Please read these guidance notes carefully before filling in the application form. Each section below relates to a section of the application form.

Allow yourself plenty of time to complete the form and ensure that you have all the necessary supporting documentation. It can take some time to book and sit English language proficiency tests, so we strongly recommend that you make necessary arrangements as early as possible.

Please complete every mandatory section of the form. Mandatory fields are marked with an asterisk *.

Once an application has been submitted, we will not accept any changes or updates to the application, except for information about your contact details. You may apply only once in an application year.

Personal data

Please provide all of the personal information requested. Your nationality is as shown on your passport. If you have dual nationality, please let us know which you consider to be your primary nationality and which your secondary nationality. Your country of current residence is where you live now.

Contact details

We prefer to communicate with you via email, so it is important that you provide us with a valid email address that you check regularly. If your email or postal address changes during the admission process, please let us know immediately. We will not usually contact you by telephone, but ask you to provide us with home, business and mobile telephone numbers in case we need to speak to you urgently.

Academic information

Please provide us with details of all the higher educational institutions (universities/colleges) you have attended and the programmes you have taken (even if you have not completed them). You must submit a colour scanned copy of your academic transcript (front and back pages) for all the university-level degree programmes that you have taken (even if you have not completed the programme). The academic transcript will usually give details of each course that you have taken, the credit value of each course, the result you obtained, as well as the final award (as a degree class or Grade Point Average). If these documents are not in English, you must submit a full translation by a registered translator. Do not translate them yourself. Please do not send certificates or transcripts of other qualifications or courses of study, we only need to see your university-level transcripts

If you are made an offer, we will verify your university transcripts online.

English language

Fluency in English is a pre-requisite for the Cambridge Master of Finance. If English is not your first language, and you have not studied in a majority English speaking country, you will need to provide evidence that you have taken a recognised English proficiency test. **The test must have been taken within two years of the start date of the Cambridge MFin degree programme.**

Our preferred test is the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) test. Details can be found at www.ielts.org. We can accept both the IELTS Academic or IELTS for UKVI Academic. Our minimum requirement is an average score of 7.0, with no score lower than 7.0 in Speaking, Listening and Writing, and 6.5 in Reading. The separate components must have been taken at the same time and in the past two years.

Where the IELTS test is not available you may take the TOEFL iBT test, details of which can be found at www.toefl.org. Our minimum requirement is an average score of 100, with no score lower than 25 in each of the separate components (for tests taken before January 2026). For tests taken after January 2026, we require an overall score of 5.5, with at least two sub-scores of 5.5 or higher and no sub-score lower than 5.0.

If you scored 6.5 on IELTS with no individual score below 6.0, or between 95 and 99 (inclusive) on TOEFL iBT, with no individual score below 25 (taken before January 2026) or an overall score of 5.0 with no sub-score below 4.5 (taken after January 2026), and you feel that you are a strong candidate, you are also welcome to apply. However, we will ask you to attend additional assessment conducted by the University, if you are made an offer.

Please see the full English Language policy here: https://www.jbs.cam.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/mfin_english_language_policy_2027.pdf

Waivers

The English proficiency requirement may be waived, at the discretion of the School, if you have studied at a degree level in a majority English-speaking country. Please refer to the MFin language policy on our website for further details.

If you have completed 2 years of university-level study in English, and this is not stated on your academic transcript, you will need to provide confirmation from the academic institution that your degree was taught in English. If you were to receive an offer of admission, you would be asked to attend an additional assessment conducted by the University at a later point in the admissions process.

GMAT / GRE

The submission of a GMAT or GRE score is optional for anyone applying to the MFin. We assess the strength of an application based on all of the information the applicant provides us (including the application, transcripts and references). Therefore, in some cases a GMAT or GRE score can provide more information and potential strength to an application. However, we do not consider a GMAT or GRE score by itself as enough to accept or reject an MFin application. Please note we do reserve the right to request a GMAT or GRE score on the rare occasions where we feel it is necessary.

We look for good balanced scores on the verbal and quantitative sections of the test, which demonstrate to us that you have the variety of skills required to succeed on the Cambridge Master of Finance. We do not specify a minimum score, but expect at least a mid 80 per cent score (around 700 or 645 for GMAT Focus).

Only GMAT tests taken in the five years prior to the start of the programme are valid.

