

Tufts Career Center FAQ of the Week

I applied to a job/internship and I haven't heard back yet. What should I do?

So you found an interesting position, created a polished resume and tailored cover letter, hit "submit," and then ... crickets. You've waited about a week and haven't heard anything. While the lack of response is frustrating, try to remember that it's generally not the result of something you did/didn't do. Right or wrong, many employers simply don't allocate the staffing resources necessary to respond to each and every submission. *At this time in particular (March 2020 and beyond), most HR employees are working remotely, which will slow down application processes.*

Here are a few things to try while you wait:

Send a quick email. If you have the hiring manager's email address, write a brief note to check in. Use an obvious subject line, such as "Follow up from [your name] re: [name of position]." Acknowledge the person's busy schedule as well as the challenge of the current health crisis, reiterate your interest, and offer to provide additional info if needed. You can also ask about next steps in the hiring process. (If you prefer a quick phone call, you'll follow a similar template.) *Caveat:* Some employers will specify "no follow up emails," in which case, don't do it!

Try to get the inside scoop. Do you know anyone who works at the organization? Have you tried reaching out to someone from [The Herd](#) or the [Tufts University Career Network Group on LinkedIn](#)? You won't be asking the person to speed up the process per se; rather, you'll ask about his/her experiences, i.e., How long does it generally take this company to respond to applications or invite people to interview? Can you think of anything else I should do while I wait?

You can also [schedule a phone or virtual quick question appointment](#) to speak with a Career Advisor about follow up strategies.



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