

Putting the Finishing Touches on Your April Round Application

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| <p>Hello. Does the reviewer of your application review your essays before or after reading your recommendations?</p> | <p>Hi! The order your application is read in depends on the specific person reading it. My guess is that typically yes, but not necessarily. Also keep in mind that regardless of the order read, the app should paint a complete, logical picture.</p> |
| <p>Good morning! Thank you for hosting and making yourselves available for questions. I am preparing for the interview and I was wondering if there were any tips with regards to the interview process. Thanks!</p> | <p>Excellent! Two big things; prepare (know your rationale for the MBA, why Tuck, have some examples prepared for themes you might expect) and be yourself. Secondly, be yourself. Show us your true personality, try to relax (while being professional!)... Good luck!</p> |
| <p>I know there is a lot of stigma around the last round of applications and I have read about it on the Tuck blog, but can you add any clarity on how you think about the last round and the amount of spots open?</p> | <p>Hi. First and foremost, a strong application will stand out in any round. Furthermore, there might be really great reasons for having waited until the final round. We get that! We do make fewer offers in April because 1) there are fewer applicants, and 2) fewer spots left in the class. It's competitive, but certainly not impossible!</p> |
| <p>Could you talk about some common mistakes applicants make in their applications?</p> | <p>Hi, earlier this season we posted a blog on ways to avoid common application mistakes that should be helpful: http://www.tuck.dartmouth.edu/mba/blog/7-ways-to-avoid-common-application-mistakes Please let us know if you have further questions!</p> |
| <p>Hello! If we are unable to make it to Hanover for an interview, should we include a note in our application to let you know that we would like to go, but are unable to in the specified timeframe? Thanks!</p> | <p>Sure! Using that specific app question to note not only why you aren't able to interview on campus, but also that you'd love the opportunity is great.</p> |
| <p>How many international applicants are you planning to admit in Round 3? If I don't have F1 visa now, would you still consider in this Round? How many interview invitations do you plan to send in Round 3?</p> | <p>Hi. Yes, we absolutely consider international applicants during the April Round--and we admit them too! There's still time to process visa needs etc. We don't have an interview quota for any round, so it's hard to tell without having seen the applicant pool yet.</p> |
| <p>Are the international students encouraged to apply in this last round? Do we have a chance to be accepted?</p> | <p>If you're ready to apply now, then yes, I'd encourage it! We do admit international students in this round.</p> |

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| <p>Good morning from San Francisco! In regard to taking supplemental course work, how does Tuck view participating in online courses/programs such as HBX Core or a certified Coursera class?</p> | <p>Hi, taking supplemental coursework could be a great way to enhance your application. You can utilize whatever resources are available to you given schedule/finances (courses at a local college, Berkeley has online courses, Coursera as you said, etc.). Something to keep in mind is that a course with a grade is most helpful for the Admissions committee if you're trying to prove quant ability.</p> |
| <p>My question isn't for the April submission per se. I'm 35 in a technical role, and only now am I wanting to switch to a more business role. How can I strengthen my application, perceiving that I'm not necessarily the ideal candidate?</p> | <p>There is no such thing as an ideal candidate--at least not from a strictly demographical/industry perspective. Given you're making a substantial career change a bit later in your career, just be prepared to talk about why--why the switch, why now, why business. And like any candidate, be ready to show/tell us how you've added value to your current organization.</p> |
| <p>Do you have tips for filling out the employment section of the application? Are you looking for more paragraphs that describe your role vs. bullets similar to the resume? Trying to get an understanding of the best way to provide additional context and information without overdoing it. Thank you!</p> | <p>We're not looking for a particular format. While it might repeat some of your resume bullets (which is ok!), try not to make it a complete copy/paste. Perhaps think of the resume as your accomplishments, and the employment section the context, your role, etc. Truly, there's no wrong way though.</p> |
| <p>I am applying to Tuck in this round but if I am unlucky and don't get an offer, I would love to reapply again this fall when the new application year starts. Within a short time frame, there might not be any significant changes on my profile. What can I do to improve my chance to get an offer?</p> | <p>Well, without knowing anything about your candidacy, applying earlier in the cycle would be my first piece of advice. Sometimes there are easily actionable things we might suggest (retaking the GMAT), other times it's simply that your application was strong just not quite strong enough. We get that the quick turnaround can sometimes make it tough.</p> |
| <p>How is the interview structured? Will it be 1:1 or will it be a panel?</p> | <p>Hi, It's possible that you'll be interviewed by an Admissions Officer, but the large majority of our interviews are conducted by second-year students known as Tuck Admissions Associates, or TAAs. This is a 1:1 interview.</p> |
| <p>Hello. Can you recommend any resources for learning more about Tuck's perspective on wise leadership?</p> | <p>Hi. I'd read the website! As it pertains to essay 2, be careful not to simply tell us what you think we want to hear. The most impactful essays are from applicants willing to dig deep and able to show growth.</p> |

