Frequently Asked Questions

Admission via MITx MicroMasters Pathway

Is this a real Harvard University degree? Does it have the same value as other Harvard degrees?

Harvard Extension School is one of the twelve degree-conferring schools of Harvard University. Our courses areas fulfilling as they are rigorous, as you would expect from Harvard, and students must meet strict requirements for admission. That is why our degree candidates graduate as alumni of the University, participating in Commencement ceremonies and becoming part of the Harvard Alumni Association alongside graduates of the other 11 schools, earning a Harvard diploma to signify their accomplishment.

What is your acceptance rate?

We do not have a selective admissions process. All students who meet our eligibility requirements and can prove that they can handle Harvard-level work by meeting our academic requirements can be admitted to our program. We do not have any limit on how many students can be admitted to each program each term. As a result, we have a relatively high admission rate.

How many students are there in each program?

- Management: 685 students
- Finance: 380 students
- Data Science: 45 students
- Information Management Systems: 200 students
- Sustainability: 300 students
- Global Development Practice: 35 students

Do you have any student testimonials?

You can review student success stories on our website. We also have spotlights on recent graduates from our programs on our Career Services Tumblr site. Our Fast Facts sheets also contain student profiles.

Can I start courses at Harvard Extension prior to having fully completed the MITx MicroMasters?

The MicroMasters Program credential must be completed prior to your enrollment in any Harvard Extension School courses.

Is a bachelor’s degree required?

You must hold a four-year bachelor’s degree that was awarded by a college or university that was regionally accredited at the time of your attendance, or a foreign equivalent, with a degree conferral date that precedes enrollment in your MicroMasters Program. The Harvard Extension School Admissions Office makes all final determinations about equivalency. Read more about our admission requirements on our website.
Why can’t I have a prior master’s degree in a related field?

If you already hold a graduate degree, you may earn a master’s degree from Harvard Extension School provided the two degrees are in dissimilar fields with unrelated content. We have this policy in place to avoid having students attend Harvard Extension School only to duplicate material they’ve learned from another institution. If you have a prior graduate degree in a field that is related to what you are interested in pursuing at Harvard Extension, we encourage you to have an eligibility review conducted. The eligibility review process takes 5-10 business days.

How long is my MicroMasters credential valid for admission?

You can use your MicroMasters credential for admission to our programs for three years from the date on your MITx transcript.

When is the next application cycle?

We have an application cycle three times a year. You can see the dates for each cycle, including when you can expect to hear a decision, on the When to Apply page of our website.

Is there financial aid?

Financial aid is available to admitted degree candidates who meet eligibility requirements. You can read about the eligibility requirements for financial aid on the Eligibility for Aid page on our website.

Do I need to prove English proficiency and if so, how can I do so?

We do not require proof of English proficiency for admission, but it is required to register for courses. There are multiple ways to prove English proficiency, including submitting official test scores and transcripts. You can read about whether you need to submit proof of English proficiency on the English Proficiency for Registration page of our website.

Do you help students with job searches?

We have a Career Services Office for Extension School students. This office can help students with creating resumes, CVs, and cover letters that market your strengths and experience, making valuable connections, and supporting a job or internship search. Admitted degree candidates and alumni also have access to the Harvard career and internship database as well as career fairs and workshops.