The incoming Class of 2022 is already setting university records. The class reflects the best and brightest students arriving from across the globe to engage in Tulane’s rich research opportunities and to serve the New Orleans community while making the Crescent City their new home.

The Office of Undergraduate Admission received a wave of 38,813 applications for fall 2018 — a 9 percent increase from last year. The Early Decision (ED) program also received 1,819 applications, marking a 37.5 percent increase from the 1,323 applications received in 2017.

“I was very happy but not surprised to see our ED numbers go up, which shows that more students are envisioning Tulane as their No. 1 school,” said Satyajit Dattagupta, vice president of enrollment management and dean of undergraduate admission.

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Due to the increased influx of applications, the acceptance rate was also curbed to 17 percent from 21 percent last year, creating the most selective class in the university’s history.

Dattagupta stated that his team’s strategy when admitting the 562 ED students was to choose academically qualified applicants who would find success at Tulane.

He added that part of the university’s appeal to incoming students is its well rounded education, noting that the institution is academically in the top 1 percent in the country.

“Tulane prioritizes a balanced college education, where students learn both inside and outside of the classroom through community service experiences and research opportunities,” said Dattagupta.

The record number of applications can also be attributed to positive rankings in the 2017 Princeton Review for the university’s student experience. The publication ranked the university as No. 4 for happiest students, No. 7 for students who love their college and No. 9 for best quality of life.

“Tulane is becoming a very popular destination for students that wish to pursue their academic careers in the best college city in the country,” said Dattagupta.