

Evening & Weekend MBA Core Waiver Exams

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Background

- The 12 courses (21 units) that all Evening & Weekend MBA students take in the first half of the program ground you in the fundamentals of business and provide essential knowledge and analytical tools.
- Some of these core classes are eligible to be waived

What is a waiver?

- Waivers allow students to demonstrate proficient competency in a core subject matter
- Not all core courses are eligible for waivers
- There are two ways to waive a course: automatic waivers and waiver exams

Not sufficient for a waiver

- Completion of similar undergraduate courses
- Current or previous work experience
- Graduate level courses at other universities
- Previous degrees or majors
- Professional development trainings

Automatic waivers

- Automatic waivers for select classes are available to students with specific certifications or documented competency
- Students interested in an automatic waiver should:
 - make sure the class they want to waive is eligible for automatic waivers (see next slide for details)
 - confirm the appropriate documentation (ie, certificate of CPIM for operations)
 - email documentation to Hannah Fischer at hjfisch@berkeley.haas.edu

Courses eligible for automatic waivers

You may be eligible to automatically waive the following courses if you:

- EWMBA 202: Financial Reporting — passed the ACCA or AICPA CPA exam or if you passed level II of the CFA exam
- EWMBA 203: Introduction to Finance — passed level III of the CFA exam
- EWMBA 204: Operations — passed the CPIM exam

Waiver exams

- intended to determine if students can demonstrate the required knowledge that would allow them to fulfill one or more of the core course requirements
- administered once for each eligible course immediately before the semester in which the waivable core course is offered

Courses eligible for waiver exams

- EWMBA 201A – Economics for Business Decision Making (Microeconomics)
- EWMBA 201B – Macroeconomics in the Global Economy
- EWMBA 202 – Financial Reporting
- EWMBA 203 – Introduction to Finance
- EWMBA 204 – Operations
- EWMBA 206 – Marketing Organization and Management
- EWMBA 200S – Data & Decisions

Taking waiver exams

- All incoming students should have received an email inviting you to the bCourse site for Fall's waiver exams. We encourage you to accept the invitation and explore your suitability for each waiver exam.
- Fall 2022 exams are open from July 12 at 12 pm until July 17 at 11:59 pm. We recommend you give yourself ample time to study and prepare. Waiting until the last minute is not advisable.
- You only get one chance to open and take the exam. There are no redos! If you have issues, you can reach out to Amanda Geiser, our waiver exam expert, at ageiser@berkeley.edu

Evaluation of waiver exams

- Exams are assessed on a waive/no waive basis (not A–F letter grades)
- There are no comments or feedback provided and the decision is final
- You must receive an assessment of “waive” to have the option to waive the class
- Assessment period for Fall 2022: July 18–July 20
- Results will be emailed July 20–21 or as soon as we receive them

If you waive a course:

- You do not have to take the core course, but can choose to if you'd like. Our default is to drop students who receive a score of "waive", but if you want to take the class, let us know and we will keep you enrolled.
- If you choose to not take the course, you must eventually replace those units with elective units. You must have 42 units to graduate
- Attend the Elective Sign-up for Waived Classes webinar July 21, 1-2 pm
- Talk with your advisor about the best strategy for you and your academic goals

Future waivers for class of 2025

December 2022 – Specific dates/times TBD

- EWMBA 201B – Macroeconomics in the Global Economy
- EWMBA 202 – Financial Reporting*
- EWMBA 203 – Introduction to Finance*

July 2023 – Specific dates/times TBD

- EWMBA 204 – Operations*

**eligible for automatic waiver or waiver exam*

Questions?

Thank you for attending!

Feel free to reach out to me at hjfish@berkeley.haas.edu with any questions or clarifications.