

Tuck Q&A for Asian Applicants

I like the "Pay It Forward" concept of Tuck. Can I know so far how is Tuck's alumni doing in Asia, particularly in Southeast Asian region?

Hi, thanks for your questions. I can speak for alumni in HK and mainland China. They work in diverse industries, some in banking, some in consulting, some in entrepreneurship, some in corporates, etc. They gather regularly for dinner or other activities to stay in contact.

What made you choose Tuck?

For me, it was a range of things... First, it was the cultural fit I was looking for. When I first started looking in to MBA programs I underestimated the importance of the different cultures of the schools, but the more I spoke to current and past students from a range of schools, I realised this significantly affected their experience. Tuck is one of the smallest elite business schools, but more than that, it takes pride in its close-knit community. This means that we support each other and are forming really strong connections that will last a life time, which is what I was looking for! It's also (in my opinion) the most family-friendly MBA in the US in terms of including partners and "tiny tuckies" (e.g., my wife is a chair of 2 clubs). Further, I love the location (great outdoors, skiway is 20 mins away, very easy place to live), the strength of the alumni network and the academic rigour (I've learned a ton!).

Hi Sam, what kind of summer internship will you have?

Hi, I'll be at Mckinsey in Boston over the summer. I'm happy to answer any questions about consulting recruiting :)

Why did you choose to enter Tuck?

On why I chose Tuck, first of all, it's one of the best B-Schools in the US. But among the best schools, what really stands out is its culture - supportive, collaborative and strong alumni network. Whenever you want to do something in Tuck, you will always get support for doing that (e.g. take an initiative to start a new student club). We help each other during the recruiting season and really want each other to succeed. Alumni are very helpful and approachable. I recall a time when after my informational call with an alum, he sent me a bunch of information that he thought would be useful for my interview, which was really helpful.

<p>Hi Good evening from Taiwan! I have been working in pharmaceutical industry for five years and would like to work as a healthcare consultant post-MBA. May I know what kind of resources do students have regarding seeking for the job as a healthcare consultant? Thank you in advance!</p>	<p>Hi, sounds like a great career choice! There are a ton of opportunities to do this type of work, either at dedicated healthcare consultancy firms, or generalist firms (where you can specialize in healthcare). The resources for students are wide and varied: 1) you will be able to work one-on-one with career counsellors from the Career Development Office who will give you information about the opportunities that are out there, how to prepare written applications (CVs and cover letters), how to prepare for interviews, and how to network effectively; 2) there are career-related clubs like the healthcare and consulting clubs which will provide you with 2nd year student career mentors, run information sessions, and connect you with 2nd years for interview prep; and 3) your fellow students coming from the healthcare industry (and likely some coming from healthcare consulting specifically!) will be an incredible resource for you!</p>
<p>Hi I am a re-applicant this year (2019 fall). I was invited to the interview but failed at the very end. I have two questions here: 1. I thought I performed well in the interview but I did not get in in the end. Does this mean I still have problems with my profiles (resume, essays, rec letters)? 2. What is Tuck's attitude towards re-applicants? (as I assume that we did not win a good first impression)</p>	<p>Hi, you may have performed strongly in the interview, but another area of your application could have been less competitive. We are evaluating candidates on a variety of criteria, not just the interview or a test score or recommendation. Before reapplying, please take time to reflect on your efforts this year and perhaps how you could communicate your accomplishments and reasons to be part of the Tuck community even more strongly. We welcome reapplicants back to the process. An additional essay will be required that asks you to let us know what you have been doing since your last application and why you are applying again. Please do not assume you did not make a good first impression. The class size at Tuck is 285 and due to our efforts to maintain our personal and connected community, we do not have enough seats to offer every qualified candidate.</p>

<p>Hello! Warm greeting from Malaysia. I went for self-initiate interview for Fall 2018 intake but didn't click the submit button as I didn't reach my ideal GMAT score. I am planning to apply for Round 1 Fall 2019 intake and will do another round of self-initiate interview. Question:</p> <p>1. How will you evaluate my application? Will you evaluate both interview records or look at the latest record only?</p> <p>2. Will it affect my application when I apply this fall?</p>	<p>Hello! Thank you for your continued interest in Tuck and your desire to submit the strongest application possible! We will be able to see both interviews, but the more recent conversation will likely be of the most interest to our committee. Returning to the process and completing a new interview will be viewed favorably. Also, our committee is reviewing and changing last year's application. The new application will be available by early July. Please keep in mind new deadlines and new essay questions!</p>
<p>Thanks for the answer Sam. Another question, Given the current uncertainties regarding the visa issues in US, was it a difficult decision to go for a US school? How is it like for an international Tuck student? Is the work visa a big issue?</p>	<p>On work visa, I did think about that before I came to the US for school. For student visa, it was easy. For work visa, there are still plenty of companies that are sponsoring visa for international students (and of course there are companies that don't). Both Sam and I recruited for companies that sponsor H1B and we both have summer offers from those companies. Personally, I haven't met any international students who could not get a US summer intern because of the work visa.</p>
<p>Are there any students who engaged in a intern in a venture capital?</p>	<p>Yes! We know of a couple of first-year students (at least) going into VC specifically, as well as others who will be doing PE internships. The range of opportunities is huge, both in terms of industry diversity and geographic diversity (across the US and the world).</p>

