

Options for Business Majors – Alternate Paths

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Business is booming at the **Robert H. Smith School, University of Maryland College Park** - both Main and Shady Grove campuses - so much so that early advising is critical for admissions success.

What does it take to get into Smith? Besides a strong grade point average, each student's application is examined for evidence of leadership activities, work experience and a willingness to take challenging courses. Involvement in college student activities should begin early. See UM's Limited Enrollment Programs LEP page for Business admissions information. www.lep.umd.edu

Business hopefuls should have a *Plan B ready*. Many students are attracted to UMCP's Smith School because it's nearby, reasonably priced, and because of its growing reputation. But Smith is not the only way to succeed in business.

Plan B Options:**Consider alternate majors at the University of Maryland, College Park:**

- **The Communication major** at [UMCP's Main Campus has a Public Relations track](#) that is similar to Marketing. The [Communication Major offered by UM at Shady Grove](#) has a focus on Digital Media and Visual Communication which also teaches marketing-related skills. Important courses at MC to prepare for this major: MATH 117 Elements of Statistics, COMM 108 Intro to Human Communication, another COMM (speech) elective, and COMM 250 Intro to Communication Theory. Students must also show proficiency in a foreign language at the intermediate 202- or 203 level for COMM majors. This Limited Enrollment Program has other requirements - see the [LEP page](#) for information www.lep.umd.edu
- **Economics** - requires MATH 150 Elementary Applied Calculus. www.bsos.umd.edu/econ/
- **Agricultural and Resource Economics – Agribusiness** www.arec.umd.edu/undergraduate/major-requirements/agribusiness Business with a focus on entrepreneurship, leadership, communication and sustainable agriculture courses.
- **Information Science** – B.S. in Information Science major, also known as InfoSci, provides students with skills to anticipate consequences of new information technologies, systems, services and resources. Students design solutions, create systems, and lead teams that bring together information, technology, and people to meet critical individual, organizational, and societal needs. Main Campus and Shady Grove. <https://ischool.umd.edu/infosci>
- **Psychology or Sociology**, etc. - although these are general majors, many people have moved into the world of business without a business major. See the long list of UM majors for other ideas: <https://admissions.umd.edu/explore/majors/majors-alphabetically>. Seek out internships in a business field while in college.

Minor in Business at UM: UM offers these Business-Related Minors: [Business Analytics](#), [General Business](#), and [Innovation and Entrepreneurship](#). www.rhsmith.umd.edu/programs/undergraduate-programs/academics/academic-minors

Add business courses (BMGT) as electives to any major at UM by taking them in a UM Winter or Summer Session. BMGT courses are limited to Business majors in Fall and Spring, but in Fall or Winter sessions, enrollment is open to all students. <https://oes.umd.edu/incoming-current-visiting-students>

Some feel that regardless of major, UMCP is the place where big companies interview for employees. Not all major companies are looking strictly for business majors. Being enrolled at UM's Main Campus or Shady Grove gives students access to interviewing companies.

Students ask, "Will a degree from another school be as respected and marketable as one from Smith?" The answer can be yes, by having an internship or cooperative work experience within the field; yes, with excellent performance in the classroom; and yes, if a student networks with professors and fellow students. Students with strong internship experience have a distinct edge.

Choose another Maryland State school to study Business:

Programs within commuting distance include:

- Evening and online business degree programs through the **University of Maryland, Global Campus – UMGC** (formerly UMUC). Majors include: [Accounting](#), [Business Administration](#), [Cybersecurity Management and Policy](#), [Finance](#), [Human Resource Management](#), [Legal Studies](#), [Management Studies](#) and [Marketing](#). These UMGC majors require one Math – MATH 117 Elements of Statistics only. www.umgc.edu
- **Bowie State University, Bowie MD** www.bowie.edu [Accounting, Finance, & Economics](#); [Management Information Systems](#); [Management, Marketing & Public Administration](#)
- **Coppin State University, Baltimore** www.coppin.edu : [Accounting Major](#); [Management Information System Major](#); [Management Major \(Online Degree Program\)](#); [Management Major](#); [Marketing Major](#); [Sport Management](#); [Entertainment Management](#)
- **University of Baltimore** (www.ubalt.edu) Offers both online degrees and in-class courses (near the Inner Harbor, Baltimore). [Accounting](#) | [Data Analytics](#) | [Entrepreneurship](#) | [Entrepreneurship Fellows program](#) | [Early Entry Law](#) | [Finance](#) | [General Business](#) | [Human Resource Management](#) | [International Business](#) | [Management](#) | [Marketing](#) | [Real Estate and Economic Development](#) | [Risk Management and Insurance](#). UB also has a **Health Systems Administration** major taught on weekends at the Universities at Shady Grove.
- **UMBC, Baltimore** www.umbc.edu : While the University of Maryland, Baltimore County does not offer a Business major, they have a **Financial Economics** major, a **Health Administration and Policy** major, an **Information Systems** major and many business "minors" in the form of Certificates, which, when added to another major, give students marketable business skills. UMBC's [Administrative & Managerial Sciences Certificates](#):
 - Finance
 - Management Science
 - Personnel & Industrial Psychology
 - Preprofessional Studies in Accounting
- **UMBC's** [Financial Economics](#) BS (similar to a Finance degree); [Health Administration and Policy](#) BS; [BA in Management of Aging Services](#); [BA in Business Technology Administration](#) and [BS in Information Systems](#).

On the outer edges of commutability (about an hour and a half from Rockville):

- **Morgan State University's Earl Graves School of Business Degrees in:** [Accounting](#); [Finance](#); [Business Administration](#); [Entrepreneurship](#); [Hospitality Management](#); [Information Systems](#); [Management \(Human Resource Management\)](#); [Marketing](#); [Services & Supply Chain Management](#)
- **Towson University's School of Business and Management:** [Accounting](#); [Economics](#); [Health Care Management](#); [Business Administration](#) with Concentrations in: [Economics](#); [Entrepreneurship](#); [Finance](#); [Financial planning](#); [Human resource management](#); [International business](#); [Investments](#); [Legal studies](#); [Leadership and management](#); [Marketing](#); [Project management and business analysis](#); [Business Systems and Processes](#); [Sports Management](#)

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