

**Joint Executive Master's in Business Administration (eMBA)  
Request for SACSCOC Program Closure Approval**

The Executive Master's in Business Administration (eMBA) is a joint degree with the University of Kentucky's Gatton College of Business and Economics. UofL's program is housed within the College of Business. Fifty percent of the course work was offered by the University of Kentucky and is an approved off-campus instructional site. The joint recommendation for program closure was the result of administrative discussions between Dr. Todd Mooradian, Dean of the College of Business, and Dr. Simon Sheather, Dean of the Gatton College of Business and Economics. A joint UofL/UK faculty retreat to assess and revise the program curriculum occurred on March 4, 2020, a week before the declaration of the COVID-19 global pandemic. At that pre-pandemic retreat, it was agreed by both institutions that an incoming cohort would not be admitted allowing the program faculty to launch this joint curricular review and revision process. Program faculty provided instruction and current students enrolled in their respective cohorts continued to make academic progress towards degree completion. Degree completion data are provided below. The University of Louisville will continue to offer the Master's in Business Administration (MBA).

Based on indeterminate effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, both institutions in consultation with their respective faculty have recommended that admittance of a fall 2021 cohort be suspended. Because of this recommendation, UofL seeks SACSCOC approval to close the joint eMBA to ensure compliance with the SACSCOC substantive change policy and procedures. It is our expressed intention and commitment that the program be re-launched within the stated 5-year timeframe of the closure date. At that time, SACSCOC will be notified.

**Executive MBA Enrollment**

Fall 2016*	Fall 2017*	Fall 2018*	Fall 2019*	Fall 2020*
35	38	32	26	14

\*UofL's official enrollment reporting semester

**Executive MBA Degrees**

2015-2016	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020
19	16	18	18	12

**I. Students:**

Students will not be affected as the program is cohort-based. All eMBA students admitted in the last program intake cycle graduated in the spring 2021 semester. Students will not incur any additional charges or expenses due to the proposed program closure.

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**II. Notification of faculty & staff:**

All UofL faculty teaching in the eMBA program will maintain full instructional loads. No new staff were hired to administer the program as all program staff responsibilities were incorporated into their existing position descriptions. As a result, no redeployment of faculty and/or staff is therefore required.

**III. Communication plan**

All affected faculty and staff were informed by email and/or by remote conferencing. There were no remaining students nor a new eMBA entering cohort to inform of the change. All the remaining students (n=14) in the eMBA program graduated in the spring 2021.

**IV. Effective date**

Proposed closure date: July 1, 2021