

EMBA Admission Essays

1. Evaluation of myself

As far as I am concerned, I have always seen myself as a hard working person who will constantly try to push the limits of her knowledge. This is the exact reason, when reading my resume; you could see that I have had several experiences in many fields. However, one thing is constant and it has proven to be my main quality over the years: my true commitment to the development of the business I am part of. Whether sales assistant, financial security planning advisor, communication product assistant or supervisor my goal has always been to produce the best possible work to contribute to the growth of the business and I consider that my ability to adapt has always been my competitive advantage when facing so many different environments.

I am currently working as a Group Assistant Manager within my family business – an artificial flower manufacture in China with 2000 employees – and my areas of work are Accounting and Production Operations. I've been working for this company for the last six years where I was able to prove my ability to adapt to several working environments. I first worked within the Sales department, I conducted the project to computerize the entire factory, I reorganized the accounting department, the purchasing department and the warehouse management operations. As the company grew, we needed to update the computer system, project that I am conducting currently.

Today, I account with more than three years of business experience in the areas of accounting, office operations and financial advising. I have developed a strong sense of self-motivation, interpersonal and communication skills. I believe that joining the Executive MBA will offer me an opportunity to link all these fields of expertise together and to reach a better understanding of the firm as a whole which will ultimately lead to a growth inside the business.

My main achievements were: to successfully direct projects within my current company, which in case they went wrong would have compromised thousands of jobs; to have completely adapted to a very different working environment after moving to China from Canada; and finally to have received the 1999 Honor Club Award when I was a financial security planning officer in Montreal. This last accomplishment was a true honor because we were only two employees to receive this award within the Montreal Office of RBC Investments Services Limited which consisted in reaching \$2 million in sales credit.

2. Career objectives

I believe that my main motivation to perceive graduate education is to develop my knowledge in my field of work as much as in other fields in order to make my business grow. The entire range of abilities that I have today was gained by working on the field. I certainly don't disregard this type of knowledge but I truly feel that receiving a complete education on the true issues of all a production process will not only help me gain in efficiency but will also help my family business develop.

Also, by starting a graduate education, I will enlarge my professional network and I consider it would also be an important opportunity for my company and I believe that not only an Executive MBA will bring me a higher level of education but it will also be the perfect place for me to find future business partners.

As I am already part of a society and I have strong responsibilities within this firm, I believe that this experience would be profitable for my colleagues as it would give them a practical outlook on the themes we will study. It will be a constant exchange where my practical issues will face their theoretical answers and vice versa.

3. Schedule

Even though I have many responsibilities within my firm, as it is my family's business, I believe there will not be any problems with the schedule. I already discussed the matter with them and they fully understand that I really want to start this program as much as they realize that it would be a wonderful opportunity for the growth of our business. In this context, I really don't see that there will be any problem for me to meet the schedule. I will have a very busy two year period when I will have to navigate from my responsibilities at work to the duties that I will have during the Executive MBA. However, I am really confident – as I am a very organized person, that I will have no issues finding my time table balance. Furthermore, having such an heavy schedule, I feel it would be a true challenge for me to succeed in both areas and it would be an enormous success personally and professionally when I will finish this two year program. For all

these reasons, I feel very confident about my commitment and I don't believe any of the two sides of my life will suffer from it.

4. Current Job Description.

I am currently working on the update of the computer system in my family business in China. As it is a large company which produces hand made artificial flowers, I believed that there was a true need to computerize the entire company to be able to gain an important amount of time and to reach full added value. After the computerization of the entire company, I realized last year that it should be reorganized in order to gain full efficiency. I chose SAP for this update, and I am currently finishing the transfer.

5. "In your opinion, do your post-secondary grades accurately reflect your abilities?"

Not only they reflect my abilities but I truly believe that my post-secondary studies were a true stimulus to develop my skills. As I worked full time during my studies, I was able to put all the knowledge I was learning into practice. Moreover, I was able to keep the rhythm in both fields as they were completely complementary and I succeeded in both. If in any sense my post-secondary studies shall not reflect my abilities, it should be in a positive way, meaning I have over passed the knowledge which was taught to me and I have developed myself further then what I learned. I believe studies should not be the end of the knowledge that we gain but only the beginning.

Also, I would like to insist that my main conflict during my post-secondary school period was that I was working at the same time. My grades suffered from that but

I did an excellent job when I was my position. Consequently, I only got C grades during this period and I really want to use this past experience to avoid from making the same mistake twice. Entering the Executive MBA would be a second chance for me and I know this time, I will not disappoint anyone.