

Ten Things to Do if You Don't Get In

1. Apply earlier (avoid the last six weeks before the deadline).
2. Apply to more schools (six is usually considered a prudent minimum: two schools that are likely to admit you, two middle-of-the-road schools, two reach schools).
3. Apply to more safe schools (even 4.0 students can and do get rejected).
4. Visit and wow 'em (be sure to follow Asher's Law).
5. Go to summer school in the targeted subject and wow 'em (it's easy to get into summer school, even at Harvard).
6. Take one class at a time in the targeted subject and wow 'em (remember: your most recent grades count the most).
7. Get volunteer or internship experiences in the targeted field (even part-time, even unpaid).
8. Work in a "real job" in the targeted field (there's no substitute for actual experience, and recommendations from supervisors in the profession).
9. Get an intermediate degree (such as a master's or even just a credential).
10. Get older and try again (many times, that's all it takes).

**Don't forget that the best time to apply is early in the fall to start graduate school the following fall, so
*be sure to plan ahead!***

Asher's Law: Thou shalt not write, nor call, nor visit any graduate faculty member without having read some of his or her works first.