

WAIT POOL - Frequently Asked Questions

Why is it called a wait pool and not a wait list?

At San Francisco Day School, it is called a wait pool because students are not ranked. When a space becomes available, the admission committee considers many factors such as gender balance, socio-economic diversity, cultural diversity, and family match, when selecting an applicant from the wait pool.

What is the likelihood that my child will be taken out of the wait pool and accepted at San Francisco Day School?

The admission committee will be able to consider children in the wait pool for potential openings as soon as an opening occurs. It is the release of acceptance offers that allows for movement in a wait pool.

How will I be notified, and how much time will I be given if my child is in the wait pool and then offered a space?

Typically, it is during the week after decision letters are mailed that offers will be made via telephone or email. Unfortunately, the admission committee will not be able to give a family more than a few hours to accept or decline a space.

Is it safe to say that if my child isn't accepted in March, it probably won't happen?

Not necessarily. Families move and change plans all the time. There is no way to know for sure, but children can be accepted throughout the spring and summer, right up until the day before school starts in the fall.

What if I'm offered a space and I want to take it but I've signed a contract and paid a deposit at another independent school?

You will need to review the terms of the contract that you signed and contact the admissions office at the other school to find out more about your obligations.

How long does my child remain in the wait pool if I've notified the office of admission that I want my child to remain in the wait pool?

Your child remains active in the wait pool until you notify the admission office that you no longer want your child in the wait pool, or when school begins in August/September of the following year, whichever comes first.

Do I have to re-apply if my child is not accepted from the wait pool?

Yes. If you are still interested in pursuing a space for your child the following year, you should contact the office of admission in the fall and discuss your application. You will not need to attend an evening open house or school day tour, although those are options if you so choose. All other application requirements remain the same (application, teacher evaluation, school records, parent interview, and student visit.)