



IESE **MBA** Exchange Program Fact Sheet

Academic Year 2026-2027

Why IESE Business School?

**Click to find out
more about our
School**



**You aim high. You aspire to lead.
You want to make a difference.
You want to achieve a leadership
based on professional excellence,
integrity and spirit of service.**

Welcome to IESE Business School.

At IESE, the business school of the University of Navarra, we're committed to developing business leaders who strive to make a deep, positive and lasting impact on the people, companies and society they serve.

Since 1958, more than 60,000 executives from all over the world have experienced our integrative, people-centered, and socially-responsible approach to decision-making in business and organizations.

Our programs are transformative journeys towards personal and professional growth. Our professors,

advisors and partners, are active at the highest levels of business and academia. You will feel challenged by their rigorous research and state-of-the-art teaching methodologies.

We are truly global. Our unique reach goes beyond our 5 international campuses and over 50 academic alliances with top universities. In our classrooms, you'll find the brightest talent from over 130 nations. And you will become part of our highly global community of partner companies, alumni and friends.

We believe in the individual as a force for change. We believe in good will, in giving your best and in helping society through your work. We work to develop effective managers, responsible leaders and better people.

We are IESE Business School.

A way to learn. A mark to make. A world to change.

The MBA Exchange Program

Join a Term in the second year of our Full-Time MBA

Fall Term: August 31st to December 18th, 2026

Winter Term: January 11th to April 30th, 2027

Deadlines for the Receipt of Exchange Nominations

Fall Term: Monday, April 20th 2026

Winter Term: Monday, August 24th 2026

Click to find out more about our MBA



5 reasons to participate in the IESE MBA Exchange Program:

1 Join a close student Community

2 Learn through the Case Method with field experts

3 Expand your network

4 Experience Barcelona's rich culture and diversity

5 Become an Alum of 2 Top MBA Schools



IESE's Barcelona campus

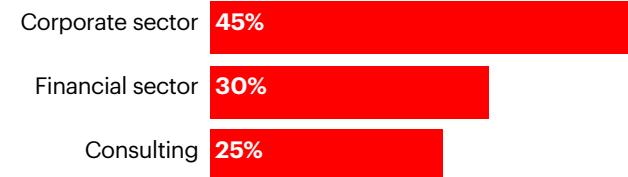


There's no typical **MBA** student at IESE

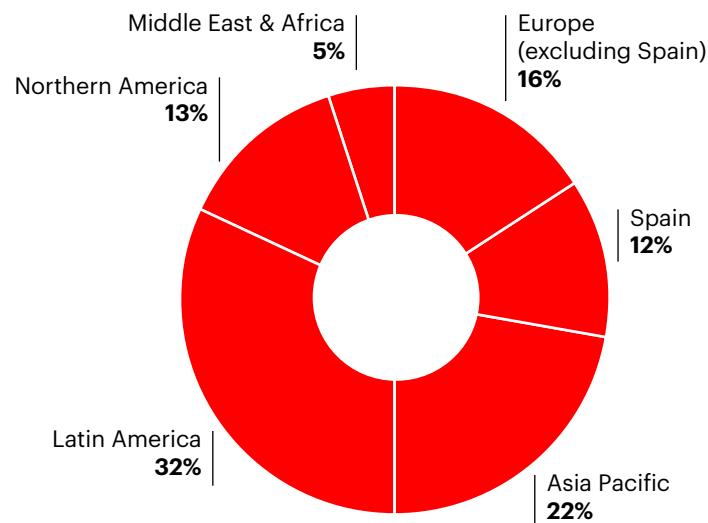
The class you will be joining is rich in diversity. Students come to us from all walks of life. Each individual is unique, yet you will all have one thing in common: reaching your fullest potential and making your mark on our world.

Typical class profile

Pre-MBA sector



Nationalities



The MBA 2027 Class

29.2

Average Age

56

Countries represented

420

Students

5.9

Average years of experience

“

“I chose IESE for my exchange program because it is a really good program. I found the case method at IESE really fascinating and very engaging.”

