# How Invite app is unique – A Wallet for all your Invitations

**Existing invitation applications in Appstore/Googleplay.**

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| **App** | **Details** |
| [Invitations Manager-invite sms](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.david.invite) | * Sends invitations as SMS. * Manage response from invitees. * Reminder supported |
| [Quick Invitations](https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/quick-invitations-for-all/id578599734?mt=8) | * Use templates or personalize them and send invitations via email, iMessage or post them to Facebook or Twitter. * Can see who is invited and their response. |
| [Event Greetings](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.dizzylion.eventgreetings) | * Synchronize b’days with Facebook. * Post greetings on Friend’s wall on their b’day. * Reminder support. |

**Features of Invite App**

* Not only can manage sent invitations also invitations received with added features.
* Creates invitations with templates.
* Send invitations via the Invite app itself or as sms or email.
* Get response from invitees.
* Call/Email/SMS the invitee on demand.
* Check map for the invited location.
* Can shop relative to the invitation. (Bdy -> presents, Funeral -> florists)

Will have an integrated payment gateway as well if the time permits.

* Can generate and scan and even print invitation as QR code (very unique feature)

# Deciding the backend.

Since this is a mobile application and needs to be delivered quickly as possible, was thinking of an easiest way of running a backend. In an era where backend functionalities are adopted as a service we as developers have less pain and concern on maintaining and scaling the back end. Having features such as geo-tagging, push notifications and with the above reasons (and as a learning curve) we thought of using a MBAAS for Invite app backend. Below is a comparison of best MBAAS in the market.

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| MBAAS | Features |
| Parse | Easiest of all BMAAS to use.  Fastest back end services to use.  Provides an SDK interface to easily work with.  Free: 1M API Calls, 1M Push notifications |
| Apigee Usergrid | Free and open source.  Have a difficult learning curve. |

Few references:

<http://www.raywenderlich.com/20482/how-to-choose-the-best-backend-provider-for-your-ios-app-parse-vs-stackmob-vs-appcelerator-cloud-and-more>

<http://apievangelist.com/2012/08/22/mobile-backend-as-a-service-roundup-and-the-future-of-web-apis/>