

Freshman Waitlist FAQs

The Waitlist Option:

Q: What is the Waitlist?

A: The Waitlist is for freshman applicants who were not offered admission due to space limitations but who are considered excellent candidates for admission should space become available in the current admissions cycle. Being on the Waitlist is not a guarantee of receiving an offer of admission at a later date.

Eight of the UC campuses with undergraduate populations will implement a Waitlist for applicants in the Fall application cycle:

Berkeley	Riverside
Davis	San Diego
Irvine	Santa Barbara
Los Angeles	Santa Cruz

Q: I had good grades and test scores. Why wasn't I admitted?

A: Far more students apply to UC Riverside than we can possibly admit. While the University of California sets minimum admission standards, successful applicants to UC Riverside exceed minimum admission requirements.

We review each application thoroughly, assigning a numerical score to each of a range of factors to determine a quantitative admission ranking. For information on UC Eligibility and selection at UC Riverside, [click here](#). The qualifications of the applicant pool in any given year determine the range of the quantitative admission rankings for that year. Every application is thoroughly reviewed. Students with high grade point averages are more likely to gain admission.

Q: Can I challenge the admission decision?

A: Because you have not yet been denied admission to UCR, there is not an official decision made on your record to challenge. If the final decision results in your denial of admission to UC Riverside, and you have new or compelling evidence to share that was not available at the time of application, you will be given the opportunity to appeal and a link will be provided to you at that time. Please note that applicants can not appeal to be placed on the waitlist.

Q: I've been offered a spot/accepted your offer to be on the waitlist. Can change my major?

A: No major change requests will be processed for students who have been accepted a spot on our waitlist. If you are eventually admitted to the campus, you can request to change your major at that time. In the meantime, you will remain on the waitlist for your preferred or alternate major.

Q: Is there any restriction about who can be on the Waitlist?

A: Yes. The Waitlist option is limited to freshman applicants by invitation only. If invited, you must opt in by midnight, 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:

- Log-in to your MyUCR Account
- A message will pop-up with instructions on how to accept our offer to be on the waitlist
- If you’ve accepted our offer, you’ll have a message on MyUCR acknowledging your opt-in to the Waitlist (allow 24 hours or this to appear)

Remember, if you want to be on the Waitlist, you **MUST** let us know by midnight on **April 15**.

Q: What are my chances of being admitted to UC Riverside after being on 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 Riverside’s admission offer. Applicants will not know their standing on the Waitlist. We hope to know sometime during the month of May how many applicants—if any—we will be able to admit from the Waitlist.

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

A: Your MyUCR account will hold the most up to date information on your waitlist status. Make sure to check it daily. You will also receive an email from UC Riverside to your personal email account.

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

A: Once we notify you, you’ll have approximately 7 days from the time you were notified to accept the offer by submitting your Statement of Intent to Register (SIR). The deadline date will be determined when and if we make offers of admission from the waitlist; no extensions will be granted.

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

A: If you sent in your Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) to one campus and are offered admission from the UC Riverside Waitlist, you can still accept our offer. You will need to submit a Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) to UC Riverside and cancel the SIR at the other campus. The deposit to the first campus will not be refunded.

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 by multiple campuses. If you subsequently receive offers of admission, you may accept only one. If you accept an admission offer from a campus after you have submitted a Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) to another, you must cancel the SIR to the first campus. The deposit paid to the first campus will not be refunded or applied to the second campus.

If Admitted — Questions About Housing & Financial Aid

Q: If I'm admitted, will I still be eligible for financial aid?

A: Yes. If you applied for financial aid and submitted your FAFSA to UC Riverside on time, you will be able to see an estimate of your financial aid award on MyUCR. For general information, your best resource is the [Financial Aid Office](#).

Q: If I am admitted off the Waitlist, can I get guaranteed housing?

A: Residence Hall capacity may be limited due to continuing uncertainties surrounding the pandemic. Therefore, there will be no housing guarantees for the 2021-22 academic year. Submit your Residence Hall Contract and first payment as soon as possible after submitting your SIR to UC Riverside. Students who make their housing submissions by May 10 will be given priority for available spaces. Housing Contracts may be submitted – and can often be accommodated—after the May 10 priority date. They will be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis, as space allows.

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

A: If offered admission, you may request a major change on MyUCR and if space is available and you meet requirements for admission to the major you selected in that college, it will be approved.