

# Don't get into your 1<sup>st</sup> choice major at UW?

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For students that weren't accepted into their 1<sup>st</sup> choice majors, understand that it is very normal for people to not get accepted into their 1<sup>st</sup> choice major for multiple reasons. There can only be so many people accepted into a major or else the majors will overload and not have enough professors to teach the students. Even so, you must have a backup plan, because having a major will help you land more job interviews in the future. Here are multiple solutions to what you can do if you get rejected from your 1<sup>st</sup> choice major.



## UNDERSTAND WHY

After every rejection from a major, the application office will reach out to you and ask if you want to a *Holistic Application Conversation (HAC)* or *Decision Appeal Process*. If you want to understand what was the reasons that your application was rejected, going the route of HAC will give you a better understanding of what you need to change in your application so that during the next application season, your application will be on the other side of rejection.

## HOW TO IMPROVE THE APPLICATION

Now that you understand why your application was rejected, we now have to prepare for resubmission. The resubmission process is identical to the initial application. However, the personal statement will now require you to answer "Is this your second attempt at applying for this major?"[1] If so, please explain what has changed since your last application. ". Think about what experiences you've had post-initial application that will allow you to prove that you have made improvements to yourself and is now worthy to be accepted into the major. (Anything that can relate to the major, can be put down. Doesn't have to be anything big or glamorous.)

## HOW TO APPLYING TO DIFFERENT MAJORS

If you decide that reapplying for the same major isn't your cup of tea, then you can always search for other majors that interest you.[2] Do your own research about other majors, have a dialogue with former or current students that are from the major of interest, go online and research what type of jobs the major's alumni usually go into. Make sure to read the other major's application personal statement prompts and change your personal statements accordingly. Good Luck!

If all the solutions are not what you're seeking, re-applying again with the same application is an option too.

## CONCLUSION

Remember, being rejected by your 1<sup>st</sup> choice major can be depressing. However, do not let the negative thoughts get to you. Instead, use the rejection to improve yourself. Take some time before reapplication dates begin and do some self-growth. Stay positive and believe that you were always meant to be in the major, it was just the timing that was wrong, and the school wasn't ready for you. Now with new experiences gained before reapplying, you will now conquer the application and have the self-belief that this is your moment to shine, this is your moment to be accepted into your dream major.

### References:

[1] "Admissions." *School of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics*, 7 Sept. 2023, [www.uwb.edu/stem/undergraduate/majors/applied-computing/admissions#personal-statement](http://www.uwb.edu/stem/undergraduate/majors/applied-computing/admissions#personal-statement).

[2] "What to Do If You Don't Get Accepted into Your Chosen Major." *Get Schooled*, 17 Aug. 2023, [getschooled.com/article/5672-what-to-do-if-you-don-t-get-into-your-chosen-major/#:~:text=Apply%20for%20the%20major%20again,to%20standout%20in%20their%20applications](https://getschooled.com/article/5672-what-to-do-if-you-don-t-get-into-your-chosen-major/#:~:text=Apply%20for%20the%20major%20again,to%20standout%20in%20their%20applications).

### Image Reference:

University of Washington Seal, *University of Washington*, 7 August 2017, <http://www.washington.edu/marketing/files/2012/09/SigLogoSystem.pdf>