

Executive Agenda Year (EAY) Application Procedure and FAQs

The MBA (Executive) is AGSM's most popular MBA program. It combines flexible part-time study with access to face-to-face, intensive, international, and online modes of study in the first stage of the program, in addition to the benefits of the transformative cohort experience in the Executive Agenda Year (EAY) – the final capstone year of the program, sometimes referred to as Stage 2.

EAY is comprised of four courses undertaken chronologically in four ten-week sessions within 12 months. Each course has a 4-day residential and 100% attendance requirement to ensure an immersive learning experience.

[Find out more about the MBA \(Executive\) Structure and specific information on EAY](#)

Dates and Graduation

EAY has two intakes each year: January and July, and each intake typically has 2-3 cohorts (depending on application numbers). Cohorts A, B, and C commence in January and complete in December of the same year, and typically graduate in the following May Graduation Ceremony. Cohorts X, Y, and Z commence in July and complete in June of the following year, and typically graduate in the following December Graduation Ceremony.

Entry Requirements

- Completion of 8 Stage 1 courses/48uoc **prior** to the commencement of EAY
- Meet the Stage 1 structure requirements of either the [current structure](#) or the specified structure at time of program commencement
- Total [WAM](#) of 65 or more

Please be reminded that applying for EAY and meeting the eligibility criteria does not guarantee you a place. Cohorts are allocated first-come first-served based on time of application.

EAY Application Key Dates (indicative only)

Dates will be finalised prior to applications opening for each commencement and will be announced in the weekly newsletter.

	Must complete Stage 1 in or before	Online applications open	Cohort offers sent	Acceptance & residential fee payment due	Program transfer to Stage 2	Enrolment in myUNSW	Course materials available in Moodle
January Intake	Term 3 of prior year	~October	~3 weeks after apps open	Within 5 days of offer	December	December	2 weeks prior to course commencement (cohort-specific)
July Intake	Term 1 in same year	~April	~3 weeks after apps open	Within 5 days of offer	June	June	

Fees

[View the current MBA \(Executive\) fees here.](#)

There is an upfront fee for the residential costs, to be paid upon confirmation of your place in EAY. The course fee for each course is to be paid by the specified due date (see the Stage 2 Key Dates document on the [Timetables and Key Dates page](#)) and must be paid for course-by-course. The [SSAF](#) fee will also apply throughout the year, and FEE-HELP and SA-HELP are available for eligible students. Fees for the following year are typically finalised by October on the above linked fees page.

Application and enrolment process for EAY

1. Application

Initial application via an online portal, which will be available on the Timetable and Key Dates page and via email communications, where you can apply for a place in the intake and indicate your preferred cohort. *You will need to enter your name, zID, an alternate email, and Cohort preference.* Your eligibility will be confirmed before you can proceed to the next step.

2. Confirmation of eligibility

AGSM Student Experience will check your academic records and confirm your eligibility for Stage 2 of the program, i.e. EAY. You will only be contacted during this check if we have any questions.

3. Letter of offer & cohort allocation

Students who are eligible to commence Stage 2/EAY (or are eligible for a conditional offer*) will be allocated to the cohorts on a **first-come first-served basis** based on time of application. Not all students may receive an offer if there are more applications than available places. You will be sent a letter of offer via email specifying the cohort, residential dates, fees and other important information relating to EAY. Please read all provided information **before** you accept your offer.

**Conditional offer:* When an offer is made to a student who is potentially eligible however we are unable to finalise eligibility before applications open. For example, students who are completing their 8th course in the Term prior with a WAM of 65+ at the time of application would be eligible for a conditional offer, which becomes a confirmed place upon confirmation of their final grade/WAM (this can be confirmed internally before EAY commences). If a student's WAM is reduced to below 65 during this period, they will be withdrawn and advised of their options.

4. Acceptance of offer and Residential fee payment

In your letter of offer email you will have a link to accept your offer and pay the residential fee (please refer to [MBA \(Executive\) Fees](#)). Your place in the cohort will be confirmed with payment of the residential fee within 5 working days of receiving your offer. You will also be required to complete a profile questionnaire for your cohort profile book before commencing the EAY.