<p>Hi Sam, Impressive! Three more questions. 1) When did you start recruiting for Consulting ? 2) What kind of consulting firms were you looking for, Strategy, Management consulting or others? 3) During your recruiting process, who / which party do you think is most helpful? Thank you.</p>	<p>1) The process started when companies started coming to campus to run company briefings and networking events, which was in mid-September (so pretty quick after everything starts!)</p> <p>2) I was specifically interested in generalist management consulting firms, of which there are plenty that come to campus (think Deloitte, Parthenon, McKinsey, LEK, BCG, Bain, and more!) There are also many more specialised consulting firms for tech, communications, healthcare, etc.</p> <p>3) Similar to my response to an earlier question about resources, there are plenty of resources (the Career Development Office, consulting clubs, fellow students, alumni) that were incredibly helpful</p> <p>If you're interested in consulting, I would strongly recommend "How to get a job in consulting" written by Stephen Pigeon in Tuck's Career Development Office -- this was a fantastic resource!</p>
<p>If we do a campus visit, where would you recommend we go and what course would you recommend us to join if possible, why?</p>	<p>Hello! We would be delighted to welcome you to campus and we will have a day planned for you. If you are planning to apply, you will be able to reserve a date in advance which may include an interview, class visit, lunch, tour and Q&A session. While you will not be able to choose the class you visit, a current student will be your host and you will join them at a core course session. The visit and interview season begins August 31.</p>
<p>I have zero consulting experience currently but would love to work in the States post MBA as a management consultant. Given the current situation on H-1B and as a foreigner/Asian, what is the chance for me to secure a post MBA consulting job there? How can the career service team help me in this?</p>	<p>Hi, consulting companies in general sponsor work visas, and there are plenty of other companies that also sponsor visas for international students. Both Sam and I recruited for companies that sponsor H1B and we both have summer offers from those companies. Sam is working in consulting and I will be working in general management. Personally, I haven't met any international students who could not get a US summer intern because of the work visa.</p>

<p>Thank you very much for answering my questions. I would appreciate it if you could tell me a unique professor in your school, and a reason.</p>	<p>Ooh what a great question! I can think of so many examples! Emily Blanchard, who teaches a core course on macro economics was a fantastic, engaging teacher who is often quoted in the news explaining the impact of changing trade policies in the US; Paul Argenti, another incredible lecturer who is often called upon for quotes regarding corporate communications (he recently commented on Zuckerberg's handling of the facebook / cambridge analytica fiasco); Giovanni Gavetti, who will be leading my independent study later this year looking into how companies are improving gender parity in the workforce; the list goes on!</p> <p>Adding to Sam's answer: One of my favourite professors is Joe Hall. He teaches managerial economics. A super smart professors who explains complex concepts and ideas very clearly. We learned a lot from the class. He also has a good sense of humor.</p>
<p>I would like to visit the campus this year for early round. Thus what time do you recommend me to go for this visit? And any preparation before the visit?</p>	<p>Hello: Our visit season begins August 31 and we will have available visit and interview days throughout the academic year. I do not know the deadline for Round 1 at the moment because we are updating and changing our deadlines for the 2018-2019 application season. We will have visit days available Monday through Friday. In addition to researching travel and transportation, you may want to read some of our online materials, be familiar with the application, practice for your interview, etc. There are many things to do to prepare for your Tuck visit!</p>
<p>How critical is native English language fluency for getting into management consulting?</p>	<p>Hi, I'd say it depends on where you are working. It's important if you are working in an English speaking country because you will need to communicate with clients who speak English. But if you are working in consulting in your home country, most of the client interaction will be in your native language so oral English fluency is relatively less of a concern. I know that in greater China, some consulting interviews are conducted in Chinese.</p>

