The UnChecklist: 16 Grad Application Mistakes You DON'T Want to Make

DON'T do any of the following when you apply to grad school:

1. Wait until the last minute to start.
2. Focus on your past instead of your future when choosing schools.
3. Put too much emphasis on the rankings.
4. Have vague goals or lack direction.
5. Assume that one element in your qualifications or profile will get you in.
6. Assume that one element in your qualifications or profile will keep you out. Forever.
   (Most things can be changed.)
7. Lie anywhere in the app.
8. Write only what you think they want to hear.
10. Use more words than necessary to convey your point.
11. Write generically.
12. Fail to answer all parts of the question.
13. Weigh title over relationship when choosing recommenders.
14. Attempt to wing an interview.
15. Be arrogant or rude to any member of the school’s community when you visit or go for an interview.
16. Wear attire that draws attention to your appearance and risks taking away from the professional impression you are trying to make.

AND A BONUS:

17. Exercise poor judgement by badgering or attempting to pressure your waitlisting schools.

FOR HELP WITH YOUR APPLICATION AND TO MAKE SURE YOU DON’T MAKE ANY OF THESE MISTAKES, CHECK OUT ACCEPTED’S OUTSTANDING ADMISSIONS CONSULTING SERVICES.