

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY—FULLERTON

MIHAYLO COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Type of school Public
 Affiliation No Affiliation
 Academic calendar Semester

SURVEY SAYS...

Happy students
 Solid preparation in:
 Qualitative skills
 Computer skills

STUDENTS

Enrollment of parent institution 35,311
 Enrollment of MBA Program 331
 % male/female 60/40
 % part-time 92
 % underrepresented minority 37
 % international 24
 Average age at entry 27
 Average years work experience at entry 0

ACADEMICS

Academic Experience Rating 81
 Profs interesting rating 80
 Profs accessible rating 85
 Student/faculty ratio 24:1
 % female faculty 17
 % underrepresented minority faculty 14
 % part-time faculty 15

Prominent Alumni

Steve Charton, President and CEO, Hospitality; Kevin Costner, Businessman and Actor; Steve G. Mihaylo, President & CEO, Telecommunications; Jim Woods, Chairman Emeritus & CEO (Retired), Aerospace; Richard Davis, President, CEO & Chairman, Banking

Academics

"A reputable state university with an excellent business school," Cal State Fullerton runs the largest accredited MBA program in the state of California. For current and future Southern California professionals, CSUF is a great way to get an edge in the business world, without breaking the bank. With a strong faculty and ties in the local business community, this school offers a "quality program at an affordable price." Whether you choose to go to school full-time or part-time, the Evening MBA is entirely "flexible and customizable," and "can be moderated in difficulty, depending on course choice and workload." Taking two classes per semester, evening students can complete the program in fewer than three years. Taking four classes per semester, full time students can even complete the program in 16 months.

For both full-time and part-time students, the Mihaylo MBA program consists of ten foundation courses, four electives, and a capstone course. Through electives, students can pursue an academic concentration in one of 12 different fields; there is "great accounting faculty," as well as a strong finance department at CSUF. In addition to academic programs, the school operates 15 "centers for excellence," like the Small Business Institute, where faculty and students conduct research and case studies within a real business environment. Across departments, "professors are all very knowledgeable in terms of both theory and real world experience," and many "use their lifetime experiences to spice up the class discussions." While "most professors are outstanding and inspiring," students admit that the overall quality of the teaching staff can be "inconsistent," especially when it comes to tenured faculty.

Since many students are balancing work, school, and personal life, most CSUF professors are "sympathetic to the many demands facing graduate students, who have full-time jobs and families." Overall, CSUF is a "warm environment, with professors who care about students" and an administration that is "supportive and helpful" to its ample student body. At the same time, students note that the "school is facing heavy budget cuts," which can affect the smooth functioning of the administration. In the past few years, there have been "some admin mix-ups" with regards to books and scheduling. "All things considered, an MBA at Cal State Fullerton is an "excellent value." Armed with both academic and practical experience, graduates leave the program "ready to work and lead in the workforce."

Career and Placement

For those who love the surf and sand in Southern California, "CSUF has excellent ties to the local Orange County business community." Throughout the program, "the professors and administration work as partners in helping us achieve our career goals." Students are encouraged to visit the Advising Center to meet with career path advisors, who help them choose a concentration, plan their education, and develop a career search strategy. In addition, students can make an appointment with the business career specialist at the university's Career Center, who helps place graduates in accounting, finance, international business, information systems, and marketing positions.

ADMISSIONS CONTACT: PRE-ADMISSION ADVISOR
 ADDRESS: 800 N. STATE COLLEGE BLVD, SGMH 4210, FULLERTON, CA 92831-3599
 PHONE: 657-278-3622 • FAX: 657-278-7101
 E-MAIL: MBA@FULLERTON.EDU • WEBSITE: MBA.FULLERTON.EDU

FINANCIAL FACTS

Annual tuition (in-state/ out-of-state)	\$11,966/\$18,662
Fees	\$3,924
Cost of books	\$5,856
Room & board	\$12,000
Average award package	\$4,000
Average grant	\$4,000

ADMISSIONS

Admissions Selectivity Rating 81	
# of applications received	473
% applicants accepted	40
% acceptees attending	48
Average GMAT	558
Range of GMAT	480-630
Average GPA	3.33
TOEFL required of international students	Yes
Minimum TOEFL (paper/computer)	570/230
Application fee	\$55
International application fee	\$55
Early application deadline	1/31
Regular application deadline	5/15
eternment available	No
Transfer students accepted	Yes
Transfer application policy:	
Students must apply as a new student and courses will be evaluated.	
Students may transfer in up to 9 units.	
Non-fall admissions	Yes
Need-blind admissions	Yes

Though the programs are strong, career development could be improved with the addition of "more networking activities within the program, outside the program, and with other schools that have similar programs." Students would also like to see Cal State Fullerton build "relationships with higher quality employers and recruiters." A student explains, "We have a good program, but our career center is geared for undergraduates, and they do not have that much to offer for graduate students." The school has listened to its students, though, and an Associate Director of MBA Career Management has been hired for the Fall of 2011, and will create an MBA Career Center for full-time students.

After graduating from Cal State Fullerton, MBA candidates join a "large alumni network" of almost 50,000 former students in Southern California and beyond. Currently, Mihalo graduates are employed at Ford Motor Company, Hewlett Packard, Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley, Nestlé, Fox Sports, KPMG, Warner Brothers, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Paramount, Boeing, Deloitte & Touche, US Bank, Verizon, Walt Disney Company, Kaiser Permanente, and Toshiba, among others. In recent years, the mean base salary reported by Cal State Fullerton MBA graduates was over \$62,000 annually.

Student Life and Environment

CSUF is a large MBA program, which attracts a wide variety of students at any level of their career, but still brings the average class size to less than 30 students. Here, students are "very diverse in terms of ethnicity, race, ideas, background, and ages," though "most are in their mid- to late 20s and have 2-5 years of work experience." As a "very diverse and professional environment," CSUF caters to students "looking to move up in their careers." In the classroom, students keep the bar high, but competition low. Generally, students are "very sociable people," who are "pleasant to study with."

At the same time, "there isn't too much school spirit or ways to get involved with social activities on campus." Collegiate activities are generally "geared toward undergraduate students," so most MBA candidates are "only at the business school for class or to study." Nonetheless, CSF offers a nice school environment on their main campus, where the "new business school building" offers "plenty of nice, quiet, clean study areas." Caffeine-fueled students add, "The Starbucks in the business school is a definite plus," and there is a "state-of-the-art gym provided to students, free of charge." Most students are quick to praise their campus experience.

Admission

Admission to Cal State Fullerton is competitive. Incoming students in last year's class had an average GMAT score of 577 and a 3.2 GPA. To best prepare for admission, students should attend an information session on the Cal State Fullerton campus. These sessions regularly fill to capacity, so prospective students should register online in advance to secure a spot.