

# Early Decision



# Early Action



# Regular Decision

Apps typically due around Nov.  
Decisions sent out in Dec.

Apps due sometime in fall  
Decisions sent out Dec. - Feb.

Apps due between Jan. 1 - Feb. 1  
Decision dates vary

## PROS

- An early acceptance letter means the stressful process is over sooner!
- Schools know your commitment, so your chances can be (slightly) increased.

## PROS

- You'll get an early decision, but it's not binding
- You don't need to withdraw your other applications if you're accepted

## PROS

- Later deadlines mean you have longer to perfect your applications
- You aren't committed to any school, so it's perfect if you want to keep your options open

## CONS

- An acceptance is binding, and you must withdraw applications from other schools.
- Beware of senioritis: don't let your grades slip just because you got in early!

## CONS

- You still have to prepare your other applications, just in case—the Regular Decision deadline falls right after decisions are mailed out.

## CONS

- A large, general applicant pool means stiff competition
- You won't receive a decision until later, so you'll be on pins and needles for longer!

### DO THIS IF...

*You have one dream school*

### DO THIS IF...

*You love one particular school, but still want to keep your options open*

### DO THIS IF...

*You like a lot of schools, and want to weigh all of your options*