

MBA or MSRED? What is the difference between an MIT MSRED or an MBA?

	MBA	MSRED at MIT
Time Frame	2 years, on average	1 year; option to extend to 16 months
Curriculum	1 st year - Business Basics 2 nd year - Specialization largely focused on finance-related areas	Real estate focus and specialization throughout. The MIT MSRED program provides an intense, graduate education entirely focused on real estate.
Expense	2 years of tuition, partially offset by possible summer income.	One year of tuition
Specialization	Real Estate specialization tends to be finance focused - urban economics, housing economics, and investment.	Broad-based real estate education in design, management, law, development, economics and significant focus on finance, e.g., real estate finance, capital markets.
Program Size	Typically, programs are large with real estate students representing a relatively small (2% - 3%) percentage.	Small, tight knit group of approx. 30 students.
Industry Commitment	Students pursuing a MBA may not be committed to a real estate career; therefore, they are seeking a broader base.	MIT/CRE students are committed to the real estate industry and have real estate related experience prior to coming to the program. An important part of the program is the learning between students.
Post Graduate Careers	Varied but with a heavy concentration in finance-related areas of the industry.	Varied, with significant representation in project management, finance-related areas, acquisitions, entrepreneurship, and development.
Internship Opportunities	Internship opportunities exist during the summer between 1 st and 2 nd years.	There are opportunities for participation in various externships during the January Independent Activities Period, as well as the summer for those choosing to defer their thesis.
Thesis	Generally, no thesis is required.	A thesis is required; the thesis is an opportunity to synthesize the theoretical and practical; establish an area of expertise; and continue to make and cultivate industry relationships and connections.
Alumni Network	Usually extensive, but predominantly outside of the real estate industry.	Over 1,100 real estate-focused alumni/ae in all facets of the industry and located throughout the world. The alumni/ae network is accessible, extensive, and well connected.
Recruitment	Business programs have an extensive recruitment program for people interested in finance (including investment banking), marketing, and consulting; however, for those students interested in other sectors of the industry, most job search efforts will be self-initiated.	While a few companies may interview on campus, most hiring in the real estate industry is done based on need. Through career development, speaker series, site visits, guest speakers, employer-in-residence, and conference events, there are extensive opportunities for students to meet and develop networks with company representatives and industry leaders.