



Tuck Dartmouth Live Chat Transcript Aug 29, 2018



Admission Directors: [Patricia Harrison](#) | [Nancy Granada](#) | [Sarah Hein](#)

- **Tuck Class of 2021 (Full Time MBA) Discussion:** <https://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-tuck-dartmouth-applicants-2019-intake-class-of-267850.html>
- **Tuck Decision Tracker:** <https://gmatclub.com/forum/tuck-194/app-tracker.html>
- **Tuck Reviews:** https://gmatclub.com/reviews/business_school/tuck-10

Moderator: Hello Everyone, We are extremely excited to have Pat, Nancy, and Sarah from the Tuck Admissions Team. Please feel free to ask any questions you might have about Tuck or the admission process.

Stephenrehi12: For the candidates who can't attend applicant-initiated interviews at Tuck campus; when can they expect to get interview calls initiated by Tuck adcom?

Nancy: We review applications without interviews very early in our reading process, so invitational interview invitations typically begin being sent anywhere from the the day of the application deadline to the day the decisions are released.

User124567: Do you have any recommendations for strengthening an application for someone with a weaker quantitative background?

Nancy: There are several ways a candidate can strengthen an application. First, if you have taken the GMAT and feel that you can improve your score, this is a great way to show quant capabilities that perhaps are not reflected in your academic or work background. Of course, it's important to remember, that quant abilities are just one aspect of your candidacy. There are many aspects of your application that will help us to understand you as a candidate. If you haven't already reviewed our new admissions criteria, I recommend that as a good starting point. you'll notice that there are many opportunities to present your best possible application outside of test scores <http://www.tuck.dartmouth.edu/admissions/criteria>

Carami10: Tuck offers one of the most unique locations for one to take on their MBA. What is your favorite part about living in Hanover?

Sarah: If I were a student, I would greatly appreciate that the location allows for the building of such a strong community - a community of peers, staff, faculty, etc. I think this has long-lasting effects and provides for an immersive experience! Personally, as a staff member, I feel quite the same. And as a foodie, and a lover of the outdoors, I feel blessed to be in such a dynamic place (regardless of size!) offering so many outdoor activities, through all the seasons, and a variety of good food. I also love the quiet retreat it affords me with easy access to some of my favourite places - Boston, Vermont, Maine, etc.

Nrm0002: What are some of the best ways for prospective candidates to take advantage of visiting campus during open interviews, outside of a classroom visit?

Patricia: I would encourage you to talk to as many people as you can while you are on campus. The visit day will give you a great taste of the Tuck experience with a class visit, lunch with students, tour, Q&A with admissions, but don't be afraid to talk to people that you meet in the dining hall, Stell, etc.

Hnaeem: Does the adcom look down on experience in IB if it isn't from a premier name (Bulge Bracket, Elite Boutique, Top MM), or does IB experience look good regardless?

Patricia: We are much more interested in what you have accomplished in your work experience rather than the name of the firm or the industry in which you are working. We want to see impact and growth within the firm. Working for a premier firm is no guarantee of quality of the individual's experience.

GMATbuster92: What impact does a gap in work ex has on the admission chances?

Sarah: You just need to be sure to explain the situation somewhere in your application - if no where else, in the optional essay! Don't keep the Adcom guessing.

Nrm0002: For candidates that are not geographically close to campus or to urban areas where admission events are held, what are some of the best ways to engage with students and alumni?

Patricia: The blog is a great resource to hear about a wide variety of student experiences. Student and alumni profiles are too. You can connect with students/alums through Tuck Connections on the website. There is also a link to Tuck student ambassadors on the website.

Private: My question is what if someone has been working in an industry that faced a downturn globally, which led to limited amount of opportunities compared to what they may have been before. For example, I work in an Oil & Gas services company which was directly impacted by the oil downturn and a lot of opportunities to move from a field based job to the office or internationally out of my home country were reduced, will Tuck admissions take this into account or my chances of admissions be affected by this?

Sarah: Yes, we will absolutely take these types of circumstances into consideration. You should highlight the accomplishments that you have been able to have so far. If there are circumstances that limit your upward mobility, you can explain that in an optional essay.

Tvpwc: Does Tuck plan to expand housing options for Tuckies and TPs this year?

Nancy: There are no plans at the moment to expand housing for Tuck students

GMATbuster92: Do we really need to have extracurricular activities in our profile what if somebody got a award in its organisation, does it suffice it?

Nancy: Extracurricular activities can provide insight into interests, passions and hobbies outside of your professional experience and aspirations. Having said that, we do not recommend that you suddenly add extracurricular activity to your life just for the purpose of presenting them in your MBA application. What's important here is to present your authentic self!

CFAFRMMBA: Can a reapplicant apply in Round 2 if he is getting a prestigious project that will be good for his career and help in applications?

Sarah: We accept reapplicants in all rounds.

Bigdreams2018: Are recommenders allowed to submit their responses based on the previous recommendation prompts that Tuck used to follow?

Nancy: Because the new recommender prompts are closely tied to our new admissions criteria, we strongly recommend that your recommenders follow the new prompts. This will benefit you in helping us to gain a full picture of your candidacy as it relates to our admissions criteria. Having said that, if your recommender is unable to or would prefer to follow the previous recommendation prompts, we'll accept them.

JosieRod145: What are some must-hit spots on a Hanover visit?

