

Frequently Asked Questions

What will the AACSB Bridge Program enable me to do?

At the conclusion of the program, you receive a certificate of completion and are immediately recognized as an eligible candidate for available teaching positions. Bridge Program graduates are generally assigned to teach part-time in courses consistent with their experience and education. However, participants should keep in mind that each school has its own needs and criteria for professionally qualified (PQ) faculty, and completing the program alone will not ensure employment.

Do I need a Ph.D. to teach?

No, faculty members that do not possess a doctoral degree are known as PQ instructors. According to the AACSB Accreditation Standards, PQ faculty members are normally required to have a master's degree in a field related to the area of teaching. Additionally, PQ faculty members must have professional experience that is significant in duration and level of responsibility and current at the time of hiring.

What are the differences between a faculty member with a Ph.D. and one without?

Business schools primarily have faculty members with two types of qualifications; academically qualified (AQ)(those who possess a doctoral degree) and PQ (those who do not possess a doctoral degree but have significant business experience related to the subject area, and usually have a master's degree). AACSB Accreditation Standards specify that at least 50% of faculty resources must be academically qualified (or possess a doctoral degree).

AQ faculty members typically partake in rigorous research projects in addition to their teaching responsibilities, integrating their findings into industry practice and classroom instruction. PQ faculty members generally concentrate on teaching and preparing students based on first-hand industry experience. Many also contribute back to business through applied research and publications, consulting and other business oriented activities.

After completing the AACSB Bridge Program, will I be certified to teach at the university level?

Prior to enrollment, each applicant's experience is reviewed to ensure they meet the general requirements for a professionally qualified faculty member at an AACSB-accredited institution.

As each AACSB-accredited business school has its own unique needs, Bridge Program graduates must apply to individual schools and each institution will assess how the specific experience and education meets the school's unique needs—each school has its own faculty dynamics, focus, requirements , and AQ/PQ faculty ration that it must maintain.

Program participants will receive a certificate of completion and may desire to add the accomplishment to their resumes.

At what level in a business school will I be able to teach?

Every situation is unique to its circumstances. Past graduates have various titles, including executive-in-residence, adjunct faculty, assistant professor, visiting lecturer, and lecturer. Most teach undergraduate or graduate courses at the part-time level.

Which business schools will recognize the completion of the AACSB Bridge Program?

AACSB-accredited business schools have contributed to identifying the need for this program and will recognize the completion of the Bridge Program.

Because the program coincides with the AACSB Accreditation Standards, it makes it easier for business schools to meet the quality and skill requirements of PQ faculty. However, because each school must have its own criteria for PQ faculty, completing the Bridge Program alone will not insure employment. Employment decisions are solely the school's decision.

Does AACSB provide placement assistance for Bridge Program participants?

The Bridge Program includes discussions on how to market yourself to business schools and the academic hiring process.

Following the completion of the program, deans, associate deans, and department chairs from all AACSB member schools (world-wide) receive notification about the graduates and are provided with access to their resumes (with permission) as well as their teaching preferences.

Will this program assist part-time doctoral students in becoming more effective instructors?

The Bridge Program is designed for individuals unfamiliar with the academic environment but with the capability of educating students based on expertise and experience. Part-time doctoral students, who meet the experience requirements, may benefit from this program by understanding how to successfully integrate their experience into the classroom.

Part-time doctoral students may want to consider attending [AACSB's Teaching Effectiveness Seminar](#) **[link will need to be updated]**, or contacting his or her institution's teaching excellence center.

I am already teaching as a professionally qualified faculty. Will this program enable me to become a better educator?

The program is designed to help individuals with extensive industry expertise transfer that knowledge to students and become familiar with the academic environment. While those currently teaching in business schools are not the program's main intended audience, they may find the Bridge Program very

helpful in translating their industry knowledge into an effective classroom process. The program usually accepts faculty with two years or less teaching experience.

Is the AACSB Bridge Program open to individuals from around the world?

Yes, as a global organization, AACSB accredits business schools all over the world with more than 1,200 members and close to 600 accredited schools. Although the program is currently offered in the United States, future events may be held in other regions.

What is AACSB International?

Mission

AACSB International advances quality management education worldwide through Accreditation and Thought Leadership.

The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business is a not-for-profit corporation of educational institutions, corporations, and other organizations devoted to promotion and improvement of higher education in business administration and management. AACSB has more than 1,200 members in more than 75 countries around the world.

How important is it that I follow a career in academia at an AACSB-accredited business school?

Only 5 percent of schools offering business degrees worldwide meet the rigorous standards of AACSB International accreditation. The AACSB accreditation process confirms that AACSB-accredited schools provide relevant knowledge and practices, and reflect an understanding of today's complex business environment. Institutions that earn AACSB accreditation confirm their commitment to quality through a comprehensive peer review. These schools set forth a thoughtful and strategic plan, and then marshal the resources to achieve a vibrant and relevant mission. AACSB accreditation demands a superior faculty—supporting a high-caliber teaching and meaningful interaction between students and faculty—and examines curricula and outcomes.

AACSB accreditation is one of the most important affirmations of a quality business school—it's the highest standard of achievement for business schools worldwide. As a faculty member at an AACSB-accredited business school, you can be sure that you are employed at a top business school that provides a high-quality education to its graduates and constituents.

How many AACSB-accredited business schools are there?

593 – With nearly 200 additional business schools seeking AACSB-accreditation.