

Class of 2017 College Bulletin #7: April 2017

SPECIAL FOCUS: WAITLISTED STUDENTS- General Information

Unlike being deferred, being waitlisted means that the admissions office has finished reviewing your application and has put you on “hold.” Please recognize you were not denied; they felt you had the academic credentials but other factors played a role in not being able to offer you admissions at this time. Since colleges cannot predict exactly how many applicants will accept their offer, the waitlist provides them a safety net to fill any vacancies that may come up. Unfortunately you have to wait until the May 1st deposit deadline passes before you see any movement. It’s hard to know when you could hear; usually you have already made arrangements to attend a different school. Information from The National Association for College Admission Counseling website:

***Wait List Activity Increases; Likelihood of Wait List Acceptance is Low:** For the Fall 2015 admission cycle, 39 percent of institutions reported using a wait list. Institutions accepted an average of 32 percent of all students who chose to remain on wait lists. From Fall 2014 to Fall 2015, the number of students offered a place on an admission waitlist increased by 16 percent, on average, and the number admitted increased by 41 percent.*

THE YIELD: It’s a numbers game. More students are applying to more colleges to maximize their chances of getting into colleges. This trend is bolstered with easier online applications. As a result, schools are accepting and rejecting more students. But colleges want to optimize their “yield” which is a common evaluative assessment used by organizations like the U.S. News & Report. Every year, admission offices struggle to pinpoint their “yield” – the percentage of admitted students who ultimately enrolled.

NEXT STEPS/TAKING CONTROL:

Next carefully reconsider all the colleges you were accepted to. If you would be just as happy at one of your other schools, then send in your paperwork, and plan to go. It makes sense to keep your spot on the waitlist only if you’re really interested in going to that college. **If not, release your spot to another student.**

If you decide to remain on the wait list, still mentally embrace and prepare to attend another college. Choose the best fit, accept their offer and send in a deposit. You may have to forfeit the deposit if you get into the wait listed school, but at least you have a spot in an incoming class for the fall. However if you stay on the wait list, here a few ways according to College Board you can be proactive to improve your chances of getting in.

(www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/making-a-decision/what-to-do-if-youre-wait-listed)

HSAS Wait listed student procedures – While chances vary from college to college of being accepted off a wait list we would like to assist students in communicating with colleges to express their desire attend. Many colleges will direct you specifically regarding their **own procedures** for being considered from a wait list. Also, colleges publicize their waitlist activity from prior years as guidance (this too changes from year-to-year). After personally contacting a variety of colleges these are some recommended steps a student should take in the following **order**:

- Let your counselor know the college where you wish to remain on the wait list.
- Let the college know that you wish to be placed on the wait list by the date stated in the letter.
- Prepare to place a deposit at that college by May 1, 2017. Please note: If you are accepted off a wait list you are likely to lose your deposit that you placed at that college (please check each college’s policy).
- Call/email the college where you have been waitlisted to inquire about how their wait list works (most are not ranked).
- Write a **letter** (NOT ANOTHER ESSAY) to the college letting the college (admissions staff) know in a heartfelt manner why the college is your **FIRST** choice.
- Submit/identify any recent grades/accomplishments that you have acquired since the submission of your midyear grades if requested by a college.

- Request an additional letter of recommendation from a college professor, or HSAS teacher. **Typically, this carries the least amount of weight compared with the items mentioned above.**

Please see Ms. Harris as soon as possible if you need further assistance. Keep in mind wait lists more often serve the college's needs rather than yours. Usually, students accepted off a wait list may NOT be offered optimal financial aid.

Naviance

PLEASE clean up and update your naviance accounts. If you posted a college on your naviance account, but did NOT make a transcript request, or apply to that college, please remove that college from your list if possible. If documents were sent on your behalf this will not be possible and the college will be marked INCOMPLETE at a later date.

If you have been accepted/denied at a college you may begin posting those results on your Naviance accounts. **POSTING THE COLLEGE OUTCOME INFORMATION WILL GREATLY ASSIST THE JUNIOR CLASS**

Collection of AP exam fees For those students taking AP exams the exam fee collection has begun. Payments are due Friday April 21, 2017 All students taking AP courses are required to take the requisite exams. For those students who qualify for FREE or REDUCED PRICE lunch those fees will be waived. Please drop off your AP payments in the lock box in the guidance office, or in the main lobby The exam schedule is as follows:

AP Environmental (seniors)	Monday May 1, 2017	8:00am
AP Spanish Language (juniors, seniors)	Tuesday May 2, 2017	8:00am
AP Literature and Composition (seniors)	Wednesday May 3, 2017	8:00am
AP Calculus AB (seniors)	Tuesday May 9, 2017	8:00am

Please NOTE: Only exams taken by seniors are listed in this college bulletin.

CUNY Assessment Tests - All students who applied to CUNY will receive an appointment to take the CUNY assessment exams. The three CUNY Assessment Tests are given in Reading, Writing, and Math.

You can demonstrate that you meet the University's skills proficiency requirements based on your SAT, ACT, or NY State Regents test scores. Otherwise, you may take the appropriate CUNY Assessment tests.

<http://www.cuny.edu/academics/testing/cuny-assessment-tests/admissions-requirements.html>

Note that most colleges **require** all new students to take the CUNY Assessment Test in Mathematics (Math 3) for placement into college level math courses, even if they meet one of the criteria listed above.

<http://www.cuny.edu/academics/testing/cuny-assessment-tests/faqs.html>

<http://www.cuny.edu/academics/testing/campus-contacts.html> (Individual campus contacts)

Next college bulletin: [1] Evaluation of college credits and Lehman transcripts [2] Requesting final transcripts [3] Requesting AP credit from college board to send to colleges.