



Every week, education expert Sanjeev Verma will answer your queries on studying abroad. E-mail queries to features@gulf-times.com



What do the terms 'Waitlisted' or 'Deferred' mean for University admissions?

University admission is a process that is quite cumbersome and at times frustrating. It is common for a lot of applicants to sometimes discover their applications have been waitlisted or at times deferred. What do those really mean? Deferred would usually mean your application has not been reviewed yet for a number of reasons. These reasons would include – waiting for admission officer's next review, at times may have been taken to the regular admission pool in cases where you applied for early admission decisions, or similarly, it could be deferred for the next available intake following the immediately available one. On the other hand, being waitlisted implies your application is put on pending. The question is "why is it pending"? It could be pending because of large amount of applicants competing for limited seats, hence meaning the university has to clear on confirmations, or on other occasions, it could be because you meet the minimum criteria, but you need to provide more application components that need to be helpful in speeding things up.

Either way, both these conditions are not the end of the world. In some contexts, you may be able to help your circumstance if seats open up, wait for a while until decisions are made or additional documents from your side help your cause.

(Sanjeev Verma began with Ernst & Young and progressed to set up the Gulf operations of IDP Education Pty. He now leads Intelligent Partners, developing a wide range of solutions in areas of International education.)

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