

# UCLA-NUS EMBA Sponsorship Guide

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## Securing your future with employer sponsorship

Embarking on the UCLA-NUS Executive MBA journey is a strategic milestone in your professional development. Securing sponsorship from your employer can greatly enhance this experience, providing both financial relief and the necessary time commitment for your studies. This guide is crafted to empower you with the tools and insights needed to gain your employer's support, emphasizing the transformative benefits the program offers to both you and your organization.

# Building a persuasive sponsorship proposal

## #1 Define your motivations and objectives

- Clearly articulate your reasons for pursuing an Executive MBA and why the UCLA-NUS EMBA stands out.
- Pinpoint the specific skills and insights you aim to acquire and how they align with your career aspirations.
- Reflect on how the UCLA-NUS EMBA's dual focus on US and Asian markets will enhance your global exposure and leadership capabilities
- Reflect on your personal career aspirations and how the UCLA-NUS EMBA aligns with them.

## #2 Demonstrate the EMBA value to your employer

- Explain how the UCLA-NUS EMBA will help you perform better in your current role and contribute more strategically to your organization.
- Identify how the program aligns with your company's strategic priorities, such as leadership development, regional/global expansion, cross-border management, digital transformation, or sustainability initiatives.
- Explain how the cross-industry and regional insights from the EMBA will bring fresh perspectives to your team and organization.

