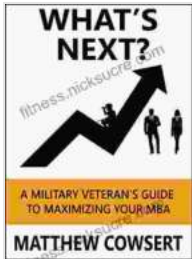


The Military Veteran's Guide to Maximizing Your MBA



What's Next?: A Military Veteran's Guide to Maximizing Your MBA by Matthew Cowser

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

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Military veterans bring a unique set of skills and experiences to the MBA classroom. They have a proven track record of leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving. They are also highly motivated and disciplined. As a result, veterans can be very successful in MBA programs. However, there are some challenges that veterans may face when pursuing an MBA.

These challenges include:

- **Adjustment to civilian life:** Veterans may have difficulty adjusting to the pace and structure of civilian life. They may also find it challenging to relate to their classmates, who may have very different backgrounds and experiences.
- **Academic skills:** Veterans may have been out of school for some time, and they may need to brush up on their academic skills. This can

be especially challenging for veterans who did not have a strong academic background before joining the military.

- **Financial aid:** Veterans may not be eligible for the same financial aid as traditional students. This can make it difficult to pay for tuition, fees, and living expenses.

Despite these challenges, veterans can overcome them and succeed in their MBA programs. By following the advice in this guide, veterans can maximize their chances of success.

Choosing the Right MBA Program

The first step to maximizing your MBA experience is to choose the right program. Not all MBA programs are created equal. Some programs are more veteran-friendly than others. When choosing a program, you should consider the following factors:

- **Veteran support services:** Does the program offer support services for veterans? These services may include academic advising, career counseling, and financial aid assistance.
- **Faculty expertise:** Does the program have faculty members who have experience working with veterans? This can be helpful for veterans who need extra support.
- **Classmates:** Are there other veterans in the program? This can provide you with a built-in support network.
- **Location:** Is the program located in a convenient location for you? This is especially important for veterans who are still on active duty or who have family obligations.

- **Cost:** Can you afford the tuition and fees? Veterans should explore all of their financial aid options before making a decision.

Once you have considered these factors, you can start to narrow down your choices. You should visit the websites of different programs and talk to admissions counselors to learn more about each program. You should also attend MBA fairs and talk to veterans who have already completed the programs you are considering.

Succeeding in Your MBA Program

Once you have enrolled in an MBA program, there are a few things you can do to maximize your success:

- **Get involved:** Join student clubs and organizations. This is a great way to meet other students, network with professionals, and develop your leadership skills.
- **Seek out support:** Don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it. There are many resources available to veterans, including academic advising, career counseling, and financial aid assistance.
- **Study hard:** MBA programs are challenging, so it is important to put in the effort. Attend class regularly, complete your assignments on time, and study for exams.
- **Build your network:** MBA programs are all about networking. Attend industry events, meet with alumni, and connect with potential employers.
- **Take advantage of your military experience:** Your military experience can be a valuable asset in your MBA program. Use your

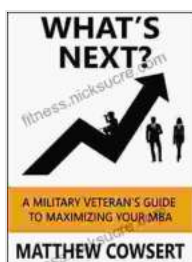
leadership skills, teamwork skills, and problem-solving skills to succeed in your classes and in your career.

Transitioning to a Civilian Career

After you have completed your MBA program, you will need to transition to a civilian career. This can be a challenging process, but there are a few things you can do to make it easier:

- **Start early:** Begin planning for your transition while you are still in school. Attend career fairs, talk to alumni, and network with potential employers.
- **Use your military experience:** Your military experience can be a valuable asset in your civilian career. Highlight your leadership skills, teamwork skills, and problem-solving skills in your resume and cover letter.
- **Be patient:** It may take some time to find the right job. Don't get discouraged if you don't get your dream job right away. Keep networking and applying for jobs.

The MBA can be a great way for veterans to transition to a civilian career. By following the advice in this guide, veterans can maximize their chances of success in their MBA programs and beyond.



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