

# MIA 3+2 Application Instructions – Fall 2023

Welcome! This document provides application instructions to the 3+2 MIA program for current Texas A&M undergraduate students majoring in **International Studies** or **Economics**.

## FALL 2023 APPLICATION DEADLINES

**Priority Funding Application Deadline: December 15, 2022**

**Final Application Deadline: January 11, 2023**

*Late applications will be processed on a time and space-available basis. Check our website for updates.*

Applications completed by the priority funding deadline of **December 15** are considered for optimal funding consideration. Applications completed after the priority deadline, but on or before the final deadline, will still receive a competitive, merit-based scholarship. However, nomination-based opportunities may no longer be available.

## REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY

Current Texas A&M University (College Station, TX) undergraduate students may apply for admission into the 3+2 MIA program during the fall of their junior year (or in the fall when they are classified as a U3) as long as the student:

- ✓ is classified as a **U3** (or junior) majoring in **Economics** or **International Studies (specifically within the emphasis track of International Politics and Diplomacy)** at the time of their application, *and*
- ✓ has worked with their undergrad advisor to **map out undergrad courses** the student must complete prior to and after entry into the 3+2 program (if admitted), *and*
- ✓ has (or will have) approximately **66-78 credit hours** of their undergrad degree *completed* by the start of the fall semester of their junior year (when they begin the 3+2 application process), *and*
- ✓ is predicted to have at least **102 credit hours** of their undergrad degree completed by the start of the fall semester in which they will enter the 3+2 program, *and*
- ✓ has (or will have) a cumulative GPA of at least a **3.25 for ECON** majors, or **3.5 for INTS** majors by the start of the fall 2023 semester, *and*
- ✓ is in **good academic standing** with their undergrad department, *and*
- ✓ is **not expected to graduate** or complete their undergrad degree in 2022 or 2023, *and*
- ✓ will **complete their required study abroad trip** prior to the start of the fall semester fall 2023 (only applicable to INTS majors), *and*
- ✓ understands that failure to satisfy ALL of these requirements prior to the fall 2023 semester will result in admission (if offered) being revoked to the 3+2 program.

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

If admitted into the 3+2 program, the student would enter the Bush School's MIA program in the fall of their senior year (or when they are classified as a U4) and take courses that double count toward both their undergraduate and MIA degrees (around 15-18 credit hours). During the student's fifth/final year, students take courses that only count toward the MIA degree. The student will graduate and receive a diploma for both their undergrad and master's degrees at the end of their fifth year, when they successfully complete the requirements of both degrees.

As a result, it is imperative undergrad students interested in the 3+2 program notify their undergrad advisors as soon as they are interest so that the advisor and student can work together to figure out which courses the student:

- Must complete prior to entering the MPSA program (or in the fall of their fourth year), and
- Must set aside and take after entry into the MPSA program (that would double count toward both degrees).

A student admitted to the 3+2 MIA program must complete all of their required undergrad course requirements (including study abroad) prior to the fall semester of entry into the MIA program, with the exception of the 15-18 credit hours they set aside to double count. Otherwise, the student's offer of admission to the 3+2 program will be rescinded and the student would be advised to reapply to the full, 2-year MPSA program after completion of their undergrad degree.

Once a student is admitted and begins the Bush School's MIA degree in the fall of their fourth year when they are classified as a U4, the student cannot take any undergrad courses to fulfill their undergrad degree requirements. Students are expected to only take graduate level courses that fulfill the requirements of the MIA degree, some of which will also double count toward requirements in the student's undergrad degree.

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## ADMISSIONS PROCESS

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The Bush School Admissions Office works with the applicant's undergraduate department (Economics or International Studies) to process applications for the **Master of International Affairs (MIA) 3+2 program**. We admit students into the 3+2 program **for fall entry only**.

To apply, applicants must submit a 3+2 MIA Internal Application and all required materials (including recommendations) by the application deadlines stated above. **Do NOT submit an application in GradCAS. Incomplete applications will NOT be considered for admission.** Please use the same spelling and name on all correspondence/documents to avoid confusion or delay in processing; and immediately notify the Bush School of any changes to your address and/or name.

**Note:** The Bush School Admissions Office will email applicants for any missing items and when their application is complete. Be sure to monitor the preferred email address you entered on your internal application for updates.

In late January/early February, applicants are notified via email if they are or are not selected for the interview round in the admissions process. Those invited to interview are encouraged to attend and interview during Interview Conference Weekend (ICW), scheduled for Feb 24-25. Alternate Zoom interviews are available for those who cannot attend ICW and will be held throughout the month of February.

In late February/early March, Admissions and Scholarship Committees meet to make final admissions and scholarship decisions. By mid-March, applicants are notified of their admissions decision. If offered admission, applicants will receive an offer letter containing the Bush School Scholarship amount they've been awarded and will have until April 15<sup>th</sup> to accept or decline their offer.

