

Waitlist procedures for introductory courses PHYS 131/132

The Physics Department offers several sections of PHYS 131 and 132 each semester. Unfortunately, there sometimes aren't quite enough seats to satisfy demand. And it's important that we reserve some seats for prospective physics majors, so we can't let all the seats be taken by juniors and seniors. To deal with these issues, we've developed a waitlist system that is separate from the standard waitlist implemented for some courses on Bannerweb. This document provides information on the physics waitlists.

Executive summary:

If all the sections of PHYS 131 or 132 that fit your schedule are full when your registration slot comes:

1. Sign up for the waitlist by clicking on one of these links:

[PHYS 131 waitlist sign-up](#)

[PHYS 132 waitlist sign-up](#)

You may not sign up for the waitlist until after your registration time has begun.

2. Do continue to try to add the sections you want for as long as your registration window is open. If a seat opens up, we can't stop somebody else from beating you to it.
3. After first-year registration is complete, any available seats will be filled off the waitlists.

Detailed policies:

- The seating limits on each section of PHYS 131 and 132 will be
 - 6 students during senior registration
 - 12 students during junior registration
 - 18 students during sophomore registration
 - 24 students during first-year registration.
- A student may only sign up for the waitlist after that student's registration time has begun.
- A student who is enrolled in one section of the course may not sign up for the waitlist for other sections. Any student on the waitlist who is already registered for a section will NOT be offered a seat in another section if one becomes available.
- If a student needs to change their list of "desired sections", they may simply sign up on the waitlist again, with an updated list of desired sections, without losing their place in line. Students on the waitlist will always be offered seats based on their earliest sign-up time and their latest list of desired sections.
- Students will be admitted off the waitlist starting at the end of registration for first-year students. For fall semester, this is the weekend right before classes begin in August.
- Students will be admitted off the waitlist in the order they signed up. To be specific,
 - If any seats are available in any sections listed by the first student on the list, then that student will be offered a seat in one of those sections.
 - If a student has listed multiple sections, and seats are available in more than one section, then the chair will choose which section to offer the student.
 - The same procedure will be applied to each student in order.
- When a student becomes eligible to be admitted off the waitlist, the student will be notified by email and issued an override into a section. The student will have 24 hours to accept this invitation by replying to the email or adding the course. If the student does not reply within that time, the override will be canceled, the student will be dropped from the waitlist, and the next eligible student will be admitted instead.
- For questions about the waitlists, please contact [Matt Trawick](#), the physics department chair.