Master of Finance FAQs

What is the tuition?
$57,750

What are the Application Requirements?
Admission to graduate standing in The Paul Merage School of Business is accorded to those possessing an undergraduate degree with an acceptable level of scholarship from an institution of recognized standing. Applicants for admission will be evaluated on their academic record and potential for leadership as demonstrated in submitted application materials including:

- Official transcripts from all institutions attended to obtain undergraduate degree (with English translation if needed)
- Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) or Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores
- Two letters of recommendation
- Statement of purpose essay
- Resume
- Official TOEFL, PTE, or IELTS (international applicants)
- $150 application fee
- A personal interview (by invitation only)

What are the application deadlines? When will I find out if I am admitted?
- February 1, 2017
- May 1, 2017**
- July 1, 2017
**May 1 is the final deadline for international applicants to ensure sufficient time for visa processing

The admissions team works as quickly as possible to review your application. Applications are reviewed as they are received and decisions made on a rolling basis. When an application is deemed complete, it will be reviewed within 4-8 weeks to determine if the admissions committee would like to schedule an interview. Applicants are notified of interviews, admissions decisions, and fellowship award packages continuously throughout the admissions cycle. The class fills throughout the cycle, so you are encouraged to apply as early in the admission cycle as possible, without compromising the quality of your application.

Where do I send official documents?
We are unable to accept unofficial test scores or transcripts. In order for your application to be complete, official documents should be sent to:

- **TRANSCRIPTS**: The Paul Merage School of Business, UC Irvine, Attn: Master of Finance Program, 4293 Pereira Drive, SB1 Suite 4500, Irvine, CA 92697-3125
- **GMAT**: The Paul Merage School of Business, Master of Finance Program, institution code: 0DP-7R-05.
- **GRE**: UC Irvine institution code: 4859
- **TOEFL**: UC Irvine institution code: 4859
- **IELTS**: You must submit a Test Report Form (TRF) to: The Paul Merage School of Business, UC Irvine, Attn: Master of Finance Program, 4293 Pereira Drive, SB1 Suite 4500, Irvine, CA 92697-3125
- **Pearson**: You must submit a Test Report Form (TRF) to: The Paul Merage School of Business, UC Irvine, Attn: Master of Finance Program, 4293 Pereira Drive, SB1 Suite 4500, Irvine, CA 92697-3125
Please note, we will not receive your official TOEFL or GRE score reports until 2-3 weeks after you have submitted your online application.

What is the minimum GMAT/GRE Score and GPA required for admission?
While there is no minimum GMAT/GRE score or GPA to apply, we do expect that applicants will have an overall competitive profile. Test scores are valid for 5 years from the test date. We will consider your highest score for admission purposes.

Is there a minimum score for TOEFL/IELTS required from international applicants?
The minimum score for admission is 600 for the paper-based test or 80 for the Internet-based test. TOEFL scores are valid for up to two years from your test date. Applicants may receive a waiver of the TOEFL if all of the requirements for the high school diploma, bachelor’s degree, or an advanced degree in a country where the primary and dominant language is English and English was the language of instruction of the school where the requirements were completed. *Please note that if transfer credits where applied to your degree, that these course would have to have been completed in a country where English is the primary or dominant language for the TOEFL waiver to apply. For more information visit: http://www.grad.uci.edu/admissions/applying-to-uci/english-proficiency.html

Alternative to the TOEFL, you may also take the Academic Modules of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or Pearson Test of English (PTE). For the IELTS, the minimum required score for admission is 7, with a score of no less than 6 on any individual module. The PTE minimum required score for admission is 53. Scores are valid for two years. You will be considered within the context of your entire application. We are looking for well-rounded applicants, and we encourage you to apply if you have a genuine interest in the program.

How long is the program? How many units do I need to complete it?
The MFin is a full-time program lasting 12 months (four quarters). It requires six core courses and seven electives, with a total of 52 units. Students are also required to participate in a three-quarter ProSeminar that will be coordinated with the Merage Career Center. The course will provide students with practical skills for success in the program and their future careers in finance by teaching them career planning, job search tactics and strategies, resume building, interviewing preparation, approaches to networking, salary negotiation, public speaking, and business writing skills.

What does the Admissions Committee look for in an applicant?
We are looking for students who want to receive extensive, practical training for quantitative and analytical jobs in the field of finance (asset management, risk management, wealth management, and real estate). We evaluate and take into account a number of criteria including test scores, academic performance, essays, resume, work experience, and letters of recommendation. An Admissions Committee will balance the diversity of education, work experience, background, and leadership potential to build a diverse and high quality classroom environment. We encourage you to apply if you have a genuine interest in the program.

Is work experience required for admission?
Work experience is not required for admission.

Do I need to have a business background to apply to the program?
No, but a quantitative background in subjects such as calculus and intermediate statistics is encouraged and undergraduate degrees in sciences, engineering, mathematics, economics, and business are recommended. Moreover, would also like to see post-university work experience or research experience in a quantitative discipline, experience/familiarity with computer programming or risk management tools (e.g. C++), experience with statistical and econometric applications (e.g., SAS, STATA, Mat Lab, R, S-Plus), and/or experience with math tools (e.g., MatLab, Mathematica).
How will I know if my application is complete?
We will notify applicants via e-mail if their application is incomplete.

Do I need to send in a hard copy printout of my application once submitted?
There is no need to send in a printout of your online application given that we receive this information once you submit it online. However, make sure you do submit official copies of your transcripts and other required items listed here.

Email us at mfin@merage.uci.edu for any additional questions.