**Is the Wait List Worth the Wait?**

Your students are waiting with great anticipation for word of their admissions status at their top school choices. There will be acceptance letters, which create great joy, and rejection letters, which cause much distress. And then there are letters that cause possibly the most confusion: The student is on a school's wait list.

Wait lists are sort of like admissions limbo. Most students are unsure how to proceed. While there is no right or wrong direction, many college admissions counselors urge students to go for the sure thing if offered admission at another school.

We've compiled some tips for students who decide to stay on the wait list:

* Inform the college that you want to remain on the wait list. (If the college provided you with a postcard for this purpose, complete and send it back.)
* Write a letter to the admissions office emphasizing your desire to attend. Keep the college updated on any achievements that would add to your application—academic milestones, awards, etc.
* Schedule a visit and request an interview. An interview will demonstrate your interest in attending and give you a personal contact in the admissions office.
* Reconsider the colleges to which you were accepted. Accept an offer from one of them and send in the deposit. You can always notify the college that you've changed your mind if you're later accepted from the wait list at your top school choice.