## INTERNAL APPLICATION

Texas A&M juniors submit the [3+2 MIA Internal Application](#) by filling out their basic information and uploading a résumé, personal statement, international experience essay, and GRE/GMAT scores (if desired). **Do NOT submit an application in GradCAS.** Three recommendations are also required, but are submitted by your recommenders via email (explained in the Recommendations section below). *There is no application fee.*

## RÉSUMÉ

Upload a current résumé (max of two pages) that includes activities after high school to the 3+2 MIA Internal Application. A [Résumé Template](#) is available for reference:

- **Name and Contact Information**
- **Education**
  - Undergraduate Institution; include month/year completed (or to complete)
  - Degree earned, with major(s), minor(s)
  - Cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale (*if it helps, consider adding a last 60 hour or major GPA*)
  - *List any additional degrees and certificates you have earned or are expected to earn*
  - Academic honors and awards

- **Work/Internship Experience**
  - List all professional work or internship experiences (full-time, part-time and internships)
  - Include military services and duties
- **International Experience** (if applicable)
- Related/Highlighted Coursework (optional)
- Applied Class Projects/Activities (optional)
- Skills and Certifications
  - **Language:** List the language and current speaking level (beginner, intermediate, advanced, fluent).  
Optional for reading, writing levels
  - **Computer:** List relevant software by name
  - **Security Clearance:** Highlight any relevant clearances
- **Leadership, Service, Organizations, and Honors**
  - Indicate the organization, position/role assumed, the duration/dates involved, and the time involved per week/month/semester

### PERSONAL STATEMENT

Upload your personal statement to the 3+2 MIA Internal Application. Statements should be typed in 11 pt font, spaced 1.5”, and answer the following prompt. Include your name, the title “Personal Statement”, and page number on each page.

**Prompt:** *In 750 words or less, please address the following topics in your personal statement:*

- *Your personal and professional goals for a career in international affairs,*
- *What (including the people, places, internships, or events) inspired you to pursue a career in international affairs,*
- *How obtaining the MIA degree from the Bush School will help you achieve your goals, and*
- *What value you bring to the program (including knowledge gained from meaningful experiences, education, or jobs you have had in the past).*

### INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE ESSAY

Upload your international experience essay to the 3+2 MIA Internal Application. Essays should be typed in 11 pt font, spaced 1.5”, and answer the following prompt. Include your name, the title “International Experience Essay”, and page number 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 and abilities, international news or events, cultural interactions, and more. Some repetition may occur from your statement, but this essay should include new material.*

### RECOMMENDATIONS (3)

Three recommendations (consisting of a letter and Recommendation Form) are required and must be received by the application deadline. *Applications with fewer than three recommendations will NOT be reviewed for admission.*

Recommendations can be from:

- *(preferred)* an academic reference, particularly from a course instructor who can attest to an applicant’s capability to pursue graduate school.
- a professional reference who can speak to the applicant’s leadership; character; public service, military, or work experience and can provide specific anecdotes as to why the applicant is qualified for graduate school.

To request a recommendation, applicants should fill out the top portion of the [Recommendation Form](#) and send to their recommenders with instructions to do the following:

1. Write a letter of recommendation (preferably written on official letterhead).
2. Fill out the bottom portion of the recommendation form.
3. Email recommendation form and letter of recommendation to the Bush School Admissions Office at [bushschoolapplications@tamu.edu](mailto:bushschoolapplications@tamu.edu). *We will not accept recommendations submitted from an applicant; recommendations must be emailed directly from the recommender.*

## TRANSCRIPTS

We have access to Texas A&M student transcripts and will download a current transcript for you at the time of your application *and* after the fall 2022 semester. You do not need to submit any transcripts.

## GRE/GMAT (optional)

The MIA requires applicants with a cumulative GPA below 3.2 to submit GRE/GMAT scores. Since 3+2 applicants must have cumulative GPAs above 3.2 (ECON = minimum 3.25; INTS = minimum 3.5), scores are optional.

We encourage applicants to submit GRE/GMAT scores if they feel their scores can complement a strong file or offset concerns such as a low GPA or lack of experience in the field. We recommend scores be near or above our 308 average. GRE is preferred over GMAT.

Applicants who decide to submit test scores should upload their unofficial Test Score Report to the 3+2 MIA Internal Application. Scores must be within five years of the date the application is submitted. Official scores are not required, but can be sent to Texas A&M University (College Station) using GRE code 6003 or GMAT code 7B7-K9-57.

## UNDERGRAD ADVISOR APPROVAL

It is imperative students meet with their undergrad advisor to ensure they are on track to complete all requirements for their undergrad degree (except for the courses that double count toward both their undergrad and MIA degree) prior to the fall semester they will enter the 3+2 program (if admitted). Submit the following via the 3+2 MIA Internal Application:

- **INTS majors:** Work with your undergrad advisor on filling out an [INTS/MIA 5-Year Course Planner](#) and upload to your internal application when complete.
- **ECON majors:** Work with your undergrad advisor on filling out a 5-Year Course Planner for the [B.S. ECON/MIA](#) or the [B.A. ECON/MIA](#) and upload to your 3+2 MIA Internal Application.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions about the application or the application process should be directed to Ashlee Treadway or Kathryn Meyer in the **Bush School Admissions Office**:

- **Phone:** 979-862-3476
- **Email:** [bushschoolapplications@tamu.edu](mailto:bushschoolapplications@tamu.edu)

Questions about undergrad course preparation for the 3+2 MIA program should be directed to the student's undergraduate advisor.