

## Admission cycles

### *Early Options*

*Does the early bird really get the worm? Usually, but it depends. While there can be an advantage to applying early, you should only apply early if you're ready. Being ready means you have visited (either in-person pre-COVID or virtually) and researched all schools on your list extensively, your grades through junior year are indicative of who you are as a student, you have taken all necessary standardized tests and performed well on them (unless you plan to apply test-optional), and you have completed all application components, including essays. There are quite a few different early application options, all with different levels of commitment. It's important to keep in mind, however, that every school is different. Not all colleges offer early application rounds, and some might offer only Early Decision or Early Action, both, or only a restricted Early Action option. Students need to do their research in order to understand the application rounds offered at the schools on their balanced college lists. Here are the early options that some schools may offer:*

#### *Early Evaluation*

- Early Evaluation is used so students can submit their materials to be reviewed in advance.
- EE is sometimes referred to as a “pre-read” for prospective student-athletes. The results of an EE are not final or guaranteed.
- EE is very common at higher academic schools where the acceptance rate is less than 40%

#### *Early Decision*

- EDI: Application due date: usually between November 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of your senior year.
- Admissions decisions notification date: December 15
- The most restrictive form of admissions
- Under ED admissions, the decision is **binding**<sup>1</sup> and the student has to attend the school if accepted; some schools have both EDI and EDII
- Applying ED gives students a better chance of acceptance; by showing your commitment to the school
- Close to 50% of the incoming class admission slots will be awarded depending on the school/university
- PSA's should only apply ED if they are ready to make a final decision, their junior year grades are a good representation of their ability level.
- Students can NOT apply Early Decision to more than one school, but they can apply Early Action to other schools.
- Possible outcomes: Accepted, Denied, Deferred to Regular Decision

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<sup>1</sup> creating a legal or moral obligation to do something, with no possibility of withdrawal or avoidance.

- EDII: Application due date: usually between January 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of your senior year.
- Admissions decisions notification date: March 15

### *Early Action*

- EA: Application due date: usually between November 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of Senior year.
- Admissions decisions notification date: December 15
- Similar in all aspects to Early Decision but the decision is **not binding**
- EA applications typically have a slight advantage over regular admissions
- Schools generally don't offer **both** Early Action and Early Decision
- EA admissions allows greater flexibility to continue the college search
- Possible outcomes: Accepted, Denied, Deferred to Regular Decision

### *Restrictive Early Action*

- REA: Application due date: usually between November 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of Senior year.
- Admissions decisions notification date: December 15
- Similar to Early Decision but is NOT binding.
- Students may apply Early Action to only one school and may NOT submit any other applications in the Early Action or Early Decision period. Students must wait to submit all other applications during Regular Decision.

## ***Regular Admissions***

*In addition to early application options, there are also the "regular" options, where students apply either by the general application deadline or any time during the admissions cycle while schools are still accepting applications.*

### *Regular Decision*

- RD: Application due date: usually between January 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of Senior year.
- Admissions decisions notification date: by April 1<sup>st</sup>
- RD is a great option for students who need more time to put together their applications and reach their goals for GPA and test scores.
- Allows the PSA to have more flexibility when comparing schools
- Regular Decision option is most commonly used admission choice
- Possible outcomes: Accepted, Denied or Waitlisted

### *Rolling Admissions*

- RA: Application due date: usually between September 1<sup>st</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup> of Senior year, however, it's best to send your application as early as possible,

in September or October – RA schools continue to accept students until they reach their enrollment capacity.

- Admissions decisions notification date: usually within a few weeks of receiving the completed application and all supporting materials.
- Less common type of admission
- Rolling admission is a first-come, first-serve approach when it comes to reviewing applications
- Applications are accepted during a set timeframe but are reviewed in the order they are received
- Application window for is commonly from September 1<sup>st</sup> until all spots for the upcoming class have been filled
- Most schools will send admissions decisions back within 4-8 weeks
- Possible outcomes: Accepted, Denied or Waitlisted

#### *Open Admissions*

- Most laid-back type of admission
- Basically means, any student who applies and meets the schools requirements will be admitted
- Most commonly offered at community colleges and online schools
- Students with low GPAs or low SAT/ACT test scores may benefit from open admission

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