



Tuck Dartmouth Live Chat Transcript - Feb 15, 2018

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Waitlisted: Tips for Navigating the Process

- Tuck Class of 2020 (Full Time MBA) Discussion: <https://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-tuck-dartmouth-applicants-2018-intake-class-of-241987.html>
- Tuck Class of 2020 Waitlist Discussion: <https://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-waitlisted-tuck-applicants-2018-intake-class-of-255532.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 Stephanie Butler, Tuck Assistant Director of Admissions. Today Stephanie will answer your questions regarding Tips for Navigating the Waitlist Process.

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Hi Everyone! Thanks for joining me today to talk about Tuck's waitlist process. As moderator mentions, I'm Stephanie, Assistant Director of Admissions.

Before we dig into your questions, a few things:

- 1) The waitlist is tough place to be. We're empathetic of this fact.
- 2) Being placed on the waitlist means that the AdCom saw many positive aspects and there's still a chance you will be admitted. There's a lot I want to share with you today, but first I'd love to know what's on your mind regarding Tuck's waitlist process. Moderator, I'm ready for some questions!

KSpecter: Hi Stephanie, the timeline provided on Tuck's FAQ's section states that admissions will be in touch waitlisted applicants at the end of April. My question is, what the best course of action for applicants that have perhaps received a job offer or been admitted to another school and need to respond prior to that? thank you. (I was waitlisted in EA round)

StephanieTuckAdmissions: If you've been admitted elsewhere (and plan to attend), or are no longer planning to pursue your MBA this year, please let us know you'd like to remove yourself from Tuck's waitlist. We will not be able to make ad hoc decisions on individual candidates due to situations that may arise. We're sorry this might leave you with a difficult decision, but it's simply not fair or efficient. That said--and this is new this year--we do consider waitlisted applicants as we make admissions decisions in later rounds. For example, along with our November Round applicants, we admitted some people last week who were placed on the waitlist after Early Action.

gohjj122: If there is a change in a candidate's current profile, for example, a higher GMAT Score or a promotion at work would it help increase the chance for admission?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: absolutely. If there are any such updates to your candidacy, please let us know about them by emailing the waitlist account. Do remember however, that waitlist decisions are highly dependent on available space in the class. Regardless of how much stronger you make your candidacy while on the waitlist, if the class is at capacity, we still aren't able to make you an offer.

tx-guy13: Can you offer some guidance around what your expectations are from us in terms of communication? I want to continue to express my interest in Tuck and keep the admissions committee updated on promotions and such, but also want to be respectful of the fact that you are all very busy with other rounds of applications to review on top of managing waitlist communications. How can we show our continued interest without being a nuisance?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: This is a great question and you're heading in the right direction! We absolutely want to know about promotions, improved test scores, etc. It's also ok to check in once in a while, simply to confirm your interest. That said, use your best judgement. A weekly hello is not necessary.

aprataps: Hello, Thank you for the opportunity. A client cum ex manager wrote a recommendation letter different from my submitted ones. Being a waitlisted candidate(EA), should i submit the same to the adcom for any impact towards my candidature. Thank you

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Maybe--does it truly add a different perspective to your candidacy? Yes, we'll accept the letter and add it to your application for future reviews. However, it is not necessary for waitlisted candidates to send additional letters of recommendation unless we specifically reach out and ask you to provide one.

When it comes to waitlist updates, quality is better than quantity.

lebj09: Should we expect a reply to an update letter or an acknowledgement of receipt?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: No. While you will not receive an email acknowledging we've received your update, you can rest assured that we have.

MarkNoble: Hi Stephanie - thanks for making time for this chat! Do waitlisted applicants receive a status update on the decision dates for upcoming rounds (March 9 & May 11)? Or are updates shared with waitlisted candidates after the deposit due dates (ex. April 27 & June 1) / on more of a rolling basis?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Waitlisters will not receive an update as new notification dates pass (unless it's to say you've been admitted!). We will update you on the status of the waitlist as often as we're able to, or see the need to. Beginning after the April deposit deadline is historically when we'll see the most waitlist movement. This is when we begin to see how the class is shaping, though that will continue to change throughout the spring and summer. In addition to making offers when we're able to, we also try to reduce the waitlist when it makes sense so candidates can make other arrangements.

HdotZ: I don't have any dramatic updates to my application, but I feel like there are strengths that I was able to convey in other applications that didn't come across in my Tuck app. Are you receptive to receiving additional information of that nature?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Similar to an earlier response, we would accept the new information and take it into consideration during future evaluation. That said, please be judicious in the number and length of the emails you're sending.

akash2890: One of the post related to waitlist on MBA 360 blog mentioned that a member of admission committee will get in touch with waitlisted candidates to provide feedback and possible areas of improvement. What are the timelines for this process?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Yes, all waitlisters will receive feedback from a member of the admissions committee, though we won't begin to have the bandwidth for this until all notification rounds have passed. Even then, please keep in mind that you're one of many priorities and we're grateful for your patience. This feedback (which will be done via email) will start to go out late March and into May, beginning with EA waitlisters and so on.

piyush.anand4u: Do you keep adding to the waitlist in different rounds? Are candidates waitlisted in earlier rounds, especially in EA, given priority for admission over those in later rounds?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Yes, we add to the waitlist during every round. No, EA waitlisters are not given priority for admission.

tx-guy13: Thanks for all your input Stephanie! This is providing some much-needed clarity. Can you advise what tends to help you move from a "maybe" to a "yes" on someone and admit them off the waitlist? I know that few folks make it off the waitlist, so what is it about the lucky few that end up helping you get to "yes" with them?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Yes, this is a great question. First, I'll acknowledge that there is certainly an element of luck involved--the number of admits who choose to enroll will greatly impact the number of offers we're able to make to those on the waitlist. This can vary greatly and some years we go to the waitlist much more often than other years. This might even depend on other MBA programs and the offers they make to Tuck's current admits later in the season.

