

# Frequently Asked Questions

## MA Business Economics Program

Revised November 19/12

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### **When is your application deadline?**

Students who wish to be considered for the first round of offers must submit an application no later than January 15th. We will continue accepting qualified applications after this date based on space availability in the program.

### **What time of year do your programs start?**

All of our programs begin in September each year; there is no January or May start.

### **What tests do you require?**

We require official scores of TOEFL, IELTS, CAEL or the Michigan Test from applicants whose primary language is not English, and whose language of instruction from their previous degree was other than English.

### **What is the minimum test scores for English proficiency?**

Minimum TOEFL scores are as follows: TOEFL iBT: minimum score of 89, with minimum skill scores of 21 in each of the skills tests (speaking, writing, reading and listening); Paper-based- TOEFL: minimum of 573. Other tests of English language proficiency accepted include IELTS (minimum score of 7), Michigan Test (minimum score of 90) and Canadian Academic English Language Assessment (CAEL) (minimum score of 70 is required). These tests are offered in Canada, the United States and many other countries.

### **What is the TOEFL test code for WLU?**

It is #0893.

### **Are GMAT and GRE scores required?**

GMAT/GRE scores are not required, but will be considered if submitted.

### **If I am admitted, how long do I have to make a decision?**

You generally have three weeks to make a decision and secure your spot by mailing your signed acceptance of admission form.

### **Do you offer part-time program?**

We do not offer part-time MABE program.

### **Where can I find more information on other scholarships and awards?**

The Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies has information on external scholarships and awards on their [website](#).

### **What kind of funding is available?**

Eligible students admitted to study on a full-time basis in research-based master's programs are guaranteed financial support averaging approximately \$12,000 for each eligible year of study. Such support is made up of teaching assistantships and internal and/or external scholarship awards. Some research assistantship support is also available; students are encouraged to contact their academic program for more information. Major award holders (OGS, CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC) in the research master's programs are eligible for the Dean's Scholarship, valued at \$7,500. Consult your academic program for further details.

### **Can applicants check the status of their applications online?**

Status of applications are not available online. Applicants should email [mabe-inquiry@wlu.ca](mailto:mabe-inquiry@wlu.ca).

# Frequently Asked Questions for Qualifying Students

## MA Business Economics Program

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### **If I do not have enough economics background, can I be considered for the Qualifying Year (QY)?**

An honours graduate in a program other than economics or general degree graduates may be admitted if evidence justifying admission is offered; however, a program of appropriate preparatory studies (qualifying year) will be required of such applicants. A student who has successfully completed the qualifying year with a minimum of B standing may apply for admission to the master's program.

### **What English proficiency scores are acceptable for Visa students?**

We require official scores of TOEFL, IELTS, CAEL or the Michigan Test from applicants whose primary language is not English, and whose language of instruction from their previous degree was other than English.

### **What is the minimum score for English proficiency test?**

TOEFL iBT: minimum score of 89, with minimum skill scores of 21 in each of the skills tests (speaking, writing, reading and listening); Paper-based- TOEFL: minimum of 573. Other tests of English language proficiency accepted include IELTS (minimum score of 7), Michigan Test (minimum score of 90) and Canadian Academic English Language Assessment (CAEL) (minimum score of 70 is required). These tests are offered in Canada, the United States and many other countries.

### **What is the TOEFL test code for WLU?**

It is #0893.

### **Are GMAT and GRE scores required?**

GMAT/GRE scores are not required, but can be submitted with the application package if available.

### **After the program is completed, will I be considered for the MABE program?**

Once you complete your qualifying year with at least B average (70%), you can apply to be admitted to the Master of Arts in Business Economics (MABE) of the following academic year. You will compete with everyone else that applies. Completion of the qualifying year does not guarantee admission to the MABE program. It is in your interest to get very good grades during the qualifying year in order to increase your chances of being admitted into the MABE program.

### **What kind of funding is available?**

Qualifying students are not eligible to receive financial aid during the qualifying year program.

### **How long is the Qualifying Year?**

It amounts to a year of advanced undergraduate study intended as preparation for the Master's Program.

### **What are the required courses in the QY program?**

Students are required to take ten (10) senior half credits in microeconomic and macroeconomic theory, statistics (if you have not taken stats), econometrics and some economic electives. The courses will be jointly determined by the Graduate Director and the student. At least a B average must be achieved in order to be considered eligible to apply to the Master's program.

### **What is the tuition fee for undergraduate students?**

For Canadian students, the tuition fee per half credit is \$638.35 per course. Visa students pay \$2080.37 per half credit. Note that these fees are for 2012-2013 academic year. Applicants should check the webpages for updated fees changes in July at [http://www.wlu.ca/page.php?grp\\_id=1272&p=14969](http://www.wlu.ca/page.php?grp_id=1272&p=14969) (for domestic students) and <http://www.wlu.ca/calendars/section.php?cal=1&y=53&s=508&ss=2324&sp=1965> (for visa students).

### **Upon completion of the QY program, what is required to be considered for the MABE program?**

Eligible students must re-apply online and a signed copy to be submitted to the Department of Economics. When received, it will be added to the applicant's file with all documents. There is no need to re-submit the documents as indicated in the application checklist.