Nancy: That all depends on your interests! There are some great pubs and restaurants (Murphy's Pub and Lou's diner are both Hanover institutions). If fine dining is more your thing, then Pine at the Hanover Inn is a lovely spot for dinner or snacks and a glass of wine. The Hood museum is worth a wander through. If you're going to be there for just a day (or even a few spare hours), I suggest you wander around campus and through downtown and let serendipity take over

Private: Do you personally contact the recommender mentioned in our profile?

Patricia: We have an automated system that will reach out to the recommender via email to send them the evaluation form; however, we reserve the right to reach out directly to any recommender in addition to that.

Mcwalcott: How Significant are the scores for IR and AWA sections of the GMAT?

Patricia: We look at all parts of the GMAT. We do not assign a particular value to any one part and no single part is going to be make or break. It is a holistic evaluation and those are additional data points that we consider.

Arun93: Tuck gives an option of either answering Tuck's own letter of recommendation questions or the GMAC recommendation questions. Will equal weightage be given if my recommender answers the GMAC questions rather than Tuck's questions.

Sarah: We will not hold it against you but we expect to get more relevant information from our own questions.

Harvard2019: How much scholarship does Tuck provide and what is basis of deciding that?

Patricia: Scholarship amounts vary anywhere from around \$10K per year up to full tuition. We award scholarships based on our discretion taking into consideration the applicant's unique contributions to the class.

Mcwlalcott: How are the applicants from the same region considered, e.g. are applicants from LatAm evaluated against applicants from the same area (except Brazil maybe, which supplies a huge number of applicants) or against ones from other regions as well? Cause one may be competitive for one region but not for other regions...

Patricia: We do not bucket applicants based on where they are from, or their industry, etc. nor do we have any quotas for the number of applicants we can take from a particular region/industry. Every applicant is compared to the entire applicant pool and is assessed on his/her merits.

EmErica: Does having a 3-4 year old GMAT score affect the way a candidate's application is evaluated?

Patricia: No. As long as it is still valid (5 years), when you took it has no impact on our evaluation.

Ambitionpill: For applicants that had jobs in diverse industries. Is having diverse industry background considered favorable?

Sarah: It's all in how you tell your story - progressions, your impact, why you've made the decisions you've made... You need to explain that path.

gmatpercher: What's the number one mistake you'd say you most commonly see in Tuck applications?

Patricia: I discourage applicants from thinking about the mistakes they might make in their applications. That said, I think applicants who tell us what they think we want to hear rather than what they really believe do themselves a disservice because the authentic you does not come through.

Vinrar: I'm currently working in Tech industry and post MBA I wish to continue in the same industry. Can an MBA at Tuck help me in transitioning from an engineer role into a managerial role in Tech industry? And what are the different career options available for people who looking to work in Tech industry post-MBA.

Nancy: There are many opportunities for tech management post-MBA careers. In fact, 20% of our graduates from the class of 2017 entered the tech field http://www.tuck.dartmouth.edu/uploads/c...t_2017.pdf. Opportunities are diverse. There are some great student and alumni pathway profiles that demonstrate a few tech career paths. <http://www.tuck.dartmouth.edu/mba/pathways>

Beatingthegmat: What kind of entrepreneurship opportunities do students can get at Tuck during or post MBA?

Sarah: There are many opportunities! Please check out the website for our Center for Entrepreneurship (<http://ce.tuck.dartmouth.edu/>). You can see career info, curriculum info, experiential learning info, etc. on Eship there!

Chaitanyaterala: Generally what proportion of the admissions will be rolled out in the initial round vs second round?

Patricia: We do not have a set number of offers to make from each round. We are looking for the strongest applicants regardless of when they apply. The 3rd round tends to be the smallest number of offers. R1 and R2 are probably about equal.

Questions received via email...

What are the Healthcare opportunities at Tuck? How is Tuck different from others schools such as Ross, Fuqua, LBS?

Nancy: There are many opportunities for students who are interested in healthcare. A good place to get an idea of the offerings is on our Center for Healthcare website <http://healthcare.tuck.dartmouth.edu/> There you'll find career info, curriculum info, experiential learning info, etc.

How can someone differentiate him/herself from the crowd if he /she has rich experience but with local organizations in his / her country of work (read South East Asia). Also, what should be the focus of the recommendation letter free format essay?

Patricia: The fact that your experience is with local organizations does not detract from the experience. You should highlight your impact and progression, what you learned, how you engaged and supported people, etc. The letter of recommendation should answer the questions that we have posed to the recommender.

How would a disciplinary dismissal from a previous university during a students freshman year effect their chances of being admitted if they returned to a different school and progressed without incident with a 4.0.

Nancy: You'll want to explain the circumstances surrounding the dismissal in the optional essay

Your advice on work experience that appears "scattered", i.e., different industries?

Patricia: Tell us your story and explain why you have made the moves that you have made, what you learned as a result and how your experiences have led you to your future goals.

Moderator: That should conclude our Live Chat event today! Thank you, Pat, Nancy, and Sarah again for answering our questions. We really appreciate your support! I believe everyone now feels even more excited to apply to Tuck.



Meet a Tuck admissions officer, alumni and current students on the road! Stay up-to-date on Tuck's [upcoming events](#) and note that they will be adding more events throughout the admissions season.

We encourage you to [create your Tuck profile](#). This is just the first step in helping Tuck get to know you, so please be sure to update your profile throughout your journey to Tuck.