

**McMASTER UNIVERSITY**  
**DeGROOTE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, HAMILTON**  
**TUITION: \$20,736 (+8%) | LENGTH: 16 MONTHS**

Students choose DeGroote for its leading co-op MBA program and easy access to some of the top business professors and researchers in the country. Although the school is smaller, friendlier and less competitive than some of its nearby Toronto rivals, DeGroote has done an amazing job of placing MBAs at several top Canadian corporations in co-op placements (spread out over three, four-month work terms), which offer students the chance to earn up to \$5,000 a month. DeGroote has also teamed up with Market Regulation Services Inc., the independent regulation services provider for Canadian equity markets, to offer an annual capital markets lecture and conference series.

MBAs have the chance to hone their business skills as part of a small, student-led consulting team that brought in more than \$70,000 in sales in 2004, its inaugural year. It's all part of the program's focus on what dean Paul Bates call the "triple bottom line," or teaching students how to be accountable for the financial, environmental and social aspects of every decision they make. A five-year combined MD/MBA program is currently being developed, and DeGroote plans to open a new campus in 2009 in nearby Burlington, where students will be able to complete interdisciplinary programs looking at both leadership and the interface between businesses and the communities in which they are located. Although DeGroote's facilities could definitely use a facelift, the state-of-the-art Allen H. Gould Trading Floor, a real-time replication of a trading desk, and the Decision Centre, a computerized meeting room, are welcome additions.

**MORE BUCKS ANNUALLY**

DeGroote—usually the leader of the pack when it comes to the percentage increase student see in salary after completing their MBA—had a bit of competition this year. Ivey and Victoria both bested that school's 100% turnaround, with whopping 118% and 106% changes, respectively. Alberta wasn't far behind, with an impressive 94%. On the other end of the spectrum, if a higher salary is your main incentive for completing an MBA, think twice about Saskatchewan, whose students earned only 9% more post-grad.

School	Average entering salary	Average starting salary	% change (2006)	% change (2005)
Alberta	\$33,380	\$64,780	94	67
DeGroote (McMaster)	\$30,500	\$61,000	100	131
Haskayne (Calgary)	\$57,987	\$87,988	52	38
HEC Montréal	\$53,800	\$68,250	27	23
John Molson (Concordia)	\$48,000	\$67,500	41	32
Joseph L. Rotman (Toronto)	\$50,000	\$83,300	67	52
Lansbridge	\$95,000	\$120,000	26	n/a
Laval	\$44,786	\$55,536	24	44
McGill	\$57,326	\$80,000	40	60
Ottawa	\$52,059	\$72,882	40	18
Queen's	\$44,000	\$79,000	80	45
Richard Ivey (Western)	\$45,000	\$98,000	118	98
Saskatchewan	\$62,124	\$67,629	9	n/a
Sauder (British Columbia)	\$45,991	\$71,000	54	67
Schulich (York)	\$44,950	\$85,000	89	91
Sherbrooke	\$42,000	\$50,000	19	n/a
Sobeys (Saint Mary's)	\$40,000	\$63,000	58	82
Victoria	\$34,000	\$70,000	106	27