

Frequently Asked Questions About Our Wait List

Read this sheet carefully. Timely action on your part is required before we will consider you for admission from the wait list.

Check the date of the official letter offering you a place on the wait list. If the letter is dated before April 5, the deadlines and timeline listed on this sheet apply and *we must receive your Wait List Response Form by 11:59 p.m. Pacific time on Friday, April 15, 2022, to further consider you for admission.* If the letter is dated April 5 or later, carefully review “What if I have been offered a place on the wait list after April 5?” on the reverse for information about your deadlines. Submit the response form online at go.lclark.edu/waitlist.

Why is there a wait list?

Like all selective colleges, Lewis & Clark has fewer spaces than it has qualified applicants. A certain number of the students we accept will not enroll, but it is impossible to predict this figure with perfect accuracy. The wait list enables us to shape the entering class to ensure we meet our enrollment goals.

How does the wait list work?

Our review of the applications of candidates on the wait list is subject to the response from admitted students. The sooner we hear from them, the sooner you are likely to hear from us. Unfortunately, many admitted students notify us of their final choices very close to our May 1 deadline, and it isn't until the end of April that we have received enough responses to get a sense of the incoming class. At that point, we can begin to gauge how we are doing in terms of our enrollment priorities and review the candidates on the wait list to determine how they might help us reach those goals. Our needs may change as we continue receiving responses from admitted students, so we do not have a formally ranked wait list.

Do I need to act to be placed on the wait list?

Yes. *You are not officially on the wait list and will not be given further consideration for admission until we receive your Wait List Response Form.* Submit this form online at go.lclark.edu/waitlist.

If I choose to be placed on the wait list, what are my chances of being admitted?

Your chances of being admitted depend on the responses we receive from previously admitted students, as well as how many of those offered a spot on the wait list elect to be placed there. The number of students admitted from the wait list varies greatly from year to year. In recent years, the number of first-year students admitted from the wait list has ranged from 0 to 50, and the number of transfer students has ranged from 0 to 10. We encourage you to remain positive *and* make sure you have other college options in place.

Will sending additional information improve my chances of being admitted?

Submitting information beyond what you have already provided may enhance your application by giving us a more complete picture of your qualifications. You might consider sending in materials such as graded writing samples, documentation of recent accomplishments, another academic recommendation, or your most recent grades. Academic information is more useful than extracurricular information.

Additional materials may be submitted via regular mail, but an electronic file either emailed or uploaded to your Pioneer Portal is the preferred submission method. If you elect to be placed on the wait list, you will have until 11:59 p.m. Pacific time on April 15 to submit additional materials. An exception to this deadline is made for transfer students, who must provide updated transcripts with spring term grades before receiving further consideration for admission.

Is an interview recommended?

In some cases, an interview may be helpful. If you did not interview with us earlier, you should contact your admissions representative to discuss this option.

When will I find out whether I am admitted or not?

In the past few years, we have been able to let some students on our wait list know of available space in late April, but most first-year students on the wait list will not hear from us until the first two weeks of May. Transfer students on the wait list will likely not hear from us until late May or June, depending on when we receive updated transcripts. The latest possible date we will notify you is June 30. We know this is an anxious time for all, and we will make every effort to notify you as soon as possible.

If I am admitted, will there be on-campus housing available for me?

All first-year students are guaranteed housing and are required to live on campus for four semesters unless they are living with a parent or guardian in the Portland area.

Transfer students admitted from the wait list may be offered on-campus housing on a space-available basis.

Will there be any financial aid available for me if I am admitted?

If you indicated on your application for admission that you are applying for need-based financial aid, we must receive your FAFSA for you to be considered for all forms of financial aid. If you are admitted, we will let you know about aid at the time an offer of admission is extended.

If I am admitted, how much time will I have to decide?

To be fair to other applicants still on the wait list, we will ask that you make a decision very quickly if you are admitted after May 1. You will receive an offer of admission by phone, followed by an offer in writing via email. You will have at minimum 72 hours to accept the offer and make an enrollment deposit to secure your space in the entering class. The sooner you respond, the sooner you will catch up with mailings about housing, course registration, and other information of importance to new students.

What if I am notified there are no spaces left in the entering class?

We encourage you to consider reapplying to Lewis & Clark in the future. We will keep your current application on file for two years. If you wish to seek admission to the college again within those two years, please contact us to discuss reapplying. To strengthen your reapplication, you should enroll full-time at another institution and pursue a well-rounded academic course-load. Please contact our transfer counselor to determine the appropriate timing for your reapplication. The transfer counselor can also help if you would like assistance selecting courses that will both strengthen your academic profile and result in transferable credit.

What if I have been offered a place on the wait list after April 5?

If you elect to be placed on the wait list, we must receive your Wait List Response Form within 10 days of the date of your letter. Submit the response form online at go.lclark.edu/waitlist. You should also submit any supplemental materials as soon as possible. All other information on this sheet applies to you. We will make every effort to notify first-year students about available space in the entering class within the first two weeks of May. Transfer students on the wait list will likely not hear from us until late May or June, depending upon when updated transcripts are received. The latest possible date we will notify you is June 30.

Questions?

Still have questions? Contact your admissions counselor directly. Visit go.lclark.edu/admissions/staff to find contact information.

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