvard University</td>
<td>726</td>
<td>3.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)</td>
<td>728</td>
<td>3.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Chicago (Booth)</td>
<td>724</td>
<td>3.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Sloan)</td>
<td>713</td>
<td>3.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwestern University (Kellogg)</td>
<td>713</td>
<td>3.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of California – Berkeley (Haas)</td>
<td>717</td>
<td>3.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia University</td>
<td>716</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dartmouth College (Tuck)</td>
<td>716</td>
<td>3.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Virginia (Darden)</td>
<td>706</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The median score is 560, but the average score for the top ten schools is around 720 (94th percentile)
Test Format

**Analytical section** (one 30 minute essay)
Analyze an argument

**Integrated Reasoning** (12 questions, 30 minutes)
Question type: multi-source reasoning, graphics interpretation, two part analysis, table analysis
Assess ability to synthesize data

**Quantitative section** (37 questions, 75 minutes)
Quantitative reasoning, solving quantitative problems, interpreting graphic data

**Verbal section** (41 questions, 75 minutes)
Reading comprehension, critical reasoning, sentence correction

Only the quantitative and verbal sections are computer adaptive. This means that the computer will assess how well you are doing throughout the sections and adapt the test to your needs. Doing well in the first sections will lead to harder questions in the later sections, and a higher score! However, you cannot revisit questions that you have already answered. If you don’t know the answer to a question, you should try to guess strategically because there is a penalty for unanswered questions.

As questions progress on the computer adaptive sections, the questions are worth less. Since most of your score will be determined on your first few questions, you should work slowly and carefully at first and finish the later questions at a faster pace.

**Dates**
Offered continuously throughout the year. Note that you can only take the GMAT five times every year and you must wait 31 days between tests. Click [here](http://cns.utexas.edu/career-services) for more information on test dates and testing centers.

**How to prepare**
Taking timed practice tests
Tutoring
GMAT Classes
[Free test materials from the University of Texas libraries](http://cns.utexas.edu/career-services)
Books
Official Practice questions
Or choose a practice test company that fits your needs (Kaplan, Princeton Review, Manhattan, etc.)

[Kaplan’s GMAT question of the day](http://cns.utexas.edu/career-services)
GMAT Toolkit App: [App Store](http://cns.utexas.edu/career-services), [Google Play](http://cns.utexas.edu/career-services)