

MIA-MPH Application Instructions – Fall 2021

Welcome! This document provides instructions to apply for graduate admission into the **Master of International Affairs and Master of Public Health Combined Degree Program** with the Bush School at Texas A&M University in conjunction with the School of Public Health. The on-campus MIA degree admits students each fall; application materials should be received preferably by the priority deadline of **December 15** for optimal consideration, but no later than the final deadline of **January 15**. Late applications will be processed on a time and space-available basis. Check our website for updates.

Candidates are interviewed during Interview Conference Weekend (Feb 26-27), with Zoom and Skype interviews conducted earlier for those who cannot attend. Admissions and financial aid decisions are made mid-March.

APPLICATION PROCESS & OVERVIEW

The Bush School Admissions Office works in conjunction with the Texas A&M Office of Graduate Admissions and the School of Public Health to process applications. Applicants apply through the School of Public Health's SOPHAS application and upload supporting materials, then submit a Supplemental MIA Application to the Bush School. All supporting documents, including transcripts and recommendation letters, should be requested well in advance of the deadline. Incomplete applications will not be considered for admission.

Make sure to use the same spelling and name on all correspondence and documents to avoid confusion or delay in processing your materials. Notify the Bush School and the School of Public Health of any changes to your address and/or name immediately.

Be sure to check the email address you entered on your application for updates. The Bush School will send email notifications indicating any items still missing for the MIA portion of the application, when your file is complete, etc. The Admissions Committee will start reviewing complete applications in January.

APPLICATIONS (2)

1. Submit your SOPHAS application to the School of Public Health. Visit the School of Public Health Admissions [website](#) for instructions.
2. After you submit your SOPHAS application to the School of Public Health, then submit a [supplemental MIA application](#) to the Bush School by the dates indicated above. The supplemental application does not have an application fee and will ask applicants the following:
 - Which semester and year you expect to enter the Bush School as part of the MIA-MPH combined degree program. *Students admitted to the program typically start the "MIA" portion of the program in the spring of their second year.*
 - MIA Program Track(s) and Concentration(s) of Interest
 - Where you heard about the MIA-MPH program
 - How many years of professional or relevant work experience will you have by the time you enroll?
 - If you have or will serve in the United States military? If yes, if you will be active-duty military sponsored and what your rank/branch is/was?
 - What your foreign language ability is and how you acquired your language ability? When will you be able to pass the required Oral Proficiency Exam in another language?

RESUME

Applicants will upload their resume to their SOPHAS application. If an applicant would like to submit a modified resume to the MIA portion of the combined program that includes the information below, the applicant may do so by uploading their resume to the [supplemental MIA application](#).

A [Résumé Template](#) is available for reference, but should include the following sections:

- **Name and Contact Information**
- **Education**
 - Undergraduate Institution; include month/year completed (or to complete)
 - Degree earned, with major(s), minor(s)
 - Current overall GPA on a 4.0 scale (*you can also add a last 60 hour or major GPA*)
 - List additional undergraduate or graduate degrees and certificates, as necessary
 - *Optional*: Relevant/highlighted courses you'd like to list and /or academic honors and awards
- **Relevant Work/Internship Experience**
 - List work or internship experiences related to public service, to include government, nonprofits, educational institutions, military service, etc.
- **International Experience** (*optional*)
 - Include study abroad, missions trips, travel, living overseas, and dates completed
- **Leadership, Service, Organizational Memberships, and Honors**
 - List your involvement in any related activities that *you* want to highlight. Indicate the organization, position/role you assumed, the duration/dates involved, and the time involved per week/month/semester
- **Skills and Certifications** (*optional*)
 - **Language**: List the language and your current speaking level (include beginning, intermediate, advanced, fluent). Optional for reading, writing levels.
 - **Computer**: List relevant software by name.
 - **Clearance**: List any you want to highlight.
- **Other** (*optional*)

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Applicants are asked to upload a Statement of Purpose to their SOPHAS application. However, if the Statement of Purpose submitted in SOPHAS does not address items in the prompt below, please upload another Statement of Purpose to the Supplemental MIA Application. Statement should be *typed in 11 pt font and spaced 1.5-2"*. Include *your name on each page*.

Prompt: In 750 words or less, tell us about the experiences that have influenced your professional and personal goals. This could include people, events, or places that have affected or inspired you (family/ faculty/ interactions/ internships/ courses/ travel/ etc). Essentially, we are looking for where you come from, what you've done that impacted your development, and where you want to be for a possible career.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE ESSAY

Also on Supplemental MIA Application, applicants are required to upload their International Experience Essay. Essay should be *typed in 11 pt font and spaced 1.5-2"*. Include *your name on each page*.

Prompt: In 750 words or less, tell us about the experiences that have influenced your interest in international affairs. We recognize that your experiences and opportunities may vary substantially from others, but we are looking

for aspects of study abroad, living abroad, influential courses or readings, language interests, international news or events, cultural interactions, and more. It's okay to have some repetition between this essay and your statement of purpose.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION (3)

Three letters of recommendation and evaluations are required. We strongly recommend at least one recommendation be from someone familiar with your academic work (faculty or advisors) and another be from someone familiar with your potential leadership, public service, or work experience (supervisor, mentors, associates).

Applicants will be asked to submit recommendation letters via the SOPHAS application.

TRANSCRIPTS

Please refer to the [School of Public Health Admissions website](#) for instructions on submitting transcripts.