To put yourself in the best position possible to get one these offers, start with a self-critique of your application. Is there anything that stands out that might have been less competitive? Can you do something about it? Next, follow through with the feedback we provide. This will be actionable feedback that can help move the needle. For example, we might suggest increasing your GMAT score if possible, but we wouldn't tell you that you'd be stronger with more work experience. The stronger you can make your candidacy, the better off you'll be. Finally, stay engaged and active (while still being thoughtful, of course!!). There isn't one single reason we admit people off the waitlist, just like there isn't one single reason we admit people right off the bat.

One more thing, then I'll get back to your questions! It's very possible that there isn't a glaring reason you were not admitted. As tough as it is, remember that you were in a very competitive applicant pool.

tx-guy13: What level of communication should we expect in return from the admissions committee? I have sent an update to the waitlist but received no acknowledgement/reply. It is not clear to me if it is standard for Tuck to not reply at all to updates, or if I should reach back out.

StephanieTuckAdmissions: For now, as you're connecting primarily with Tuck Waitlist, or Tuck Admissions, you will not receive a confirmation of receipt. Once you have an admissions committee contact this spring (who will send the initial feedback email), you'll have more of a relationship with this person. They will reply, converse, answer questions, etc.

KSpecter: Additionally, FAQ section states that waitlisted applicants are evaluated in later rounds, and applicants can be admitted, dropped from the waitlist or waitlist status may be extended. I did not receive an update last Friday, does that mean there is no change to my waitlist status?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Exactly! No contact from us means that you remain active on the waitlist.

HdotZ: If we are fortunate enough to make it off the waitlist, is there still a chance to receive a scholarship? Also, do waitlisted admits have a chance to live on-campus, or is it generally too late for that?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: No, it's VERY unlikely a waitlist admit will receive a Tuck scholarship. That's not to say there aren't financing options available, and our Financial Aid team will work closely with you to figure those out. Regarding housing, it depends. If you're admitted early enough in the season, it's possible to still be included in the on-campus housing lottery. That said, for the majority of waitlist admits admitted during the summer, on-campus housing really isn't an option. You won't be alone though! Many of your classmates will also have or be looking for off-campus housing. The MBA Program Office and the class Facebook group are excellent resources during the housing search.

gohjj122: Will waitlisted international candidates be informed in time to get their visa applications approved?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Yes. We work with Dartmouth's visa office and are cognizant of timing for international candidates. There usually comes a time during the summer when we're forced to release international waitlisters because getting a visa is no longer a viable option for them.

zeenanji: For candidates who have been wait-listed without an interview can an update be expected earlier?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: I'm not exactly sure what you mean, but there's a chance we will invite you to interview at some point during this process. We would not admit you from the waitlist without one (unless you're a reapplicant who interviewed previously). However, please wait for us to initiate this. Please do not initiate your own interview on campus.

aprataps: From visa issues point of view, do international candidates get to hear ahead of the domestic pool of students starting late April? Thank you again

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Hear an admissions decision? Not exactly. We're cognizant of the timeline, but it's very possible we admit some domestic candidates from the waitlist while internationals still remain.

Shravani90: Would you recommend doing bridge courses like mba math for someone with a low GPA? Also, how much weightage is given to gre versus gmat?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Nothing is weighted in our evaluation process. We look at both previous academic experiences as well as test scores to determine a candidates "Demonstrated Academic Excellence" one of the criterion we lay out on our website. Yes, taking supplemental courses, or something like MBA Math, can increase our confidence in your ability to succeed in a rigorous curriculum. Especially if your quantitative exposure has been limited.

demonawaits: Will every waitlisted candidate be informed of the feedback in spring or only a selected few?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: yes, we will eventually reach out to every single person on the waitlist. Depending on the candidate, sometimes this will be with actionable feedback, sometimes simply introducing ourselves and telling you that there is no actionable feedback at this point.

avinashupadhyaya: Is there a chance that international waitlisted candidates of November round can get a decisive result on March 9 - when the decisions of the January round are out ?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: yes, that is possible! If your decision doesn't change though, you will not hear from us.

demonawaits: If we want to give a GMAT again, what would be the good time to share an update with the team so that it gives enough time to your time for evaluation?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: last question Of course, you want time to prepare, but after that, the sooner you can retake and share, the better. We could revisit the waitlist at any time.

Moderator: Let's wrap up here. Thanks everyone for participating. Thank you very much Stephanie for your time and insightful answers on MBA waitlist.

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Absolutely! Again, thank you all for your patience. I know this is a tough place to be. I look forward to connecting with some of you further as the season progresses!

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