MS/MA/MStat Program Admissions Tips and Frequently Asked Questions

1. Our Admissions committee meets very soon after the April 1 deadline. Please strive to complete your application by that date. If any materials are missing from your application, you may not receive full consideration.

2. Take the GRE (and TOEFL if required) early enough so that your scores arrive well before the April 1 deadline. Test scores should be sent from ETS directly to the Office of Admissions (not to the Economics Department) for the quickest processing. The code is 4853.

3. The Office of Admissions is a completely separate office from the Economics Department. If you need to check on receipt of materials you have sent to the Office of Admissions, please contact them directly at 801-581-8761.

4. Please upload all materials directly into the ApplyYourself application system. If you need to add more materials after you have submitted your application, you may do so through the “Post-Submission” area. Mailing items to the Economics Department will result in delays.

5. If you need to update your application profile, log in to ApplyYourself and:
   1. Select the Profile button at the top of the screen.
   2. Make the necessary edits to profile name, email address, birth date and/or zip code in the Account Profile window that opens.
   3. Select the Update Account button.

   You cannot edit other application areas (e.g. Application Type, Program Information, Educational History, etc.) after submission. If you need to update your application record, please contact the Office of Admissions at graduate@sa.utah.edu or (801) 581-8761.

6. Letters of recommendation are completed online and submitted directly into the ApplyYourself system. Before beginning your application, please confirm with your recommenders that they have access to e-mail and the Internet and will be able to complete the process online.

   Frequently Asked Questions

**Transcripts: official or unofficial?** You may upload unofficial transcripts to the application system, and if you are accepted you will be then be asked to have all official transcripts sent to the Office of Admissions.

**Statement of Purpose: how long should it be?** The Statement of Purpose is an important part of your application. Take the time to write a great one.
**GRE scores: what is considered to be competitive?** For the MA/MS program, a minimum of 300 on Verbal and Quantitative sections combined is required. For the MStat, we do not have threshold scores for admission. Scores should be recent, no more than a few years old.

**TOEFL (International students): do I really have to take it?** If you received a degree from an accredited college/university in an English-speaking country, the TOEFL is waived for admission.

**How many applications are received each year, and how many students are accepted?** Application numbers and acceptance rates will vary from year to year. For the MA/MS, we usually receive 30-35 applications and accept most applicants who have met the minimum requirements (3.0 undergrad GPA, GRE 300, prerequisites, complete application). For the MStat, we usually receive 14 or 15 applications for Fall admission and 5-6 for Spring admission, and accept most applicants who have met the minimum requirements (3.0 undergrad GPA, GRE completed, prerequisites, complete application).

**Prerequisites: can I complete them after I begin the program?** Prerequisites must be completed before the beginning of the term of admission. It is permissible to take your prerequisites in the term before the desired start date, for example completing prerequisite courses in the summer before starting the program in the fall.

- **MA/MS Prerequisites:** Intermediate Micro- and Macroeconomics (Econ 4010 and 4020), Econometrics (Econ 4650) with a 3.0 (B) average or above.
- **MStat Prerequisites:** Calculus 1, 2, and 3; Intermediate Micro- and Macroeconomics (Econ 4010 and 4020), and 2 semesters of basic statistics.

**When will I receive notification of acceptance?** Notifications are posted around June 1. You will receive your notification by e-mail.

**How long will it take to receive my I-20?** I-20s for international students are processed and mailed by the Office of Admissions, 801-581-8761. Processing times will vary.

**How much does tuition cost?** Please see [http://fbs.admin.utah.edu/income/tuition/general-graduate/](http://fbs.admin.utah.edu/income/tuition/general-graduate/) for general graduate tuition rates.

**How do I find a translation service for my documents?** Here are a few resources that other students have used, not necessarily endorsed by our department:

- In Sync Translation Service (877-468-0322)- [www.insyncinterpreters.com/contact/](http://www.insyncinterpreters.com/contact/)
- AACRAO Foreign Education Credential Service-- **Must request a Course-by-Course Evaluation.** [www.aacrao.org/international/foreignEdCred.cfm](http://www.aacrao.org/international/foreignEdCred.cfm)
- Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc. [www.ece.org](http://www.ece.org) -- **Must request a Course-by-Course Report**
I was not accepted to the program last year, can I reapply? Yes, if you unsuccessfully applied to the program in a previous term and wish to reapply, you may do so. You will need to submit all new materials and use a different e-mail address for your new application. The ApplyYourself application system does not have the capacity to re-use applications from previous terms.

I am having a problem with the Recommendation Letters. What should I do? When an applicant or recommender has questions on technical issues related either to the online applications or recommendations he or she is completing, please connect to the ApplyYourself (Hobson’s) end user support team. That team not only helps with those types of questions, but also works to maintain and update the Knowledge Base that applicants and recommenders can access online through the support portal.

From October 1 through March 31, end user support is available the following hours:
Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 8 PM Eastern
Saturday through Sunday, 9 AM to 6 AM Eastern

From April 1 through September 30, their hours change to:
Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 6 PM Eastern

Applicants and Recommenders can contact Hobsons end user support either by going to http://hobsonsupport.force.com/applicationsupport or by selecting a Technical Support link available from the application or recommender pages. For the application, the Technical Support link can be found at the bottom of the login page. Once an applicant is logged in, the link can always be found at the top of the screen.

Once an applicant or recommender arrives at the Hobsons Applicant and Recommender Support Portal, he or she can search the FAQs by entering keywords or by searching through all the categories.
If the support articles don’t answer the question, the applicant or recommender can create a case with Hobsons end user support by selecting the Contact Support button. Hobsons has let us know that cases submitted through this portal provide them with more information than an email would.

The applicant or recommender should complete all required questions and then select Save Case. Hobsons end user support will try to resolve the issue as quickly as possible.