Purdue Executive MBA – Frequently Asked Questions

1. **How is Krannert different?**

   The Krannert program builds upon Purdue’s world-class excellence. The key feature of the program is the residency approach. This means that for each module, students work on homework assignments, group projects, and online discussions for about 10 weeks and then come to campus for a one or two-week residency. During the residency, the faculty applies the assignments the students have done during self-study and help apply it to their companies. This is in contrast to most executive MBA programs where students come to campus every weekend or every few weeks. Our approach allows people to come from anywhere in the world (which they do) and not have to drop from the program if they switch jobs or are relocated to a new city. The concentrated residencies allow the students to focus on the classroom, so the learning is heightened and the lessons can be applied immediately in their companies after the residencies. There is a keen emphasis on team and the sharing of expertise, so students learn not only from the faculty, but also from their peers. The residencies facilitate the formation of networking and friendship bonds among students that last a lifetime. The Executive MBA program’s electives also break from the traditional approach found at most schools in which students take the same courses with their cohort, with the same offerings repeated annually. In contrast, our students can choose functional electives specific to their cohort as well as immersion electives tailored to their particular interests.

2. **What are the qualifications for admission to the program?**

   To be admitted to the program, the applicant must have: 1) A bachelor’s degree and transcripts, 2) Five years post-baccalaureate work experience, 3) A completed application, and 4) Two recommendations. GMAT and TOEFL may be required, depending on your work/education background and strength of your application.

3. **What happens when we are not in residency?**

   At the beginning of each module, the faculty provides a syllabus with all homework assignments for the module. Students complete these homework assignments per their own schedules — evenings and weekends — and send them to the faculty electronically. This self-study takes about 15-20 hours per week, but students choose the time and still manage to complete work assignments for their company, as well as have time for family. Some of the assignments will be team based. For some classes, there are also team and class-based on-line discussions.

4. **What are my fellow students like?**

   Recent in-coming classes have had between 25 and 30 students. About three-quarters are from the U.S. and the rest primarily from Asia. One-third have an engineering background and one-third have a management/business background. The work experience ranges from five years to almost 30 years, with an average of 13 years. They are all hardworking individuals, like you, who believe an EMBA will provide them with more opportunities. Many have families and are also balancing work-home-school demands.

5. **Will I be expected to work alone or will I be assigned to work with a group of my peers?**

   The type of work depends on the course material. Some work is done individually and some is done in groups. The professor’s syllabus will always provide details on these points.

6. **Where do classes meet and where do I stay while in-residence?**
The orientation and the first five residencies are at the Krannert School of Management Executive Education building at Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN. The last residency is in China to experience a different business model and economic system. Students have individual hotel rooms during residencies. At Purdue, students stay at the historic Purdue Memorial Union Club Hotel across the street from the Krannert School of Management. In China, the classes are taught in the same hotel where students stay.

7. **Is an interview required?**
   Yes, we interview all applicants. The goal is to ensure that there is a good match between students’ interests and what the Purdue Executive MBA can offer.

8. **When are applications due?**
   We accept applications throughout the year and students are admitted on a rolling basis. To ensure timely processing and access to all materials before orientation, contact our Associate Director of Admissions, JoAnn Whitford, at 765-494-4580 or jwhitfor@purdue.edu.

9. **How much does the program cost? What does the cost cover?**
   The program costs approximately $80,000. This covers tuition, lodging during all the residencies; most meals during residencies, networking/social events, class materials, and books/eBooks. The primary expense for you would be travel. Payments are spread out over five installments over three calendar years, making it easier to gain financial support from your employer or for obtaining government loans.

10. **Are scholarships/loans available?**
    Applicants who are offered admission to the Purdue IMM Global Executive MBA program are automatically considered for merit-based scholarships. There are no additional forms to complete. The average IMM Global EMBA scholarship award for the 2015-2016 class is $5,000 ($1,000 for each of five payments). The average for the domestic EMBA program is $3,000 ($600 for each of five payments). Scholarship decisions are made based on a complete review of the application process as well as interview. As the amounts of the scholarships are provided on a rolling basis, it is to your advantage to apply as soon as possible. Questions regarding the EMBA scholarships should be directed to the executive director, Aldas Kriauciunas, at akriauci@purdue.edu or 765-496-1860.

11. **Do you offer career development services?**
    The program does offer career development opportunities. You will have access to a career counselor at Purdue University who is available by phone, email, or in-person to discuss career management ideas and direct you to appropriate resources. You also have access to the Purdue Career Wiki which is a comprehensive, online resource consisting of career guides, company/industry databases, and business news. You also will be able to undertake a self-assessment form, access company search tools, attend an interactive business etiquette dinner, and search job websites. Students who are self-funded or find themselves between jobs are able to access additional resources.

12. **What happens after I apply? (Timeline of admissions decisions)**
    After you submit your materials, our Associate Director of Admissions will confirm all items are in order. Then an interview is arranged. If the program and applicant agree that there is a match, the materials are then provided to the Purdue graduate school. It generally takes two weeks from when
all materials are properly submitted until a decision is made. Any delays associated with the application process typically result from an incomplete application or from transcripts not adhering to the admissions requirements.

13. **Is it possible to visit a class in-session?**
   We always welcome applicants to visit the classroom, since seeing the program in action is the best way to learn about the program. Our EMBA Experience days, held throughout the academic school year, include a presentation about our programs, a class visit, lunch with current students, and a complimentary overnight stay at Purdue’s historic Union Club Hotel. Call Krannert Executive Education Programs at 765-494-4580 for information about EMBA Experience.

14. **What does the curriculum entail?**
   The curriculum covers the principles of management within a global context. Core classes include economics, accounting, analytics, organizational behavior, marketing, finance, operations management, strategic management, leadership, change management, risk management, and resolving legal challenges. As a class, students will choose three functional electives of greatest interest to the group. We provide an immersion elective where each student team chooses a topic of interest to them and works with a faculty to research that topic and become an expert in that area. Finally, you will also complete a consulting assignment where you can integrate the learning from classes with your own knowledge to solve a business problem and thus gain insights for your own company.

15. **How does the International Masters of Management (IMM) differ from the Executive MBA?**
   The IMM program is primarily for those who imagine a global career progression. Instead of meeting at Purdue each quarter, students meet at different partner schools in the U.S., Mexico, Europe, and China. Participants also receive a Purdue EMBA and an EMBA from CEU in Hungary or TiasNimbas in The Netherlands. The Executive MBA does have electives allowing for a more tailored program to student interests, less travel requirements, and the Dean’s scholarship for admitted students.

   For more information, please visit our website:
   http://www.krannert.purdue.edu/executive/home.asp