



Tuck Dartmouth Live Chat Transcript - Nov 16, 2017

Stephanie Butler, Assistant Director of Admissions at Tuck



- **Tuck Class of 2020 (Full Time MBA) Discussion:** <https://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-tuck-dartmouth-applicants-2018-intake-class-of-241987.html>
- **Tuck Decision Tracker:** <https://gmatclub.com/forum/tuck-194/app-tracker.html>
- **Tuck Reviews:** https://gmatclub.com/reviews/business_school/tuck-10

Moderator: Welcome everyone. This is going to be a moderated Chat with Tuck! Your messages will only be public if it is approved by a moderator. This is to avoid the mad rush we had in last chat sessions.

I wanted to welcome Stephanie Butler, Assistant Director of Admissions at Tuck. Thank you so much for taking the time out to chat with potential applicants.

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Hi everyone! Thanks for joining me today. My goal today is to make you feel more comfortable with and confident in the application process. First and foremost, the Admissions Committee wants to know the real you, not who you think we want you to be. Tell us who you are, what drives you every day in and out of work, and why the MBA program at Tuck is key to achieving your aspirations.

udch: Hi. I wanted to know what the general timeline of getting an interview invite is? I understand that there is an applicant initiated interview but I am out of the country till first week of December and wanted (and have) to submit before the Nov Deadline and specified that in my application.

StephanieTuckAdmissions: If you submitted a November Round application but did not initiate an interview before the deadline (which was 11/10) that's ok! It's possible that after a initial review of your application we will invite you to interview. At that time you can either come to campus to complete it, or do it virtually.

arboliyola: Hi Stephanie, thanks for your time. When do November Round potential applicants should expect to receive an invitation for interviewing from Tuck?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: The admissions committee will be reviewing November Round applications and sending interview invitations through January, if not even later.

AnthonyV: Ms. Butler, as a re-applicant to Tuck, what does the admissions committee specifically look for in an application to show improvement from the previous year?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: if you received feedback on your previous application we would definitely want to know whether our suggestions were addressed or not. Regardless, the re-applicant essay is the primary place for you to specifically talk about growth and provide clear updates. We'll also see the previous application as we're reviewing the current one and will notice distinctions.

amitpandey25: I wanted to check when applicant initiated interview schedule for the month of Dec/Jan will be available?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Everything available in Nov/Dec has been posted. January interview spots should be available by the end of this week.

subsauce: Hello Stephanie, Thank you speaking with us today. I plan to apply before the end of the next round regardless of your answer. Does the quality of undergraduate program I've attended impact how you view my GPA? I have a 3.75 GPA from state school which ranks top 100-50 nationally. Does my GPA get the same weight as say someone with a comparable GPA from a top 20 undergraduate program?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: We won't at all discredit the good work you did in undergrad based on the school you attended! That said, we also don't review the GPA in isolation. We look at the courses you took, did grades tend up or down, what else were you doing while in school (extracurriculars, job, etc.). If you went to a school that's known for especially tough grading, we'd consider that too.

kkj0925: I wonder whether applicants need to have above 700 gmat score to get into Tuck. And do you have cutoff system?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: We do not have any sort of cutoffs--for GMAT and GRE scores, or for your GPA. We admit strong applicants every year who have a GMAT score lower than 700. The GMAT/GRE can, however, give us some insight into your preparedness for the rigor of Tuck's curriculum, so you'll want to do the absolute best you can. Having a strong academic track-record can help give us confidence as well. I'd also suggest taking a look at class profiles to see where your score would fall within the current first-year class' GMAT average/range. This might give you a clearer look at how competitive you are when it comes to this particular data point.

Private: Hi Ms. Butler, I am a Mathematics graduate from the University of Delhi. With 2.5 years of work experience in the education sector in India, I believe the MBA program at Tuck would help me build leadership and analytical skills required to build my career.

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Excellent, I believe Tuck's MBA could help you improve upon those skills as well!

Hankmpls: Are applicants with exclusively a startup background (joined at less than 20 employees) at a disadvantage from admission's due diligence standpoint?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: No. We want to know the responsibilities you've had, the value you added to the organization, and how you grew. Something like taking initiative or having the opportunity to lead is much more important to us than the company's "brand." You've likely had a lot of unique, interesting, and valuable experiences at a start-up that you might not have had working for a large, more established company. Tell us about them!

somesh86: Hello Stephanie. Could you please mention some of the most popular roles offered by tech companies to Tuck graduates ?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Some of the most popular roles in large tech companies for MBA grads are in marketing and product or brand management. I've also known students to take roles in strategy and finance at tech firms.