Teresa Dula, Wharton



”

“I have made great friendships. Also, I was able to test myself in different industries. I wanted to enjoy this and enjoy the community and what it offers.”

Egemen Serbetci, HEC Paris



”

“It gave me a chance to improve my Spanish as well as network with some of the local companies in Barcelona and in Europe and learn about the work culture and environment”.

Yangyang Guo, CEIBS



Your Academic Journey

The IESE MBA is a rigorous full-time program with a general management perspective and emphasis on entrepreneurship and human and ethical values.

Courses

More than 65 electives are on offer each term. Almost all second-year courses are open to exchange students. For a general overview, click [here](#).

The availability of some electives will depend on the demand from the IESE students. The information on the number of seats available for each course will be visible on the Bidding Platform. Course lists are confirmed in June for the Fall term and in November for the Winter term.

International Modules

International Modules are one-week elective courses at diverse locations around the world. Those participating will have the opportunity to discuss real issues and business cases with local agents of change. There are roundtable discussions with guest speakers, company visits and networking events that give students a direct insight into business practices in each of these important locations.

The availability of these Modules for exchange students depends on demand from the IESE students.

Scheduled International Modules for the 2026-2027 Academic Year:

- Fall Term: New York, China and Mexico (tbc).
- Winter Term: Madrid, Nairobi and China (tbc).

Required course load

At IESE we use the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). In the second year, there are two main types of electives: 2 ECTS and 4 ECTS courses. The general equivalence is that 2 ECTS courses amount to 12.5 contact hours, and 4 ECTS courses amount to 25 contact hours. However, there may be slight variations in some electives. Students will be informed prior to bidding. International Modules are the only electives worth 6 ECTS, they amount to between 35 and 37.5 contact hours.

The course load taken by second-year IESE students is a minimum of 20, maximum 24 ECTS per term. Incoming exchange students can take a minimum of 16 ECTS and a maximum of 24 ECTS per full term. In the Winter, those students who must return to their home school by mid-March might be allowed to complete between 12 and 14 ECTS (only in the case of an existing previous written agreement with their school). It is not feasible to take on part-time work or extra projects during the term.

Language of instruction

Almost all courses are taught in English and only a couple are taught in Spanish.

Fluent English is required. Non-native English speakers must have a minimum TOEFL score of 250 on the CBT scale/100 points on the IBT scale. Knowledge of Spanish is an asset, but not a prerequisite.

All students who wish to attend elective courses in Spanish will be asked to take a language test to prove they have the minimum required level.

The Case Method

At IESE we use the Case Method whenever it can be used, because we find it to be the most effective way to leverage each class' immense diversity. All our cases are taught in alignment with Harvard Business School's teaching method, which enables discussion of real business situations from a general management perspective under the guidance of world-class faculty.



Exposure to real-life business problems from all sectors



Gain the CEO's transversal vision of the company



Group discussions led by expert professors in the field

Class Attendance

IESE's academic methodology is grounded on student participation and peer learning, for which class attendance is mandatory and recorded daily. An "NC" (No credit) is assigned if a student misses more than 20% of class sessions per course regardless of the academic grade awarded by the course professor. Also, students must not miss more than 15% of classes in each term.

Grading system

Students in the top 15% of the class are awarded an "A", those in the bottom 10% receive a "C" and the rest are given a "B," which may be qualified as a B+ or B- at the professor's discretion.

In addition, students whose performance is below a minimum objective threshold will receive an "F", and those who have missed a mandatory requirement of the course will be given an "NC" (No Credit). Both indicate that the student has not passed the course and cannot receive credits for it.

A high percentage of the final grade is normally based on class participation. In some courses, the remaining percentage depends on final exams, while in others, the student's overall course work and hand-in reports are evaluated.

Transcripts will be published at the end of January for the Fall Term and in mid-May for the Winter Term.

Click to find out more about The Case Method



Boost your career

At IESE we equip students with the skills and networks needed to transition into impactful and fulfilling careers.