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| <p>What would specially make a re-applicant application more “attractive” than the previous one?</p> | <p>Improvement! Beyond that, what an applicant could improve on is very individual to that applicant--could be their academic profile, could be more work experience or stronger LORs, could be coming for an interview...there are many possibilities.</p> |
| <p>If we can't make it to the campus during the applicant initiated interview deadline because of work commitments but are planning a campus visit after the deadline, can I mention that in the application.</p> | <p>Yes--we ask this question specifically.</p> |
| <p>Please tell us the difference between current and/or postcollegiate activities and principal collegiate activities in the activities section of the application?</p> | <p>Current/postcollegiate activities should represent how you've been involved after undergraduate school, and through the present day. Collegiate activities should reflect what you participated in during your undergraduate program. For international students, this might be different than those who went to school in the US, where extracurricular activities are very common.</p> |
| <p>Hello Stephanie and everyone! If the applicant could not be interviewed before applying to Tuck in Round 3, when will you be calling the applicants to the interview?</p> | <p>Hi, we do not have a hard deadline for our interview invitations. Interview invites could go out up to the date of decision release.</p> |
| <p>Stephanie, if our direct supervisor has very recently (in the last 1-2 months) left the institution, is it still appropriate to have them fill out the recommendation as a supervisor or do we need to justify why we selected them as opposed to our current direct supervisor in the optional essays?</p> | <p>Hi. That's totally ok. Worth a line or two in the optional essay though.</p> |
| <p>I have already submitted the application in Round 3. Even I know you will post the process schedule after the deadline, could you give a brief intro about the arrangement after the deadline?</p> | <p>Hi, after you submit your application, if you've already interviewed you may not hear from us until decision release (for April round that's May 11). If we have any questions about your application we will be in touch. If you haven't already had an interview and if the committee invites you to interview then that invitation to interview could come at any time up to decision release.</p> |
| <p>Where will the interview by invitation of the school be held? In my country or during my campus visit?</p> | <p>If you are invited to interview with Tuck, we still encourage you to visit us in Hanover—but at that point, a virtual interview is also an option.</p> |

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| <p>Hello! I will be submitting my application in the April round. Do you recommend explicitly explaining "why the April round" in an optional essay? If so, can you include that response along with another optional essay paragraph as long as they are both concise? Thank you!</p> | <p>Hi! It doesn't hurt to mention why April was the right round for you, though it's not required (nor will you be penalized, it simply gives us more context). And yes, you can include several things in the optional essay, even if they're relating to different topics.</p> |
| <p>Hello! Are admissions decisions for the April Round released on a rolling basis, or will all applicants hear back from Tuck on/around May 11th?</p> | <p>Hi! All April applicants will receive their decision on May 11.</p> |
| <p>Do you provide feedback on how a candidate can strengthen their application if they need to reapply?</p> | <p>If you write us to request it, yes, we'll provide feedback as long as you are planning to reapply. We will also occasionally offer the opportunity proactively.</p> |
| <p>Hello Stephanie and Sarah, thank you for hosting! As a re-applicant we are only required to submit one additional LOR. Is there any harm to submitting two LOR's? Or do you recommend to stick with one?</p> | <p>Hi--I hope you're doing well! You can submit two, but I'd make sure they truly provide different perspectives. There is no hidden expectation--we only ask for one additional LOR, and it's ok to stick to it!</p> |
| <p>I had some technical problems during my GMAT which GMAC didn't confirm at first and then eventually after confirmation gave me a short deadline to give the exam again. Can I explain this in the optional essay as the reason for my 3rd round application and why I don't believe it properly represents my capabilities.</p> | <p>Absolutely!</p> |
| <p>Quote your instruction "If you haven't already had an interview and if the committee invites you to interview then that invitation to interview could come at any time up to decision release." Does that mean if I will be invited to a interview, that would happen after the application deadline (4/5) until decision release (5/11)?</p> | <p>Correct--if you're invited to interview, you'll receive that invite some time between the app deadline and the notification date.</p> |
| <p>As applicants, if we have not previously initiated an interview, are we able to do so after the application deadline of April 4th? Additionally, if we do not initiate an interview, does that reflect badly upon our application?</p> | <p>No, if applicants want to initiate their own interview, it needs to be completed prior to the applicant-initiated interview deadline (for the April Round, this is the same as the application deadline). We understand that it's not always possible for applicants to visit Tuck and don't hold this against them.</p> |

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| <p>If a candidate has average GRE scores, do you think it's worth mentioning in the optional section that they aren't reflective of the candidate's capability? Or would you recommend not drawing attention to the scores because Tuck doesn't have enough GRE scores to report a statistically significant GRE average?</p> | <p>Even though we don't report the average GRE yet, we do notice them! So it's not possible to fly under the radar with a subpar score. Use the optional essay to explain, but simply saying that it's not representative isn't all that helpful. Hopefully, your transcripts and otherwise will help demonstrate this.</p> |
| <p>Hi, it would've been great to visit Hanover, but I live in Asia and I only recently got a competitive GMAT score so I couldn't visit the campus. Would this put me at a severe disadvantage? And would I have the chance to get an interview in my local location if I pass the initial assessment?</p> | <p>Hi. We totally understand that things prevent people from interviewing in Hanover--such as distance. That in and of itself will not put you at a disadvantage, though there is a chance you won't have the opportunity to interview at all. We don't typically do on the ground interviews in Asia during this time of the year, so most likely, if you're invited to interview it will be done via Skype or another virtual platform.</p> |
| <p>Hi again from Honolulu. I interviewed in February for the April deadline by a Tuck 2nd year student. I relayed to him "Why Round 3" during our interview. Thus, should I not "waste-space" in my application on this rationale since I've already expressed it? How does the interviewer relay information like this to the admissions board?</p> | <p>The interviewer will likely include it somewhere within his write-up which is submitted to our office to be included with the rest of your application. I don't think it would hurt though to mention this again in the application--succinctly :)</p> |
| <p>While all 3 essays do seem to have a common theme, does AdCom look for a connection between them or is having all 3 as unique situations that stand on their own appropriate?</p> | <p>All three standing on their own is completely appropriate--they just should not be also completely at odds with each other.</p> |