1. **When do I have to make a final decision and commit to the 12-month track versus 16-month track?**
    - You will be asked to confirm and provide your final decision right before Thanksgiving. Tentative date is November 20, 2022. Final date will be provided at orientation, but it will be around this time.

2. **I am an international student; why am I only getting an initial 12-month i20 (even if I plan to pursue the 16-month track).**
    - The reasons are complex and related to both immigration/USCIS regulations, administrative and systems considerations, and ensuring we can process admits' i20 in a relatively streamlined fashion while allowing you to finalize your track later in November.
    - The good news: there is nothing to worry about. For anyone opting for the 16 month track, you will be asked and reminded by our program staff (academic advisor) well in advance of the summer deadline to ask ISSO to change (update) your i20 end date. ISSO is aware of this and they will approve your request.

3. **If I am an international student can I use CPT for my summer internship in the 16-month track?**
    - CPT has many rules and exceptions to these rules etc. Final decisions have to be made by ISSO (disclaimer). However, the 16-month track is set-up so that for the vast majority (if not all) international students, you are eligible for using (full-time) CPT during the summer. Again our program staff will provide all the details on deadline, how and when to reach out to ISSO about this during the academic year. You will be able to meet with our academic advisor and more importantly an ISSO coordinator if you have additional questions.

4. **When will we get more (final) information about the summer bootcamp?**
    - Hopefully soon, late May or early June! In the meantime, see early info and reminders below.
    - Topics focus on python programing and fundamentals of data analysis and statistics. It will be fairly intensive (classes and short assignments every day). It runs Monday-Friday from August 15 till August 26.
    - In general, you should assume that the bootcamp is <u>required</u>. Failure to attend the bootcamp (in its entirety) will result in probation or being dropped out of the program, unfortunately. In (very) rare cases it may be waived, we will provide information about the process to request waivers when other details have been finalized. Until then the safest is to assume you will have to participate.
    - Tentatively: we will likely offer 2 option (bootcamp cohorts):
        - 1 bootcamp cohort/group which can be taken *fully* virtually. Times will be set to better accommodate students who are abroad and have not traveled to Boston yet.
        - 1 bootcamp cohort which will either be in person or in hybrid mode (virtual but encouraged to attend lectures/lab on site at Questrom. This will be primarily meant for students in Boston and will allow you to start meeting your MSBA peers already etc.

5. **When should I plan my travel to Boston?**
   - Your MSBA program begins with our Programming and Statistics Bootcamp. This bootcamp is scheduled for August 15, 2022 – August 26, 2022. These sessions will be run virtually, but with an option to attend online in a classroom for those who are here and want to. You **should NOT travel during the August 15 – August 26 bootcamp** since there will be live (virtual) classes and short assignments every day, Monday – Friday.
   - Bootcamp will be followed by your LAUNCH Orientation. LAUNCH is mandatory and will be held ONLY in-person for all incoming students and is scheduled for August 31, 2022 – September 2, 2022.
   - When planning travel you should either plan to arrive in Boston shortly PRIOR to August 15th, OR travel right after the bootcamp to arrive between August 27 and August 29.
   - **FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**: International students traveling to the U.S. can arrive to the U.S. **no earlier than 30 days from the official start date of classes, which is September 6, 2022.**
   - For more information about important dates/resources, please refer to our [Admitted Student Website](#)

6. **When will I receive my student bills?**
   - Students are billed per-semester. You will receive your first semester student bill from the Student Accounts office towards late-July/early-August

7. **I am interested in finding an on-campus job when the program starts. How do I find one?**
   - Various positions are available on campus across Questrom and BU. From a workload perspective, please keep in mind that the MSBA program is a full-time program, and also that most of you will be seeking internships and/or full time job opportunity while taking classes.
     i. Based on prior years, we find that most students tend to do OK with 10-15hrs/week.
     ii. In any case, strong time management is essential if you plan to pursue a part-time job.
   - Note that most campus jobs will tend to be advertised right before, or at the start, or soon after the start of the fall semester. Ways to find openings:
     i. Once you have your BU login credentials, you will be able to access the main BU Student employment job search. Here are some relevant links:
        https://www.bu.edu/seo/students/studentjobservice/
        https://www.bu.edu/seo/students/international/finding/
        https://www.bu.edu/seo/students/
     ii. Later this summer (e.g. July), we will invite you to join our MSBA Slack Channel. When our program staff hears of any opening ahead of time (e.g. teaching assistant roles, research assistant roles requiring typical MSBA/data skills), we always try to post it on our career channel with relevant contact info. Most positions requiring applying.
     iii. UB also has a few research centers on campus. Two of the most relevant ones at Questrom are the [Digital Business Institute](#) and the [Susilo Institute](#).
     iv. BU recently started a large cross-functional initiative with the new Faculty of Data Science. There may [be opportunities here as well](#), typically for students with stronger technical/programming background.

8. **What are the computer tech specs/requirements in the MSBA program?**
   - A sheet will be posted soon [on our New Student website, under the Academic Resources section](#).