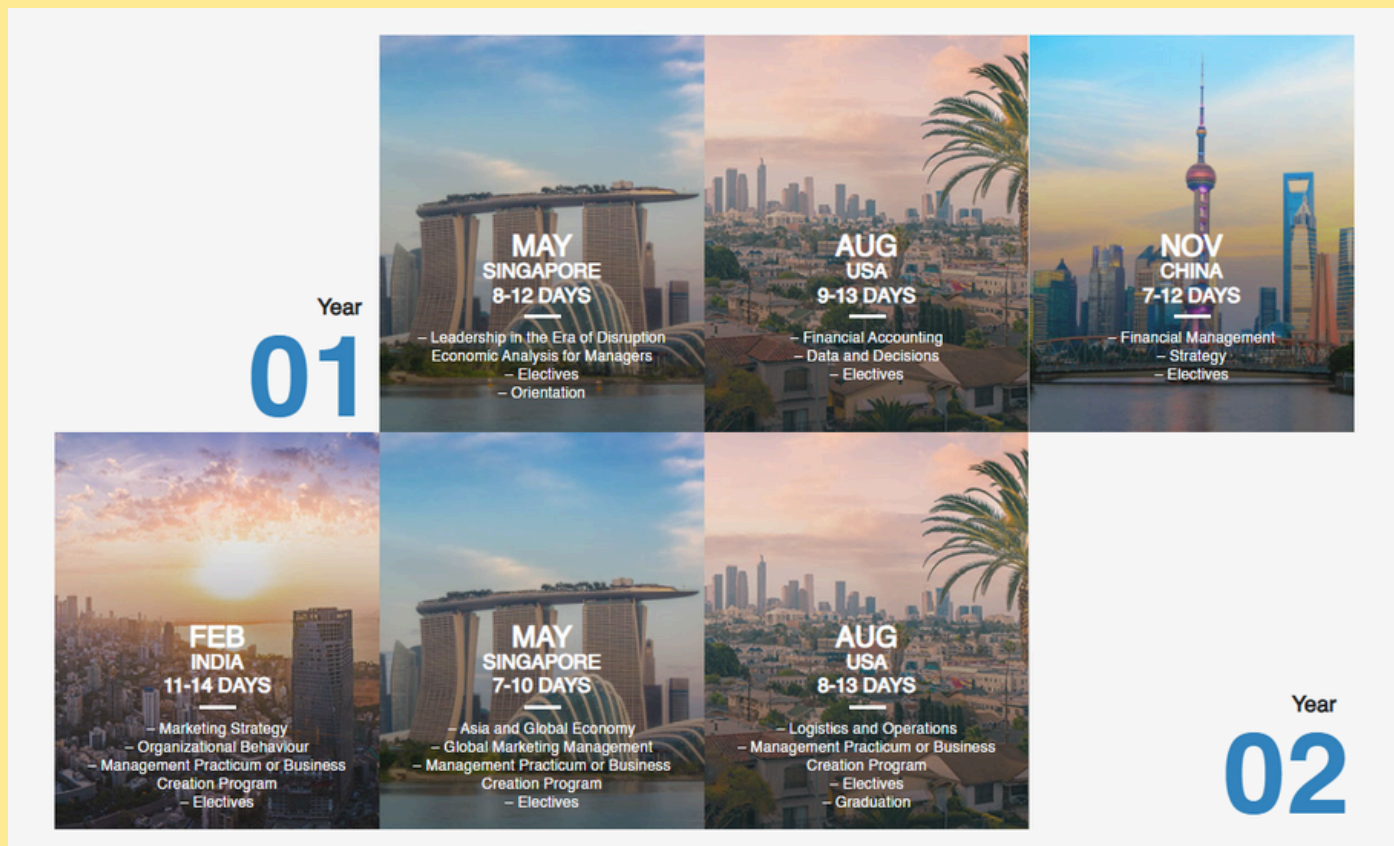
## Transformed my thinking

“Before enrolling, I was just an individual contributor, and I often struggled to understand the terminology used by C-suites. However, the program transformed my thinking and I became more comfortable stepping into the shoes of those stakeholders and engaging in authentic, meaningful conversations.



” Denis Donelly, Class of 2018/2019

## Program highlights



### Global Immersion & Strategic Exposure

- **International learning across borders**
  - 6 intensive one- to two-week sessions across 4 countries
  - Exposure to diverse economies, cultures, and business practices—particularly in Asia and the U.S.
- **Designed for senior leaders**
  - Participants average 16 years of experience
  - Tailored for executives navigating complex, cross-border business challenges

### Diverse and Dynamic Peer Network

- **Collaborative learning community**
  - Broad mix of industries, nationalities, and functions
  - Rich peer-to-peer learning through shared experiences and insights
- **Dual degrees, dual networks**
  - Earn a joint degree from UCLA Anderson and NUS Business School
  - Lifetime access to alumni services and networks from both institutions
  - Join a global community of over 100,000 alumni worldwide

### Strategic Curriculum for Global Impact

- **Cross-cultural, senior-level curriculum**
  - Covers leadership, innovation, global strategy, digital transformation, and enterprise growth
  - Emphasizes Asia-Pacific insights and global strategic relevance
- **Immersive learning tools**
  - Case studies, simulations, and live regional business challenges
  - Designed to enhance strategic thinking and organizational leadership

### Action-Based Learning & Real-Time Application

- **Learn by doing**
  - Apply frameworks, concepts, and tools to real-world business challenges
  - Engage in capstone projects like the Management Practicum and Business Creation Program
- **Modular structure, immediate impact**
  - Modular format allows you to apply new knowledge directly to your role after each segment
  - Reinforce learning through real-time business application and impact

## Enhance your capabilities

### Strategic Thinking & Global Mindset

Courses such as Asia and the Global Economy, and Winning Strategy in Asia will deepen your ability to assess global trends, understand market dynamics, and make sound strategic decisions across geographies. Electives such as Futures Thinking and Scenario Planning and Global Marketing Management can further enhance your skills in foresight, positioning, and adapting to the nuances of different global markets.

### Leadership for Transformation

Through Leadership in the Era of Disruption, Organizational Behavior, and electives such as Service Management and Entrepreneurship and Venture Initiation, you'll hone your ability to lead through change, inspire high-performing teams, and shape a culture of innovation. Build self-awareness, sharpen your people-management toolkit, and equip you to drive transformational outcomes in complex environments.

### Digital & Analytical Agility

Courses such as Data Analysis for Management Decisions, Blockchain Applications in Finance, and Tech & Innovation equip you with the skills to interpret data, leverage emerging technologies, and drive digital transformation. You'll develop fluency in analytics, AI trends, and platform innovation—crucial for informed decision-making and competitive advantage in the digital economy.

### Financial & Operational Acumen

Core courses in Financial Management, Financial Accounting, and Logistics and Operations will provide a solid foundation in finance and operations strategy. The program also has electives that help build depth in portfolio strategies, ESG financial impact, and sustainable growth.

### Communication & Influence

While communication is embedded throughout the curriculum, courses such as Organizational Behavior, Futures Thinking & Scenario Planning, and Global Immersion will help sharpen your executive presence, storytelling, negotiation, and cross-cultural communication. Engaging with peers and faculty across countries and industries will help refine your influence in both boardroom and cross-border settings.