Private: Hello Stephanie, I went to a community college for my first two years of school in order to lessen the cost of my tuition. I have two questions: will the fact that I attended community college be detrimental to my application? How should I address this on the resume under the education section?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: No, your attendance at a community college will not be detrimental to your application. The only place you need to address it is when we ask whether you transferred schools (in the education section).

akasibha: Hi Stephanie, If an applicant does not have any extra curricular participation outside class/work but has achievements in class/work does that severely dent the chances of getting accepted? How many such applicants see get accepted each year?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Not having any community involvement certainly doesn't disqualify you from admission--but we do like to see it for a few different reasons. Tuck's mission is to education wise leaders to better the world of business, and one of the primary pillars of wisdom is empathy. Can you demonstrate empathy in other ways? Absolutely! Another reason we look at community involvement/extracurriculars is because of the high level of engagement across Tuck's community. We seek students who are excited to jump in, get involved, drive change, and contribute to the experience of their classmates and the community at large. Having a good sense of how you'd like to be involved at Tuck can help compensate for a lack of current involvement.

madnyu: Hi Stephanie, I am wondering what kind of resources does Tuck have for operations management? I know there are core & elective course, revers centre for energy, and experimental learning. Is there any other opportunities to learn more about areas I am interested in (maybe like working with professors)?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Yes, it's possible to work with professors outside of the formal curriculum through independent studies. Tuck's faculty are extremely open to talking to current students about shared interests.

Private: I have a total of around 4 years of work experience. With an experience of around 2 years in a corporate job and the rest of the time with an entrepreneurship stint that did not do well. I had to shut down the firm after a while. I wish to know how does the admission committee look upon at failed entrepreneurship venture? And would it be better to address the same in the optional essay?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: It's not the failure, it's what you learned from it! We understand that entrepreneurial ventures fail all the time. It's up to you to give us a clear understanding of the company, from the beginning to the end. There will be areas within the application to address your work experience, but if you feel you need more space, then you're welcome to use the optional essay.

Ashish7Gupta: Hi Stephanie, it would be great if you could give us a brief about the advantages the students, pursuing a career in Finance, would avail from attending Tuck.

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Well, first, we have a lot of rigorous finance courses, taught by amazing, supportive faculty (Ken French is always the first to come to mind!). We also have a Career Coach dedicated to the finance space after having spent 20 years there herself. Tuck also has a unique bidding policy that allow students a chance to secure an interview slot with employers to whom their resume might not be that attractive.

kkj0925: When is the time that the next event schedule is available?

StephanieTuckAdmissions: We continue to update our events page as we schedule new events. Many student-hosted Tuck Coffees will be added soon and will take place all over the world while students are on break.

nikhil1111: Could you throw some light on the kind of experiential learning opportunities at Tuck? Also, would such opportunities come at an added cost (that is outside of tuition expenses)

StephanieTuckAdmissions: there are many experiential opportunities! And yes, some require an additional cost. TuckGO (global opportunities; [http://www.tuck.dartmouth.edu/mba/acade ...equirement](http://www.tuck.dartmouth.edu/mba/acade...equirement)), case competitions, career treks, conferences, simulations (check out Tuck Intel!)...the list goes on!

StephanieTuckAdmissions: Ok, it looks like our time is up! I mentioned this in an earlier response, but I want to reiterate that Tuck's mission is to education wise leaders to better the world of business. This mission is a part of everything we do here in our personal, connected, and transformative community. I hope this makes you as excited about Tuck as we are! Good luck as you continue through the application process, and I'll look forward to getting to know you better as the weeks go on!

Moderator: Thanks Stephanie. Its wonderful as always hosting you guys.

Join Tuck discussion board to meet fellow applicants, exchange ideas/information, discuss application strategies, and share interview/admission updates <https://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-tuck-dartmouth-applicants-2018-intake-class-of-241987.html>

Tuck Chat Session/Webinar Calendar <https://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-tuck-dartmouth-applicants-2018-intake-class-of-241987-20.html#p1864456>