

DINGED. NOW WHAT?

I got waitlisted. Now what?

There is a five-step process that you need to do.

- First: write a letter of intent, stating why you should be considered for a spot at that school. It shouldn't be long, they are not looking to read another application, they just need to see some final strengthening points.
 - o What should I include in this letter?
 - 1 – why this school;
 - 2 – a brief leadership experience;
 - 3 – your fit with the school and the culture;
 - 4 – highlight skills the school should regard as something beneficial for the community;
 - o Get in touch with a consulting office (make sure you check AIGAC first to guarantee you contact a certified admissions consultant. → <http://aigac.org/>) and have them review your letter of intent.
- Second: reanalyze your entire application, and reconsider how well do you fit with that school's profile. Does your background match those of the students who got accepted? Do your future goals seem realistic? Are they feasible?
 - o Because the schools are looking to see how you have progressed throughout your career, how feasible your goals are and how can the MBA provide a link between those two, maybe there are some problems within your application that your need to evaluate.
- Third: visit the school, meet with the Admissions people, and mingle with as many people as possible. Being there is extremely important, because you can use that as basis for your argument.
 - o This will not guarantee that you will be accepted.
- Fourth: get an extra recommendation letter, preferably someone who wasn't a prior recommender and has worked closely with you.

- Fifth: have three alumni send an email to the Admissions Committee emphasizing your fit with the school.
- Have a consultant check everything, review your application and try to figure out why you got waitlisted. Then, you will sort out what your letter of intent should say and what the e-mails from the alumni should say.

I got dinged. Now what?

There's really not much you can do in that case. Tuck is the only one school that will provide you feedback; all the other schools won't, mainly because it's not time efficient.

There are a few clues:

- Check your recommendation letters to see if your recommenders actually said good things about you, if they highlighted your strengths and weaknesses and emphasized how an MBA could help you improve.
- Did you apply to a school that is higher than the level of your profile?
- How deep was your professional background, how well did you progress in your career?
- How were your GMAT and TOEFL scores? Were they above average, within average or below average?

How can I identify these things?

- If you cannot speak with Admissions Officers, the biggest asset you have is getting in touch with one or two alumni that you have developed a good relationship with and ask them if they could review your application and if they might have an idea as to why you did not get accepted.
- Get in touch with a professional consultant. He or she might be able to identify the problems with your application.

GMAT and TOEFL problems:

- If your GMAT score was the problem, there are great courses you can take in order to improve:

- Veritas Prep, which is a high-end quality program. It is expensive, but it yields results. → <https://www.veritasprep.com/>
- Magoosh GMAT Prep, which is a more affordable course.
→ <https://gmat.magoosh.com/>
- Exampal, which is a fully online program that adapts to your learning. → <https://exampal.com/>

If you decide to reapply, you need to be prepared to reevaluate your entire application to see what went wrong and how you are going to change that in order to improve.