

When are waitlist offers announced? When will students hear a decision?

Freshman applicants will receive waitlist offers by the end of March, with an opt-in deadline of April 15. Students will be notified of their final status by June 1. Transfer applicants will receive waitlist offers by the end of April, with an opt-in deadline of May 15. Students will be notified of their final status by July 1.

I have a student who was offered and accepted a space on a waitlist at one of the campuses. Can they do anything to increase their chances of selection? Are students ranked?

Whether or not a campus will offer admission to students on a waitlist depends on a number of factors, including the number of students initially offered admission who accept a space by May 1 (June 1 for transfers), and campus and department enrollment goals. There is nothing that a student should or can do other than opt-in to the waitlist by the stated deadline. Any additional information submitted that was not requested by the campus will not be considered. The process for selecting students from the waitlist varies at each campus. A campus might have enrollment goals for a particular major, leading to the admission of students who applied to that program, but not other. Or a campus might admit broadly.

Can a student accept multiple waitlist offers?

Yes.

Can students who have been admitted at one campus and waitlisted at another accept both offers?

Yes. In fact, we highly recommend students who have been admitted to either a UC campus or another college or university accept that offer since a waitlist offer is not a guarantee of admission later.

How many students are usually admitted from the waitlists?

The number of students who are ultimately admitted varies from year to year, campus to campus. There is no way to tell how many students, if any, will ultimately be offered admission for any particular year.

Can a student who was waitlisted appeal their admission decision? Can a student who was denied admission appeal to be on the waitlist?

No. Offers to be on the waitlist are not admissions decisions and cannot be appealed. Similarly, students who were denied admission can only appeal for reconsideration to be admitted to the campus, not to be placed on the waitlist.

If a student did not receive an offer of admission from any campus to which they applied, but was waitlisted by a campus, will they receive an offer from UC Merced?

Yes, provided that the student meets all of the criteria for either the statewide or local guarantee.

If students are admitted from the waitlist, will they receive a financial aid package? Will they still be guaranteed housing and orientation?

Most campuses will not have financial aid award packages available when a waitlist offer is made. However, financial aid awards will be made available in accordance with campus policies and procedures, provided the applicant has submitted the FAFSA by the application deadline. The Statement of Intent to Register for students admitted from a waitlist will be considered on time for purposes of housing and orientation, provided they are submitted by the deadline stated in the offer of admission.

If a student is admitted from a campus waitlist after submitting a statement of intent to register (SIR) and deposit to another campus, can the initial deposit be refunded or transferred?

No, the SIR deposit is non-refundable and non-transferable.