

What To Do If Waitlisted

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If you are waitlisted, the news is much better than being rejected. If you fight intelligently, you can often be admitted. Here is exactly what you need to do:

Decide how badly you want to attend the school. If it's a top choice, research the school in detail and list 5-7 reasons why you really, really think it's the perfect place for you. Make them diverse and make most of them academic. Be specific (names, professors, clubs, majors, specific classes you could take there, etc). Draft this into a letter and find a teacher/coach/boss/advisor (or two) who can write you a new rec letter to send to the school. Review your school research with the new rec writers and ask them to incorporate some of it into their letter.

Edit your letter carefully.

If the school is your clear, first choice, then tell them so in your letter and tell them why. State very clearly that if admitted you will certainly accept and enroll.

If they are not your clear first choice then you don't want to say that.

If there are any updates to your resume, send an updated resume with your "school research" letter. **CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR WAYS TO ACHIEVE/UPDATE YOUR RESUME. KEEP YOUR GRADES HIGHER THAN EVER.**

If you do not send a school research letter, because the school is not a top choice, then you can still send an updated resume to any of your waitlist schools.

So, you can:

1. Send an updated resume with cover letter

2. Have a new teacher (or two) send a letter stating your love for the school

3. Send your own research letter of interest

4. Call and ask if you can interview AND schedule an overnight visit where you could sit in on classes. If the school never offered interviews in the first place, ask simply to meet with your admissions rep when you are on campus. It will still be an "interview" but he/she is not allowed to call it that.

5. Keep achieving and earning great grades

6. That's all you can do. But that's a lot!