

## HOW I GOT INTO PRINCETON | My College Application Story Pt. 2 (Where I Got Accepted)

all right so now that you know all the statistics and the numbers really just kind of artificial things let's get into the meat of it where did I get accepted where did I get rejected where did I get wait-listed how did I end up at Princeton so I guess first things first let's do the rejected my got rejected from UPenn Yale USC USC was a weird one I don't really want to talk about it and not to sound cocky but like I'd expect it to get in and I did it and it was a big shot whatever so weightless a super annoying process basically means you're not accepted you're not rejected yet they're kind of good enough but you're not super good enough you're in this weird limbo stage basically I got wait-listed and rejected at Stanford Columbia at U Chicago I applied early to Harvard and I got deferred to the Regular Decision and then got rejected and then my final wait list was Princeton and then I got accepted the other schools I got accepted to were NYU University of Texas in Austin Oklahoma University UC Berkley Northwestern and Vanderbilt so yes I had a great list of schools I had a lot of choices to choose from which I'm super grateful for and looking back I realized that that wasn't an opportunity that a lot of people had and sometimes I took it for granted but honestly it was the work that I put in it was the countless hours spent staying up finishing these papers finishing these essays grinding the past four years doing all these things that at the time I thought were pointless but at the end of the day really gave me the work I think really gave me the drive to not only get accepted to these schools but have so many options and have so many opportunities I think that's probably the biggest thing about my college acceptance story is that I had a wide variety of choices that I could choose from and great financial aid all of them and like I said in the beginning not to come off like I'm like I'm bragging or anything like that but at the end of the day hard work will pay off I can't say that enough and that if you're a junior or sophomore freshman right now literally grind your ass off every single day put in the work that you need to and it will pay off you will get accepted into these top caliber universities so obviously as you heard I was weightless there at

Princeton and then I got accepted so let's go into that Ivy date it was what March 30th of last year basically when all the Ivy League's posted decisions and probably the most worst day of my life I remember it very vividly checking up all this college confidential forums like I'm sure you guys are gonna be doing in a few months and literally in all my classes refreshing all my portals seeing if there was anything I remember seeing something I'll talk confidential saying that they were coming out like 6 p.m. Pacific time so that would be about like 4 p.m. when I got home so I remember running out of class going home and literally I just opened up my laptop and just waited worse like 30 minutes of my life refreshing waiting I even I pulled out my Mac camera and recorded it just just in case that I got accepted to any of these schools I remember just randomly picking schools and opening them in that order you Chicago wait-listed I thought alright not a big deal wasn't one of my top choices and it's too much of a research school you Penn rejected a little upset since I thought it'd be it'd be one of the easier ones to get into Yale rejected Harvard rejected Columbia wait-listed ok else why it was my top two choice - at least it's not a complete rejection Princeton wait-listed it wasn't even in my top 5 choices so I brushed it off and didn't even think about it so at that point I was like three rejections three waitlist and it was down to Stanford when I was going through this application process Stanford was really my top choice my dream school and wait-listed after going through that beating it was a really brutal time for me I literally felt like my world was falling apart like I spent so many freaking months writing out these [princeton essays](#) and and it didn't work it didn't pay off and any I was super pissed I was super bummed you can ask my friends I think didn't want to talk to anyone for a few days just felt so like annoyed at the system like like it's corrupt and like why I put in all this work and why wasn't it paying off and little did I realize that it would pay off and so I came to the point where I realized that I'm not gonna make it to the Ivy League that was my dream that was you know what I've been working for them for the past four years and so then I had to make a choice of what school I was going to the top school is on my list were obviously Vanderbilt and Northwestern NYU I was definitely looking at it was just a

little bit too expensive so I went out there I went out to Northwestern and took a tour and then we drove to nerville in in nashville i toured both campuses and i ended up deciding that northwestern was the best fit for me i thought that's why i was gonna spend the next four years of my life and to be completely honest i didn't feel like that was the perfect fit for me i stepped on the campus and i realized this isn't where I want to spend the next four years so I stepped on the campus and something didn't feel right I remember my English teacher mr. words telling me as soon as you step on a college campus you know it's gonna be the right fit for you basically what he means by that is it's you'll feel it I mean you'll have a certain vibe about the people about the community about the campus itself that you're really gonna buy with that you're really gonna realize that all right this is the best place for me and so there was something weird I didn't feel that in Northwestern so fast forward a few months I accepted my offer at Northwestern and found a roommate and the more I thought about it the more the more I started to get a little excited for it and then I get a call I really remember this day I was in mr. Washington's US government class fourth period it was a call from Princeton New Jersey and mind you that I I was I had seen our confidential forums that the wait list decisions were coming out this week and so when I saw that call my heart skipped a beat I was like oh it's actually happening I stepped out of the hall I answered the phone lady she says hi just Nick Lachey I'm like yes who is this she's like hi I'm calling from the Princeton undergraduate admissions I just want to say congratulations you've been accepted off the waitlist and and literally my heart just dropped I was like I was speechless and I literally didn't know what to do I ran back into my class I told my best friend's Amerson Chronicles like holy like I just I just got off the waitlist at Princeton and they're looking at me like like is this actually happening like is Nick che actually going to the Ivy League's and that was that was a big moment for me I said thank you so much she said you're gonna get the official letter in the mail in a few days and and I was I was in disbelief I hung up the phone I called my mom and I was like mom I just got into Princeton and she she's like what I was like I got into Princeton she like started screaming she