Student Life

IESE campuses offer unique spaces for learning, networking and reflection, where program participants and faculty members come together to share experiences and forge lifelong connections.

There are many professional clubs and student initiatives. Social and sporting events are organized on and off campus throughout the term. In addition, you can participate in our buddy system in which you will be paired with an IESE student who will welcome you and help you settle into the new environment smoothly. Furthermore, our dedicated MBA Program Team will provide full support before and during the exchange term.

Career services

Our school offers a comprehensive range of career services designed to support students and alumni in their professional development and job search. These services include, career support and counseling, networking opportunities, workshops and training, and job placement services.

IESE's MBA Career Services Department is open to all exchange visitors from partner schools that have reciprocity agreements with IESE.

Join the IESE Alumni Community for life

Studying at IESE grants you the advantage of becoming an alum of not only one but two top business schools. In addition to your home school's network, you will have the opportunity to join the IESE Alumni community.

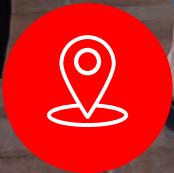
By completing the Exchange Program in good academic standing and conduct, you will be welcomed into our dynamic and global network. Our unique global reach goes beyond our five international campuses. With over 60,000 alumni on every continent, industry, and career stage, the IESE Alumni community will offer you continuous opportunities for learning, professional development, and networking.



Join a community of more than

60,000

alumni around the world



155
Countries



+240
Alumni Learning Program sessions annually

Experience Barcelona

Business Spanish Program

To make the most out of your time in Spain, you can join our Business Spanish course. This is a language class with no credits assigned to it. The objective is to give participants some linguistic tools, strategies and skills which will enable them to improve both their communicative performance and knowledge of Business Spanish.

Just before beginning, the students' previous knowledge will be tested in order to determine their levels, assign them to the appropriate groups, and establish the content and specific objectives for each. All exchange students will be contacted once they arrive at IESE to sign up for the course. Lastly, please note that in Winter Term, the availability of the beginner level will depend on the full-time students' demand.

Campus Facilities

Our North and South campuses in Barcelona are located in a pleasant residential neighborhood that is well connected to the city center by public transport. The facilities include PC labs, auditoriums, modern classrooms and workrooms, an MBA Hub, Wi-Fi, library, bookstore, cafeterias, dining room, student lounge, gardens, etc.

IESE Families and Partners

This initiative assists incoming families and partners from all nationalities to settle in smoothly in Barcelona by organizing on and off campus events, workshops, sessions, and get-togethers.

Arrival date

Students are advised to arrive at least one week before the term starts so they can settle in. They should preferably come earlier if they have not yet secured housing. An official Mandatory Orientation Day will be announced a couple of weeks before the course begins. Students must be on campus by that day at the very latest.

Visa requirements

To enter Spain, all students must have a current passport. We understand that some nationalities must also have a student or tourist visa stamp on their passport. IESE Business School does not get directly involved in immigration issues, however, some assistance can be provided. Visiting students must comply with Spanish immigration regulations, which vary according to nationality and total length of stay. Students are therefore advised to check on their specific case at the nearest Spanish Consulate as soon as possible after nomination. Admission certificates (required for visa applications) are routinely provided to all nominated students.

Housing

There is no on-campus housing, so IESE students mostly share rented apartments, as do exchange students. General advice and links to the IESE student network for apartment-share options can be found in the Facebook group page of the MBA class of 2027: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/289034950883872/>

Cost of living

The cost of living in Barcelona is comparable to that of any major European city. Estimated expenses per month for a single student sharing housing: €1,900. Visiting exchange students are not charged for their case materials and the estimated cost of recommended books is approximately €200 per term. Students planning to travel during the term should increase their budget accordingly.

Health insurance

Exchange students must come with their own health and travel insurance to cover the entire period of their visit to Spain. IESE is not responsible for providing Exchange students with health insurance while they are students at IESE.

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