



Tuck Dartmouth Live Chat Transcript - Sept 21, 2017

Amy Mitson, Senior Associate Director of Admissions at Tuck



- **Tuck Class of 2020 (Full Time MBA) Discussion:** <https://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-tuck-dartmouth-applicants-2018-intake-class-of-241987.html>
- **Tuck Decision Tracker:** <https://gmatclub.com/forum/tuck-194/app-tracker.html>
- **Tuck Reviews:** https://gmatclub.com/reviews/business_school/tuck-10

Moderator: Welcome Everyone! It's great to have you all in this live chat with Tuck Admission's Director. We are joined by Amy Mitson, Senior Associate Director of Admissions at Tuck. Today Amy will answer your questions regarding applications, essays, interviews, and life at Tuck.

amitpandey25: I still don't see dates for applicant initiated interviews post-November 16th published on the website. When can we expect the on-campus interview dates for December?

AmyTuckAdCom: Correct, we only have availability posted through November 16. Additional interview availability will be posted in mid-October. We will NOT have interview slots the week of November 20, but we will have availability throughout the remainder of November and through the first three-ish weeks of December.

smharr220: In regards to the second essay, would a "challenge" rather than a failure or disappointment meet the requirements of the prompt if it is something that still led to a great deal of personal growth and learning?

AmyTuckAdCom: Yes to your question. And a public service announcement to all...if you are applying to Tuck and you have not read the Tuck360 blog post on a guide to the essays...please do!!<http://www.tuck.dartmouth.edu/mba/blog/an-insiders-guide-to-the-tuck-essays-2017-2018>

Private: Hi Amy. Since we are closing in on the deadline for the early action round, how do you view applications in the 1st round against the 2nd? I have a below average gmat score but I am more or less done with the application and have not been able to take out time for a retake. Is it better to improve the score and apply in round 2 or apply in round 1 with an average score. (I am coming from the Indian Male pool of applicants)

AmyTuckAdCom: My suggestion is to WAIT until you have your strongest score. We make a fairly even number of offers to candidates throughout early action, November, and January (we make offers in April, of course, but it is a much smaller round on the whole and fewer offers issued as a result). It is great to apply early, but applying with your strongest application is more important.....for all demographics!).

Bulleride: What number of years in experience is better in 1-5? Having asked the above I definitely realise that the quality of experience also matters a lot.

AmyTuckAdCom: Apply when you are ready and when you know you can answer that "why MBA" question. The average number of years is just an average. Successful candidates have a much wider range in number of years. Experience absolutely matters. You want to acquire some leadership experiences and skills/knowledge to share with your MBA peers. This can take time.....or maybe relatively no time depending upon you and your chosen industry.

him91jain: If you had to pick three qualities that you look for in a candidate. what would those three be?

AmyTuckAdCom: Collaborative, curious, and community-minded.....just to name a few!

sk19: Given that the online application form has a specific question on global exposure (300 words), are the candidates who have had limited experience working abroad at a significant disadvantage? If so, how should such candidates approach this question?

AmyTuckAdCom: First, if you have yet to travel or work outside your home country, Tuck will have numerous opportunities inside/outside the curriculum for you to explore. And now to the question, you are not at a disadvantage. You can use other aspects of your experience to stand out in the process.

Private: I have a long track record of various non-profit extracurricular activities, ranging from Student government president and club president roles to hosting charity events, working with three sexual abuse victims (C-PTSD) to help them recover etc. etc. I'm having trouble understanding to what extent (and detail) you are interested in hearing about my non-work related passions? Should I simply limit to telling about my most recent activities or list them all? Hope I wasn't too ambiguous with my question!

AmyTuckAdCom: I suggest you pick the most important ones to include on your resume and within your application. While they all sound meaningful, perhaps list the ones where you know you have had the most impact and/or longevity.

nikunj189: Can we speak to Career Service office as prospective students?

AmyTuckAdCom: The Career Development Office (CDO) team is a front line resource for our current students who are job searching. By virtue of the recruiting cycle, the CDO is busy day and night through fall and winter. Their calendars start to open up a bit in the spring. All that said, yes, the CDO is accessible to prospective students, but they should not be a prospective student's first stop. Connecting with current students who have been through the job search or Tuck alums may be a better place to begin.

amitpandey25: Amy, is it necessary to point out tuck connections while on-campus interview?

AmyTuckAdCom: The short answer is no, it is not required. Naturally, however, you may end up discussing how you have gotten to know Tuck. At that moment, mentioning a Tuck Connection may come through very authentically.

RodolfoPozo: I'm applying to Tuck this year. I would love to visit the campus. Can you tell me the dates when I can take full advantage of my visit?

AmyTuckAdCom: Start here: <http://www.tuck.dartmouth.edu/admissions/visit-interview> we have interview availability posted through November 16 and additional opportunities to visit will be populated later in October. We have visit days available throughout the application season.

germancastle: How does Tuck view candidates who are looking at venturing into entrepreneurship right away upon graduating as opposed to going and working for an employer? Does this affect the school's employment report "score"? (I'm guessing the school has a harder time "counting" entrepreneurs into the employment report -I hope I'm wrong in making this assumption)

AmyTuckAdCom: We love to see entrepreneurs and the Tuck curriculum will provide an amazing foundation and framework for your venture's future success.

amitpandey25: Generally, If I may ask, How many on-campus interview slots Tuck generally offers?

