

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS Freshman Waitlist

### ► THE WAITLIST OPTION

- [What is the waitlist?](#)
- [Who can be on the waitlist?](#)
- [Am I on the waitlist automatically?](#)
- [What are my chances of being admitted to UC San Diego from the waitlist?](#)
- [Can I talk to someone about my placement on the waitlist?](#)

### ► OPTING IN TO THE WAITLIST – WHAT DO I DO?

- [How do I say yes to being on the waitlist?](#)
- [Can I send letters of recommendation or other documents?](#)
- [Can I be on a waitlist for more than one UC campus?](#)
- [I was accepted by another college, but I really want to go to UC San Diego — should I decline the other offer and opt in to the UCSD waitlist?](#)
- [If I've already been admitted to my first-choice college, should I opt in to UC San Diego's waitlist?](#)

### ► ADMISSION FROM THE WAITLIST – WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- [When will I hear if I'm admitted from the waitlist?](#)
- [How will I find out?](#)
- [How long will I have to accept the offer of admission?](#)
- [What if I already accepted an offer at another campus?](#)

### ► IF ADMITTED — QUESTIONS ABOUT HOUSING, FINANCIAL AID and COLLEGES

- [Would I still be eligible for financial aid?](#)
- [Can I still get guaranteed housing?](#)
- [Do I still attend my college orientation?](#)
- [Will I get my first-choice undergraduate college?](#)
- [Can I change the college I was admitted to?](#)

### ► THE ADMISSION DECISION

- [I had good grades and test scores—why wasn't I admitted?](#)
- [Can I challenge the admission decision?](#)

## THE WAITLIST OPTION

**Q: What is the waitlist?**

A: This waitlist is for applicants of high academic caliber and are excellent candidates for admission, *should space become available* in the current admission cycle. Being on the waitlist is a measure of competitiveness but is not a guarantee of receiving an offer of admission at a later date.

**Q: Who can be on the waitlist?**

A: The waitlist option is by invitation only. If invited, you must opt in by 11:59 p.m. on April 15.

**Q: Am I on the waitlist automatically?**

A: No, you received an *option* to be on the waitlist, but you need to tell us “Yes” if you want to be placed on the waitlist. See below for [how to opt in](#).

**Q: What are my chances of being admitted to UC San Diego from the waitlist?**

A: That’s impossible to predict. It depends on several factors including how many applicants accept the waitlist option and how many admitted students accept UC San Diego’s offer. Applicants will not know their standing on the waitlist, and there will be no way for them to know how many other students are on the waitlist. We won’t know until early May how many applicants—if any—we will be able to admit from the waitlist.

**Q: Can I talk to someone about my placement on the waitlist?**

A: You can always contact our office for assistance on any admission-related matter, but the best information about the waitlist is right here in these Frequently Asked Questions. See the [section below](#) about next steps.

[continued on next page]

## OPTING IN TO THE WAITLIST – WHAT DO I DO?

**Q: How do I say yes to being on the waitlist?**

A: If you're offered a place on the UC San Diego waitlist, you have until 11:59 p.m. on April 15 to opt in to the waitlist.

Here's how to opt in:

- log in to [MyApplication](#)
- review your waitlist information
- follow the link to the next screen where you'll write a brief (200-word) statement telling us why you would like to attend UC San Diego
- when you click the SUBMIT button, you'll see a message acknowledging your opt-in to the waitlist

Remember, this is not an automatic sign up. If you want to be on the waitlist, you MUST let us know by the deadline of 11:59 p.m. on **April 15**. The deadline will not be extended.

**Q: Can I send letters of recommendation or other documents?**

A: No. To be fair to all applicants, additional materials (including letters of recommendation) cannot be accepted and will not be reviewed. Only the initial application and the waitlist statement may be considered in making admission decisions.

**Q: Can I be on a waitlist for more than one UC campus?**

A: Yes, you can be on more than one waitlist, if the option is offered to you. All UC campuses make waitlist decisions independently.