<p>How is the first year experience like? How do people get involved in a particular student group? What all groups are you involved with and how is the experience?</p>	<p>Hi, thanks for your question! The first year is a blast! It's fast-paced and you're thrown straight into the deep-end needing to balance school work, for most people recruiting (on-campus recruiting happens early), social life, family life, and for the international students like me, getting used to living in a brand new country! But this means you learn a lot quickly, and you get to practice your skills in managing competing priorities and deadlines. In terms of student group involvement, you can get involved in as much as you want (there is no membership fee for clubs) according to your interests. There are events all the time so it becomes about choosing what's most important or interesting for you. For me personally, I'm heavily involved in the international club (I'm now a co-chair), the women in business & men as allies club, the consulting club and tripod hockey, and I've had a great experience with all!</p>
<p>Hi Sam, thanks for the recommendation. Will definitely check that! I am now with a tech specialized consulting firm, and am aiming to shift to a more generalized consulting firm or corporate finance role. Speaking of Alumni, how many Japanese Alumni do we have?</p>	<p>We have approximately 200 alumni currently in Japan. Last year when I hosted the Tuck reception in Tokyo we had a panel of 8 alumni ranging from 2017 graduates to alum who have been out for more than 10 years. The alumni are very dedicated to Tuck. They will always answer your calls and email and support students in job search endeavors. We also recently hosted the alumni council meetings in Hanover and in addition to alumni from Japan who serve on the board, there were alum from Europe, Latin America, and the US.</p>
<p>Hi, Sam! Just a quick question related to consulting. Knowing that your pre-MBA work experience wasn't in consulting, which elective courses will you want to take and will be essential to prepare you for Consulting job?</p>	<p>Good question! To be honest I think the core curriculum is what will actually be most important for the consulting world (the course "analysis for general managers" in particular comes to mind!). The core curriculum is designed to set you up to get a taste for loads of different areas, and to make sure you can speak intelligibly about different concepts as a manager (e.g., the effects of trade policy or what operations folks mean when they talk about the "BOM"). Equipped with the core curriculum, I'll be selecting my electives based on my interests!</p>

<p>Thank you for answering my previous questions. This question may be a little difficult, well, I would like to know, for you, what is "culture fit" in Tuck?</p>	<p>This is a tough question! To me, when I think of the cultural fit at Tuck, I think about Tuck's strategy to be "Personal, Connected and Transformative" (if you look at the welcome screen it's on the bottom left corner!). To me, this means that those who will be the right fit with Tuck are looking for a personal experience - where they know their professors and classmates really well, and are looking to really dive into the whole Tuck experience. They're also looking for lifelong connection with Tuck's alumni and values, and will talk in many years to come about how great their time at Tuck was! And lastly, they're ready to be transformed by the experience -- to be open to new ideas, to meet a diverse set of people who might challenge pre-conceived notions about the best way to do things.</p>
<p>One more question for both of you, What do you wish you would have known about Tuck?</p>	<p>Hi, good question! I wish I could have got my driving license earlier in my home country, and applied for a US driving license earlier after I came to school. That way, it would have made my first year "easier" (e.g. driving to a further away grocery store whenever I want) and even more fun (e.g. driving out of town for a fun weekend).</p>
<p>As a guy who is currently pursuing product management, what have I in store if I'm to make it to Tuck?</p>	<p>Product management is a really broad job description, so I think the first thing you'll have in store for you is potentially being overwhelmed by choice and opportunity! You could be a product manager at a tech firm like Amazon, or at a consumer packaged goods firm like P&G. Many of these firms will be on campus to tell you all about their firm and what being a product manager looks like with them. You will also be met with a ton of resources ready to help -- from the Career Development Office, career clubs, and your peers, both first and second years with experience in product management. I hope this answers your question!</p>

<p>Thank you so much for answering the questions. One last question, what was some great advice you got from a 2nd year or alum and what advice would you give to someone planning to apply this year?</p>	<p>The advice I would give is to take the time to: 1) get to really know Tuck, but even more importantly, armed with that knowledge, 2) get to know why Tuck would be great for you. Chats like this are a great start! Many applicants learn and talk about Tuck's "tight-knit community" or "general management curriculum" but that knowledge only becomes powerful in your application when you can articulate why these characteristics of Tuck are meaningful to you, your past experiences, and your goals for the future.</p>
<p>Hi what courses do you guys enjoy the most? And also what courses in Tuck do you think are most helpful to your post MBA career goal? Thx!</p>	<p>Hi, I recruited for a general management program and the first role (for the summer) is in product management. As such, the marketing courses in Tuck are a great help for my summer internship. As product management is very much about understanding what your customer wants and I have no prior experience in either product management or marketing. Tuck has really great marketing professors and I learned a lot from the four marketing classes I have taken so far. I'd say I enjoy marketing classes the most and those are also the courses that I think will be most helpful for my post Tuck career.</p>
<p>Hi all, thanks for this session. I had this particular doubt. What is the one advice that you would give to those who are planning to apply to Tuck?</p>	<p>Hi, I'd say the once advice I would give is really know what you want out of an MBA and why Tuck is a good fit for you. In this way, you will have a good sense of what your priorities are when you come to Tuck and pursue what you want. Also, knowing why Tuck is a good fit will help you choose activities you would like to be involved in during your time at Tuck, and how second years, the school and even the alum can help you achieve your future goal.</p>
<p>Thanks Amy. I would love to connect with Alum in Japan before getting a chance to visit Tuck.</p>	<p>Absolutely! We will soon have events posted on our website. Whether it is a coffee chat or Tuck reception, you are welcome to register and attend in order to connect with students and/or alumni.</p>