AmyTuckAdCom: About 1800 slots throughout the year are offered. We typically have an average of 20 interviews on a given day during the academic year.

,

nikunj189: Could submitting both GMAT and GRE hurt the application in any way?

AmyTuckAdCom: I am not sure what it would achieve for an applicant. You are better off picking one test and submitting one score.

vishalbalwani: Do you give preference to people with family business background?

AmyTuckAdCom: We don't give preference to any particular industry or professional background. We welcome all and look forward to understanding why each individual applicant is interested in the MBA program at Tuck. I think you will have a great story to tell considering most applicants are not coming from a family business background.

mbsingh: Amy, has Tuck admissions philosophy changed since Luke has taken over or the approach is still the same?

AmyTuckAdCom: It is very exciting to have a new director in place at Tuck! Luke has joined us as director, not come in to take us over. He has a very strong sense of team and a collaborative spirit. he truly believes in our mission to educate wise leaders to better the world of business and bring in the most talented class of MBA students who truly want to participate in our personal, connected, trust based community.

kunalhatt7: I know that Tuck looks at the overall profile of each and every candidate but if there was an element that is most critical out of GMAT, GPA and Work experience what is it according to you. My biggest pull towards tuck is the community and the feeling that I would fit and grow in the environment - given my limited interactions with a few T'18's

AmyTuckAdCom: This is a tough question. Our evaluation is truly holistic and we are looking at EVERYTHING, not just past academics, test scores, and WE. Because applicants bring such unique backgrounds and perspectives there are skills, qualities, and experiences that will truly tip the scales in someone's favor....but that can be different for each applicant. On the flip side of your question, I would say don't let there be an outstanding weakness in your application, if possible. When you see the class profile and the averages, where do you sit in that mix? You do not have to be at the top of each posted average, but you want to be in the ballpark to be competitive.

kunalhatt7: Thanks a lot Amy. Would also definitely point out to everyone that the current students are quite helpful and always ready to advice so is Suds. Always prompt and ready to help.

AmyTuckAdCom: I appreciate this feedback and I am glad you have had a positive experience meeting members of the Tuck community!

dejavu619: Do you value work experience even if it's in seemingly mundane roles in KPOs and BPOs as opposed to 0 work experience?

AmyTuckAdCom: Full time work experience will make your application more competitive. I would not recommend applying if you have zero full time work experience. Perhaps the role is mundane, but you learned a great skill? Perhaps that would be something to emphasize.

hmxxiao: Hi Amy, how easy/feasible and common is it for a student to organize a GIX with a professor?

AmyTuckAdCom: Students have definitely collaborated with the TuckGO office and with faculty to organize a GIX. Everything at Tuck starts with a conversation. There will be a list of available GIX opportunities when you start your MBA at Tuck. If you want to explore adding a trip to that list, we are always open to that conversation!

mfp: Hello Amy, two quick questions: (1) Is the GMAT range provided on your website (class of 2019): the middle 80%? (2) For re-applicants, do you suggest we start as if we were applying fresh (i.e. completely new essays, recommendation letters, etc.) beyond the 4th essay and 3rd recommender of course?

AmyTuckAdCom: That range is NOT the middle 80%, that is the entire range of scores for the Class of 2019. Good question! As a reapplicant, you want to come back to the process with enthusiasm. Share new information and write new essays where you are able to! Use the reapplicant essay to reflect on what you have done since you last applied. We look forward to your story!

Edofarmer: Is there an opportunity to visit the school and find out more about the MBA program without having to undergo an applicant Initiated Interview

AmyTuckAdCom: Yes! If you would like to visit, but not interview, you are welcome to schedule a visit in the spring. Spring dates will be available early February for visits late March through early May.

amitpandey25: Who takes the interview once we are on campus? :-) Is it randomly decided or based on the resume?

AmyTuckAdCom: We do not match you up with your interviewer. We hire and train a group of second year students to be our team of interviewers.

Moderator: Amy with recent natural disasters (Irma and Earthquake in Mexico), is Tuck open to giving prospective students from those areas an extension in application deadline?

AmyTuckAdCom: I have not heard any requests like this from applicants. We are early in the season and there are numerous rounds ahead. If someone hoped to apply early, but ended up applying in a later round, that will be a compelling story to tell in an essay or interview.

Moderator: I guess that's it for today folks. Thanks Amy for taking time out and answering all the questions

AmyTuckAdCom: Thank you for the questions and best of luck with your pursuit of the MBA. We hope you stay in touch with Tuck!

Moderator: Thanks everyone for participating in this chat today. Thank you very much, Amy, for spending time with us and answering applicants' questions.

Join Tuck discussion board to meet fellow applicants, exchange ideas/information, discuss application strategies, and share interview/admission updates <https://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-tuck-dartmouth-applicants-2018-intake-class-of-241987.html>

Tuck Chat Session/Webinar Calendar <https://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-tuck-dartmouth-applicants-2018-intake-class-of-241987-20.html#p1864456>