Criteria for Admission

Application Requirements
Information for International Applicants
Application Essays

The Darden Admissions Committee evaluates three broad areas in considering candidates for admission:

Academics
The Committee looks for evidence of superior academic performance and intellectual ability, and for non-native English speakers, evidence of proficient English skills for success in the program.

While no specific undergraduate major is required for admission, coursework in accounting and statistics is highly recommended prior to matriculation. Transfer credits from other institutions cannot be used to satisfy the requirements of the Darden MBA degree.

Professional Experience
Darden seeks students who demonstrate potential for action-oriented leadership in the world of practical affairs. The average number of years of full-time work experience is approximately four years. Please bear in mind that Darden does not require a minimum number of years' work experience prior to entering the MBA program, and it is important for you to assess your own readiness when deciding to apply. Successful candidates are able to demonstrate strength in our criteria regardless of the number of years of their work experience.

Personal Qualities & Characteristics
The Admissions Committee looks for breadth of life experiences, as well as characteristics that cannot be quantitatively measured, such
as motivation, maturity, integrity, and self-awareness. Factors such as international exposure, diversity, and culture/gender sensitivity are also taken into consideration. In addition, we value a commitment to ongoing personal and professional development.

Interviews play a critical role in assessing candidates for admission. We look for individuals with strong interpersonal and communication skills, as these are essential for success in a case-method pedagogy as well as positions of broad managerial responsibility.

**Note to Early Action Applicants:**
The Early Action round is ideal for applicants/reapplicants that have completed their research about MBA programs and have decided that Darden is their first choice. Early Action allows applicants to secure their offer of admission to Darden by December 8, 2006. This offer is non-binding. A distinct feature of the Early Action program, moreover, is that applicants will automatically compete for two-year scholarships ranging from $10,000 to full tuition per year. See the Financial Aid website at [http://www.darden.virginia.edu/financialaid/index.htm](http://www.darden.virginia.edu/financialaid/index.htm) for further details.

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