



Concordia MBA Concentration FAQs

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What is a concentration?

A concentration is an elected specific area of study within the MBA program, similar to a major. It is focused study, research, and exploration in a particular area. At Concordia, pursuing a concentration means adding 12 credit hours (four classes) to the core curriculum.

What are the concentrations available?

Three concentrations are available for enrollment in Spring 2018: Healthcare Administration (HCA), Organizational Development and Learning (ODL), and School Finance and Operations (SFO).

Why would I want a concentration?

A concentration enables students to delve more deeply into the subject matter, obtain knowledge and skills specific to the topic, and demonstrate interest and intent in pursuing professional opportunities in these subject areas. Earning a concentration communicates to employers specific interest, deeper knowledge, understanding and commitment to these particular fields. Including a concentration can add a competitive edge to a resume, creative new opportunities, and expand a professional network.

How long does it take to earn a concentration?

After MBA students complete the first 30 credit hours of the program (five 16-week semesters, or less if fast tracked), an additional 12 credit hours of a concentration can be added. These additional 12 hours add four classes over a two-semester period. When a student opts to do this, two core curriculum classes are dropped (Capstone and Entrepreneurship) and are replaced by the four concentration classes. Without a concentration, the MBA is 36 credit hours. With a concentration, the MBA extends to 42 credit hours.

What are the concentration classes?

HCA:

MBA 5350 Healthcare Strategy and Business Planning (3 credit hours)

MBA 5352 Ethical and Legal Issues in Healthcare Management (3 credit hours)

MBA 5354 Policy Trends and Considerations for the Healthcare Manager (3 credit hours)

MBA 5356 Quality Methods for Healthcare Performance (3 credit hours)



ODL:

MBA 5309 - Organizational Culture, Power and Influence
MBA 5313 Organizational Processes in Consulting and Coaching
MBA 5318 Principles of Corporate Training and Learning
MBA 5319 Talent Management

SFO:

School Finance for Business Officials
School Law for Business Officials
Operations I
Operations II

Can I earn more than one concentration?

Yes. Students have the option to earn them one at a time, or simultaneously. Each concentration is four classes. Approval from the MBA Program Director is required.

How much is the tuition?

Tuition for the concentration classes is the same as core classes and depends on the semester in which you were enrolled, whether you were continuously enrolled and locked-in, whether you are an on-ground or online student, and whether you receive a non-profit employer or alumni discount. Please contact Kathy Lugo (512-313-5118) or Lisa Maher (512-313-4613) for specific information.

Can I still walk in the graduation ceremony with my cohort, even though I haven't completed the concentration / 42 credit hours yet?

Yes. In the majority of cases (and with registrar approval), any student within 6 credit hours of completing their academic program can walk in a graduation ceremony. Once an MBA+concentration student has completed 36 credit hours (being 1 semester away from completing 42 credits), he/she can be eligible to participate in graduation. MBA+concentration students would walk with their cohort in the ceremony, then complete the 7th and final semester (last two concentration classes / 6 credits).

Is there a GPA requirement to begin a concentration, and/or a GPA to maintain?

Yes, 3.0 is the minimum GPA required to be eligible and to remain in the program.

If I already graduated, can I come back to complete a concentration?

Yes. Alumni are considered "non-degree seeking" students. There is a short application with no fee. Alumni should contact Concordia Graduate Admissions to apply.



How do I include a concentration on my resume?

Examples:

Master of Business, Healthcare Administration emphasis

Master of Business, emphasis: Organizational Development and Learning

Will the concentration be listed on my graduate diploma?

Concentrations are not listed on the Concordia MBA diploma.

How will the concentration be listed on my official graduate transcript?

For students who have already graduated the concentration will not be designated on the transcript, but the additional graduate coursework will be listed and will include a letter grade and number of credits. For current MBA students, the concentration will be listed as part of the degree.

Do I need to apply for a concentration? What are the steps?

For students who are currently in the MBA program, a Program Update Request Form (available online) should be completed and returned to the SSC (Aaron Graf). For students whose degrees have been conferred, they will apply as a "non-degree seeking student" on a short online form.

Is federal financial aid available?

Federal financial aid is available for currently enrolled students and students who will be enrolled. Federal aid is not available for alumni who have already graduated with a conferred degree.

What if I start a concentration and then I don't want to finish?

All MBA degree requirements must be met and approved by the MBA Program Director and the Office of the Registrar.

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