Work experience

Please provide us with your complete career history since graduating from university, including an explanation of all career breaks and part-time/temporary work. We require a minimum of two years full-time, post-graduation work experience by 30 September in the year for which you're applying for entry.

Please enter your current or most recent employment into the application form and upload the rest of your career history using the CV template provided. Please ensure that you include a description of your day-to-day duties.

We would also expect you to show evidence of a high level of achievement and success in your career to date, for example by promotion, particularly successful projects, innovative deals, special job responsibilities or leadership roles, or strong financial results

Career objectives (personal statement)

We expect you to provide us with a reasonably clear idea of your future career aspirations and how you expect the MFin to help you meet them. We ask you to do this by writing a personal statement of up to 500 words. We hope to learn more about you as a person from this statement so please be thoughtful and candid in your writing – share with us your influences, passions, values and aspirations. We are also looking for your statement to be clearly written, succinct and engaging; it is worth spending some time preparing.

Your application is not complete if your career objectives statement is not uploaded with your application**.**

You should not exceed the stated word limit and personal statements that do will not be read. It is very important that the statement is your own work; there are no right or wrong answers, so please do not be tempted to get other people to help you write it.

Finance

Estimated fees and associated costs of the Cambridge Master of Finance can be found on our website, https://www.jbs.cam.ac.uk/masters-degrees/master-of-finance/fees-funding/ and in our brochure. Please indicate how you intend to meet these costs, specifying any scholarships you have been awarded or intend to apply for. Before you are admitted to the Cambridge Master of Finance, you will be required to provide financial guarantees in respect of the full costs of the Master of Finance programme which includes tuition fees and living expenses.

MFin additional questions

How did you hear about the MFin?

The information you provide in this section helps us focus our marketing efforts.

Other universities

We would like to know what other Master of Finance or similar programmes you are considering. The information you list in this section is for comparative analysis only and does not influence our consideration of your application.

Payment

Applications will only be processed once we have received the application fee payment of £120. To make the payment, please click on the payment link within the online application.

You will receive an email receipt to confirm that your payment has been processed.

Your application will remain incomplete until we receive the application fee payment.

Declaration and data protection

To comply with our various legal requirements, please read the statement in this section carefully before making the payment.

References

You need to ask two referees (recommenders) to complete the reference form and a separate letter of reference. You should ask for references from:

1. Your line manager or direct supervisor;
2. An academic representative from the institution where you studied your degree and who is familiar with your academic performance.

We learn a great deal about your background and potential through letters of reference, so please select your referees carefully and tell them how important it is that they provide as comprehensive a reference as possible. They should know your strengths and weaknesses well, and be in a position to comment on you objectively – do not use close friends!

If you graduated from your last degree longer than 5 years ago and you think you may struggle to source an academic reference, we can accept an additional professional reference instead of the academic reference. However, we reserve the right to request an academic reference should we feel this is necessary (this can be a departmental level reference). We need to receive two references with your application. If only one reference is received, your application will not be complete.

If you are not able to ask your current line manager to provide us with a reference, please explain why. The person you choose must, however, have had recent experience supervising you in a professional context. If you run your own business, you can ask a customer, supplier or professional adviser (e.g. your accountant or lawyer) to provide a reference in place of a line manager.

If you have any doubts about the suitability of a referee or you are unable to provide the reference that we require, please contact us. Do not, under any circumstance, write the reference yourself and ask the referee to sign it. If we discover this has happened, we will immediately reject your application. Please note we may contact your referees for further information about your application.

You should enter your referees contact details into the online application and they will receive an automated reference request. We will not accept references emailed from a personal email account, we can only accept references submitted from your referees professional/work email account.

Please ensure your referees are contacted well in advance to give them sufficient time to complete and return the reference. **We will not process your application until we receive your two references. It is your responsibility to ensure that they are submitted by the deadline.**

Equal opportunities policy

The University of Cambridge is committed to equal opportunities for both employees and students, and will consider all applications to the Cambridge Master of Finance on equal grounds. Subject to statutory provisions no applicant for admission as a student will be treated less favourably than another on the grounds of sex (including gender reassignment), marital or parental status, race, ethnic or national origin, colour, disability, sexual orientation, religion, or age.

Additional information

Please provide information on any aspect of your candidacy that requires further explanation, or information that you would like the Admissions Committee to know (there is a 300 word limit).

Declaration

To comply with our various legal requirements, please read the statement in this section carefully before signing and dating the application form.