GRE/GMAT TEST SCORES

While GRE/GMAT scores may not be required to apply to the School of Public Health, GRE/GMAT scores are required for the joint MIA-MPH program if the applicant's cumulative GPA is below a 3.2 or if the applicant's application does not accurately reflect their abilities. The Bush School will continue to accept scores for anyone who feels they can complement a strong file or offset concerns such as a low GPA or lack of experience in the field. If submitting scores, we recommend scores be at or above our averages, if possible (in 2020, MIA GRE avg. was 308).

- **Optional** if you have an overall GPA of 3.2 or better (we do not round up)
- **Required** if you have an overall GPA below 3.2 (or if your grades/experiences do not reflect your current abilities)

Test scores (GRE preferred over GMAT) should be sent directly from the Education Testing Service (ETS) to Texas A&M University. Test scores must be within five years of the date the UniCAS application is submitted. (GRE Code: 6003 / GMAT Code: 7B7-K9-03)

ENGLISH PROFICIENCY TEST SCORES (for int'l applicants)

Texas A&M requires applicants from non-English speaking countries provide proof of English Proficiency:

- Score at least a 146 on the GRE Verbal section (or 22 on GMAT Verbal)
- Earn a TOEFL score of at least 80 (i-BT) or 550 pbt; the Bush School prefers a 100 i-BT or 600 pbt (*MyBest TOEFL Scores not accepted*)
- Score a minimum IELTS score of 6.0 overall band; the Bush School prefers a 7.0 band
- Complete all 4 years of a bachelor's degree or higher at an accredited university in the United States

Further clarification and a list of countries exempt from providing Proof of English Proficiency are listed on the TAMU International Graduate Admissions website at <https://admissions.tamu.edu/international/graduate>.

We recommend tests be completed by November to meet our December priority deadline.

To report test scores:

- **TOEFL Scores** should be sent directly from the testing service to Texas A&M University (Code 6003).
- **IELTS Scores** should be submitted electronically from the IELTS test center; no paper Test Report Forms accepted. An institution code is NOT required. Instead, use the address listed below.

Internal Admissions Processing
Texas A&M University
PO Box 40002
College Station, TX 77842-4002

Email: admissions@tamu.edu

CONTACT INFORMATION (Bush School)

If you have any questions about the MIA portion of the application, please contact Ashlee Treadway or Kathryn Meyer in the Bush School Admissions Office. Our contact information is below:

Phone: 979-862-3476 or 979-862-8841

Email: bushschoolapplications@tamu.edu

Address:

Bush School Admissions
Texas A&M University
2129 Allen Bldg / 4220 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843

CONTACT INFORMATION (School of Public Health)

If you have any questions about your SOPHAS or MPH portion of the application or application process, please contact the School of Public Health. Their contact information is below:

Phone: 979.436.9356

Email: SPH-OSA@tamhsc.edu

Address:

SPH Administration Building, Suite 160
College Station, TX 77843

MIA-MPH Application Checklist

Fall 2021

Applicant Name _____

UIN _____

The Bush School's Office of Admissions works in conjunction with Texas A&M's Office of Graduate Admissions and the School of Public Health to process all applications. This involves a multi-step process where applicants apply through the School of Public Health's SOPHAS application and upload supporting materials, then submit a Supplemental MIA Application to the Bush School. Use the checklist below to mark items as you submit your materials. We recommend you make copies of your materials (except pieces in sealed envelopes) for your own records. Our contact information is below.

Priority Funding Deadline: December 15, 2020 | Final Application Deadline: February 15, 2021

- Application:**
 - Submit SOPHAS application to the School of Public Health.
 - Submit Supplemental MIA application to the Bush School.
- Application Fee:**
 - Applicants may be required to pay an application fee when submitting their SOPHAS application. An application fee is not required for the Supplemental MIA application.
- Résumé:** Submit via the SOPHAS application or if needed, through Supplemental MIA application.
- MIA Statement of Purpose (750 words):** Submit via the Supplemental MIA application.
- MIA International Experience Essay (750 words):** Submit via the Supplemental MIA application or [email us](#)
- Three Letters of Recommendation with Recommendation Form:**
 - Submit via the SOPHAS application.
- Transcripts:** *Required from all 4-year colleges/universities attended*
 - Unofficial transcripts can be uploaded to SOPHAS or [emailed to us](#).
 - IF ADMITTED, you must submit official transcripts to Texas A&M Office of Graduate Admissions immediately to be able to register for classes.
 - Official transcripts can be sent directly from your Registrar's office to TAMU Admissions (admissions@tamu.edu) using SPEEDE, eSCRIPT-SAFE, or Nat'l Clearing House ONLY, or mail them:
Graduate Admissions Processing
Office of Admissions, Texas A&M University
P.O. Box 4001
College Station, TX 77842-001
- GRE/GMAT Scores:**
 - Optional for applicants with a cumulative GPA of 3.2 or above.
 - Required for applicants with a cumulative GPA below 3.2 or if the applicant's application does not accurately reflect their abilities.
 - Send official scores to TAMU using GRE Code 6003; GMAT Code 7B7-K9-03.
- Proof of English Proficiency:** *(For international applicants only)*
 - Refer to <https://admissions.tamu.edu/international/graduate> for exemptions or ways to demonstrate proficiency.

Questions? Contact Ashlee Treadway or Kathryn Meyer at bushschoolapplications@tamu.edu or call 979-862-3476.