started crying and she knew that like this was really like the number one university in the nation and so obviously she was super proud of me obviously we had a lot of thinking to do because I mean it came no we're from the past months I was thinking that I was going to a school in Chicago Northwestern but now I'm going to the Ivy League and that's a huge mind switch it's a huge thing to consider like is this really gonna be the right environment for me am I really gonna fit in is it gonna be too competitive am I not going to enjoy my time we're at a small like Northwestern I'm sure I could be kind of at the frontrunners but at a school like Princeton where it's still competitive I was going to be struggling to fit in and be in like the middle of the pack so that was a big thing I had to cope with but obviously I ended up here I'm super happy with my decision I wouldn't have changed it any other way so I know they were everything a long time but I fought to make sure that I get my story right that you guys know all the details of what happened and to kind of show that at the end of the day everything will work out you're gonna end up where you need to be in and for a while I really thought that my life was ending I thought this sucks like I didn't get it to any of the schools I want it to and I don't I don't mean to come off like Oh Northwestern or Vanderbilt or Berkeley like those aren't great schools so obviously they are they rank in like top 20 every single year but it wasn't the goal that I had set for myself which which was more of a pride thing for me than than for anyone else especially than my family or friends and the fact that I got the way list is actually like very very very very slim hi this is Carolina she's stopping in for a second we're gonna go do photo shoot so that's a another video yeah how'd you get into Butte Inn well I didn't care about sports don't care about scores okay you don't care about grades I don't think that's the most important part right yeah in my essay is I just like made it pretty clear that the classes I took were because I was super interested in them so like even though ApS were available to me didn't take so yeah basically she's trying to say is that don't do things just because you think it's gonna look good on the application you find things that you're passionate about I mentioned that earlier and and really invest yourself in those things rather than spending time on arbitrary things yeah

cuz it comes through like they see and I know like people in my grade who applied and who took all the right classes and they didn't get in but it's not because they're not smart enough it's just like you need to differentiate yourself and so and so I mentioned that in my other video is that college houses can literally see right through the they know when you're not being genuine when you're not being authentic when you're not telling your true story and and so for people like us who dig it except to city schools it's it's that difference that sets people apart of having a unique voice rather than being fake yeah but also like if you don't get in it's because you're not meant to be here not because you're not good enough but it means that like you're meant to be somewhere else I like I was just finishing up that part of like no matter where you end up you're gonna have a great time College is really all about like what you put into it you're gonna get out of it meaning that if you devote yourself and find the opportunities at your specific school you're gonna do just as great at a state school then you could add an Ivy League yeah so yeah that kind of wraps up my college application story I hope this helps some of you guys get an insight on on my scores all my statistics I'm kind of like the expert pickins that I did because I did have a unique story not a lot of people do photography which is kind of like why it helped me obviously I had good academics I had good extracurriculars I was very well balanced in that I manage my grades but at the same time I had a social life I was active in the marching band in music and in photography I helped my friends our family meaning that you don't have to kill yourself to get these perfect scores or a study or have this 4.0 you want to make sure that you're really enjoying high school I say this all the time but high school is really where you make a lot of your memories it's where you make a lot of your friends that you're that you're gonna keep in touch with throughout college and so you want to cherish those last few moments of senior year if you're watching this in your senior now obviously it's too late but if you're a freshman sophomore junior make sure you guys are working hard every single day putting in the work that you need to but at the end of the day know that everything happens for a reason and you're gonna end up where you need to be you're gonna find the right school

you're gonna find the right fit even for me right now like I'm struggling at Princeton it's very competitive here I don't feel like obviously I obviously have made friends and obviously I have a lot of people here but it just takes time it takes it takes time getting used to the college environment takes time to figure out what you're doing it's a whole new environment it's a whole new situation I hope this helps if you have any more questions leave them down below I'll try and make more videos about this college application process while it's still December and you guys are going through that my name is Nick Jay if you guys like this video make sure you guys like comment up subscribe and I'll see you guys next time