Frequently Asked Questions: Postponed Applicants

What does it mean to be postponed?
Postponing decisions is a method we use to manage enrollment and maximize campus resources. When our admission counselors first review an application, they make one of three admission decisions—admit, deny, or postpone. Postponed applicants are those who are neither admitted nor denied at the time of the initial review. They are essentially held for further consideration. By delaying final decisions for a limited number of postponed students, we are able to analyze space and admit with certainty the students with the strongest qualifications and the greatest potential for contribution to our university. We are also able to offer admission to the maximum number of applicants.

What should I do now that I’ve been postponed?
To ensure continued consideration of your application, please follow these steps:

1. Self-report your mid-year senior grades and submit any new test scores as soon as they are available. Our office will provide further instructions by email on reporting your grades.
2. If you have new ACT or SAT scores, ask the testing agency to send an official report to us directly.
3. Consider submitting letters of recommendation if you did not include them with your original application. We like to see at least one recommendation from someone who can attest to your academic ability. If you already had letters of recommendation submitted with your original application, you do not need to submit new ones.

How does this impact my financial aid eligibility?
The Office of Student Financial Aid cannot begin processing your financial aid application until you have been admitted to the university. However, you should proceed to submit your financial aid application materials to ensure the necessary paperwork is complete and ready for processing in the event that you are admitted. It can take three to six weeks to receive an award notification after your forms have been processed and an admission decision has been made.

How does this impact my University Housing contract?
Traditionally, more than 95 percent of the postponed applicants, who are admitted, are offered a University Housing contract.

For more information, contact University Housing:
Phone: 608–262–2522
Phone (TTY): 608–262–6830
AssignMe@housing.wisc.edu
housing.wisc.edu

If I am not offered admission, can I apply in the future as a transfer student?
Yes! Students who are not offered admission as freshmen are encouraged to reapply as transfer students after completing at least 24 transferable semester credits of college course work. In fact, one in five UW-Madison graduates actually began studying here as a transfer student.

Learn more about the academic preparation, transfer expectations, and application process: admissions.wisc.edu/transfer

What if I have more questions?
Contact the Office of Admissions and Recruitment:
Phone: 608–262–3961
admissions.wisc.edu/contactus

Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This helps the school determine which sources of aid you might receive. Students on an F–1, F–2, J–1, or J–2 visa are not eligible for federal financial aid from the university but the Office of International Student Services provides a resource page to research available scholarships, fellowships, and grants.

- Student Financial Services: finaid.wisc.edu
- Begin and submit a FAFSA: fafsa.ed.gov
- Options for international students: iss.wisc.edu