

Executive Master of Sustainability Leadership (EMSL) FAQ

What are the admission requirements?

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Applicants must have earned a U.S. bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution or the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor's degree from an international institution that is officially recognized by that country.

EQUIVALENT TO A "B" AVERAGE

The School requires the equivalent of a minimum GPA of 3.0 in the last sixty semester hours or ninety quarter hours of undergraduate work. Given that this is an Executive Masters for experienced professionals, work and life experience may be taken into account in lieu of minimum GPA or other aspects of past bachelor degree program experience. Applicants whose GPA is below 3.0 may be admitted on a provisional status. Please [contact us](#) for more details if your GPA falls below the 3.0 requirement.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Applicants to the Executive Master of Sustainability Leadership should be interested in and passionate about advancing sustainability in their organizations, either directly or indirectly. Successful candidates will be expected to draw from and apply solutions to actual professional challenges and opportunities. Applicants should [contact us](#) for more details if they are currently not employed.

ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency. For more details about the English proficiency requirement or to determine if you qualify for an exemption, please review the [ASU Graduate Admissions English Proficiency requirements](#) or [contact us](#) for further guidance.

What is the program structure?

The accelerated curriculum is designed specifically for the working professional and can be completed in one year through a combination of unique in-person experiences (including an international immersive), online course content and a capstone project. The degree program, which includes focus areas in leadership, strategy, communications and global context, is uniquely powerful because it is backed by the extensive knowledge base of the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Institute of Sustainability at ASU and its more than 400 sustainability scientists and scholars and a host of world-class sustainability and leadership professionals.

For whom is this program designed?

This program is designed for currently employed mid-career professionals who would like to lead change within the pioneering field of sustainability. Participants will be passionate about sustainability and driving transformation throughout their organization.

What is the program cost?

Exact tuition and fees will not exceed average pricing for other executive master's and MBA programs across the country. The estimated cost of tuition and fees is expected to be between \$40,000 and \$58,000 depending on state of residency.

What does the program cost cover and not cover?

Tuition and fees cover all program costs with the exception of an admissions application, immunizations, student ID card, any equipment needed to access the online learning modules, airfare for required [three in-person workshop sessions](#), required visas, convocation regalia and graduation application. Lodging for the International Immersive is covered by program fees. Additionally, some meals are covered during the [three in-person workshop sessions](#).

What is the time commitment?

The program places an emphasis on self-directed on-line learning that will require a typical time commitment of 20 hours per week. Because Executive Master's students will be working on organization projects, we envision that this time will intersect with their regular work-day seamlessly. The program also includes [three in-person workshop sessions](#): one three to five-day kickoff session at ASU in Tempe, Arizona, an internationally-based eight-day session mid-program, and a three to five-day closing session back in Tempe.

What are travel requirements?

Aside from the three workshop sessions, no additional travel is required. The Global Institute of Sustainability and School of Sustainability hosts [regular lecture series, workshops and special conferences](#) that showcase current thought and issues leaders in the world of sustainability. All students are encouraged to participate in these events.

What if I already have an MBA or other master's degree?

This program's focus is on organizational leadership, business strategy and change management through the lens of sustainability. Participants will develop both the knowledge and skills to negotiate, advocate and implement sustainability practices within their organizations. By building a portfolio of projects throughout the program, students will have immediate impact on their organization. Many of our students enter into the program with higher degrees, including MBAs and PhDs.