5. Enrolment & Course Materials

All enrolments and class registration throughout EAY are actioned by AGSM Student Experience, and course materials are made available typically two weeks before the teaching period starts. You will be enrolled in each course via Annual Enrolment, and registered approx. 4 weeks before the course commences. You **MUST** ensure your fees have been paid on time, or you have applied for FEE-HELP/SA-HELP appropriately to avoid delays in enrolment.

FAQs

- 1. Can I do my last Stage 1 course concurrently with the first course in EAY?*
No. You must have completed all Stage 1 requirements and your final Stage 1 grades must be available to AGSM before the census date for the first EAY course.
- 2. I didn't get my first preference. What do I do?*
If you did not get allocated your preferred cohort, but you are able to attend the dates for the cohort you are allocated, please accept your offer. This usually means your preferred cohort is full, and we can add you to a waitlist upon request as students sometimes need to swap or defer later in the application process as cohorts are being finalised. If you cannot attend the dates of the cohort you have been allocated, contact Student Experience.
- 3. Can I pay the residential fee in instalments?*
No, unless approved by Student Experience via Special Consideration. Please be aware in advance of the fees and timing prior to applying for EAY (see pages 1 & 2 of this document).
- 4. My availability has changed since I applied/accepted my offer/commenced. What do I do?*
If you advise us as soon as you are aware of the situation, we can advise you if/what cohorts have places available and facilitate a swap if possible. Special consideration conditions apply. If we can't work out an arrangement in time, you may need to defer your EAY by 6 months to the next intake. This also applies if you have already commenced EAY.
- 5. Can I do the EAY courses in a different order?*
No. The courses are designed to follow the defined order, and they they require assumed knowledge/competency in the preceding courses.
- 6. I haven't finished my last Stage 1 course, can I still apply?*

Yes – as per the below table:

Completing final Stage 1 course in	Earliest possible EAY intake
Term 1	July intake (of the same year)
Term 2 or Term 3	January intake (of the following year)

- 7. Can I be in the same cohort as my friends?*
We will not take this request into consideration when allocating the cohorts. If you all apply early enough and all get your first (same) cohort preference it's possible, however there are benefits to being exposed to new people and backgrounds, including the opportunity to expand your own professional and personal networks. Also note that course teams are designed to be objective as possible to ensure professional diversity of different roles, industries and experience, so you may not end up working closely with your friends in the same cohort.
- 8. There are no grade release dates, when do the grades come out for each course?*
We aim to release grades before the next residential where possible. Note that for consistency across all cohorts, marking is not typically started until the final cohort to complete the course have submitted their final assessment. We will advise you immediately if there are any issues with your marks, well before grade release, so you aren't disadvantaged for the next course.

9. *What is different about EAY/Stage 2 compared to Stage 1?*

Short answer: almost everything!

The key differences to note are:

- The calendar = 4x 10-week courses within 12 months (see the annual calendar)
- Each course is weighted 12uoc, double the workload of a Stage 1 course. Please keep this in mind as you'll need to plan ahead for more study time throughout the year, especially in the first few weeks before the residential
- Course materials are interactive and online, so you'll need regular reliable internet access throughout all of EAY
- The only face-to-face contact is at the residential, though you may be required to attend scheduled videoconferences in some courses
- Similar to FMS/EB, the residential course structure is typically:

Residential	Structure	Activities
EAY1: Strategic Leadership EAY2: Innovation EAY3: Growth	Weeks 1-4	High volume of readings with activities and assessments to complete before the residential
	Week 4	4-day immersive Residential
	Weeks 5-10	Assessments
EAY4: Transformation is a little different...	Weeks 1-8	Readings, activities and assessments to complete before the residential
	Week 8	4-day immersive Residential
	Weeks 9-10	Final assessments

- During several of the residential you'll have activities that are designed to demonstrate concepts and challenge you mentally and (sometimes) physically. We try to take all abilities into account when planning these activities and can accommodate your needs if you cannot participate for a medical or other valid reason

10. *I live overseas. Can I still do EAY, or complete my MBA (Executive) any other way?*

We do have students who attend EAY while living overseas and fly in for each residential. Students living internationally must bear in mind that all times & dates expressed are Sydney AEST/AEDT date and time. We do understand that flying in from overseas doesn't work for everyone and may not be accessible or affordable for all students. To graduate with the MBA (Executive) you must complete Stage 2 in its current format, so if you are unable to do EAY for whatever reason please contact Student Experience so that we can discuss alternative options that would suit your situation.