### Applied Learning & Executive Projects

The Management Practicum and Business Creation Program are cornerstone capstone experiences where you'll solve real business challenges or launch ventures. You'll work closely with industry mentors, faculty, and actual businesses—developing solutions, business plans, and strategic recommendations that have real-world impact.

“I consulted my UCLA Financial Accounting professor about work-related issues, and she helped me identify several accounting anomalies in the companies we were planning to acquire. This ultimately saved the company several million dollars on the acquisition price. The timing of that class coincided perfectly with our acquisition, likely contributing to my promotion.”



Ayo Canlas, Class of  
2024/2025

## #3 Gain support from your supervisor and employer

### Time commitment & workload management

- Outline how you plan to balance work responsibilities with the program schedule.

### Immediate & long-term ROI for your employer

- Explain how the program's practical learning approach allows immediate application to business challenges.
- Showcase Highlight opportunities such as individual assignments, where you can apply your learnings to work on company-relevant challenges.
- Offer examples of past students who have led impactful projects at their organizations using EMBA learnings.
- Suggest setting clear milestones or KPIs with your employer to track progress and business impact during the program.

### Discuss specific leave options

- Consider suggesting specific arrangements, such as special no-pay leave for intensive study periods or bring forward leave to access future leave entitlements. Be clear about how much time you may need and when.

“

I balanced the demands of school and work by informing my company of the number of days I'll be away and when I would be back. Effective time management is crucial. By planning my travel days and taking advantage of downtime, like working on the plane or during lunch breaks, I was able to find the best ways to maximize my time for learning and connecting with my colleagues remotely.

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Alfie Macatiag, Class of 2023/2024

## Program structure

- 12 core courses and 6 electives
- Designed to accommodate demanding schedules and minimize disruption to work
- Onboarding and online pre-segment classes will start 1st week of April, with elective selection for Segment 1 ending in mid March.
- Flexible schedule combining residential segments and online learning
- Intensive modular format allows you to fully immerse yourself in a global learning experience which traverses the most dynamic regions in the world
- A combination of assignments, group discussions, collaborative projects, and individual evaluations.
- 10 hours a week (or more) on readings and other preparations
- Electives are offered during and in between segments in a variety of learning formats, offering you further flexibility and help reduce out of office/country days
- Extensive list of electives for a more customized EMBA experience
- Global immersion opportunities and overseas exchanges with partner universities



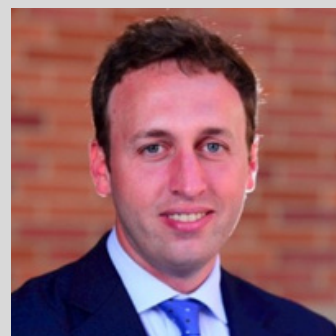
## #4 Know the program, engage with the UCLA-NUS EMBA community

- Attend UCLA-NUS EMBA networking events to connect with current students, alumni, and faculty.
- Leverage 1-on-1 connections to gain insights from students/alumni with similar career backgrounds. Connect with our EMBassadors [here](#).
- Speak with the admissions team to refine your sponsorship proposal with relevant program highlights. Connect with the team [here](#).

# Diversity

## Global perspectives

“I valued the diverse cohort and global perspectives for enhancing his understanding of business cultures. The program provided valuable insights that shaped my business approach and improved my ability to lead cross-functional and international teams.”



Marco Francisetti, Class of  
2019/2020



Connie Brooks, Class of  
2023/2024

“One of the reasons why this program trumped others was because it allowed me to balance my roles as a full-time employee, a mother, and a student. Yes, there was the initial fear, but the program is designed to help students cope and succeed.”



Vicknesh Pillay, Class of  
2015/2016

“Balancing work, family, and studies was challenging, but remember the importance of perseverance and commitment. You get as much as you put into the program.”

## Empower your journey

Securing employer sponsorship for your UCLA-NUS Executive MBA is a strategic step that can significantly enhance your professional journey. By presenting a compelling case that underscores the mutual benefits for both you and your organization, you pave the way for transformative growth and leadership development. Approach your employer with confidence, armed with a clear proposal, and demonstrate how this investment will contribute to your ongoing success and the strategic objectives of your company. Remember, this endeavor is not just an individual achievement but a collaborative advancement that aligns your personal aspirations with your company's organizational goals.