**Q: I was accepted by another college, but I really want to go to UC San Diego — should I decline the other offer and opt in to the UCSD waitlist?**

A: Being on the waitlist is not a guarantee of admission, so we strongly urge you to accept another college's admission offer before its deadline.

**Q: If I've already been admitted to my first-choice college, should I opt in to UC San Diego's waitlist?**

A: No. If you've been admitted to your first choice, there is no need to accept a place on our waitlist. All students offered the waitlist option are outstanding, and we wish you success in your future educational endeavors.

## ADMISSION FROM THE WAITLIST – WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

**Q: When will I hear if I'm admitted from the waitlist?**

A: Since offers to waitlisted students are based entirely on the response from our initial admission offers, we won't be able to notify you of an admission decision until after May 1, and no later than June 1.

**Q: How will I find out if I get an offer of admission?**

A: If an offer of admission is made, we'll send you an email reminding you to check your status online. You'll have **three calendar days** from the offer date to respond, so be sure to check regularly. To accept UC San Diego's offer of admission, follow the steps on [MyApplication](#).

**Q: How long will I have to accept the offer of admission?**

A: Three calendar days. Once we notify you through [MyApplication](#), pay attention to the deadline to submit your Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) and Statement of Legal Residence (SLR). This deadline will be a fixed date; no extensions will be granted.

**Q: What if I already accepted an offer at another campus?**

A: If you submitted a Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) to one campus and are later offered admission from the UC San Diego waitlist, you can still accept this offer. You will need to submit an SIR to UC San Diego and cancel the SIR you submitted to the other campus. The deposit to the first campus may not be refunded.

## IF ADMITTED — QUESTIONS ABOUT HOUSING, FINANCIAL AID and COLLEGES

**Q: Would I still be eligible for financial aid?**

A: Yes. If you submitted your FAFSA application online by March 2 and listed UC San Diego as one of your FAFSA recipients, you will be able to see an estimate of your financial aid award online in [MyApplication](#). Please review your financial aid package before deciding whether to accept an offer of admission. For general information, your best resource is the [Financial Aid Office website](#).

**Q: Can I still get guaranteed housing?**

A: Yes, assuming you meet deadlines. If you are admitted, a housing application will be entered automatically on your behalf, so you don't have to do that individually – there is no fee or obligation at this stage. The Housing Office will confirm via email, and then you will receive housing contract instructions just as all other admitted students do. You can also check the information on the [Housing website](#).

Should you wish to live off campus, the [Off-Campus Housing Office website](#) has a full range of services and options including listings of nearby rentals and roommate matches.

**Q: Do I still attend my college orientation?**

A: Yes. Some colleges have orientation in June, so check your college's dates. For general information and links to the college orientation webpages, visit the Admissions page on [College Orientation](#).

**Q: Will I get my first-choice undergraduate college?**

A: Although there are no guarantees, we make every effort to place you in one of your top choices, no matter when you are admitted. If admitted, you will be able to see your college assignment on [MyApplication](#).

**Q: Can I change the college I was admitted to?**

A: No. Each college has a certain number of spaces for freshmen. Remember, unlike most universities, your college is *not* determined by your major. This gives you a unique opportunity to meet a wider range of people.

After you have completed your college's core writing program, and if you can demonstrate that switching to a different college will allow you to graduate in fewer academic quarters, you may submit a college-change petition through your college's academic advisor. In practice, the overwhelming majority of students are happy with their college assignment, and few students apply to switch.

## THE ADMISSION DECISION

**Q: I had good grades and test scores—why wasn't I admitted?**

A: Far more students apply to UC San Diego than we can possibly admit. This year, we received more than 53,000 applications for a limited number of spaces. While the University of California sets minimum admission standards, successful applicants to UC San Diego generally far exceed those minimum requirements.

**Q: Can I challenge the admission decision?**

A: Any applicant who does not receive an offer of admission has the option to appeal that decision, whether or not they are on the waitlist. Appeals are considered only if new and compelling information is available. The procedures for appeal are set out in the [FAQs for Applicants Not Offered Admission](#).

Please note that applicants may not appeal to be placed on the waitlist.