



The College Admissions Decision Dictionary

A quick reference guide to the most common outcomes

Admit / Accepted

Offered admission to the institution; enrollment is optional and requires confirmation.

Admission Pending Verification

Decision contingent on verification of required documents or information.

Admission to Alternate Campus

Admitted to the institution but assigned to a different campus or location.

Admission to Alternate Major

Admitted to the institution but not to the originally requested major or program.

Admission to Pathway Program

Admitted through a structured bridge or transition program leading to full enrollment.

Conditional Admit

Admitted with specific academic or enrollment conditions that must be met.

Deferred

Early application not admitted (but not denied) and moved to a later review round.

Deferred Admission

Admission granted for a future term following an approved delay.

Deny / Not Admitted

Not offered admission; the decision is final for that application cycle.

Incomplete

Application could not be fully reviewed due to missing materials.

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Offer Expired

Admission offer lapsed due to missed response deadline.

Offer Rescinded

Previously granted admission withdrawn due to unmet conditions or policy violations.

Provisional Admit

Admitted with required academic support or additional expectations.

Referral / Redirect Offer

Not admitted to the original choice but offered an alternative pathway or option.

Spring Admit

Admitted for a later start term, typically spring instead of fall.

Waitlist

Not admitted initially but may be offered admission if space becomes available.

Waitlist for Alternate

Waitlisted for a specific start term rather than the primary entry term.

Waitlist with Conditions

Admitted with specific academic or enrollment conditions that must be met.

Withdrawn

Application removed from consideration, usually at the student's request.

*****Important:**

While we tried to cover the major admissions decisions, this is not an exhaustive list. Decision terms and policies vary by institution. Students should review official communications for details.

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