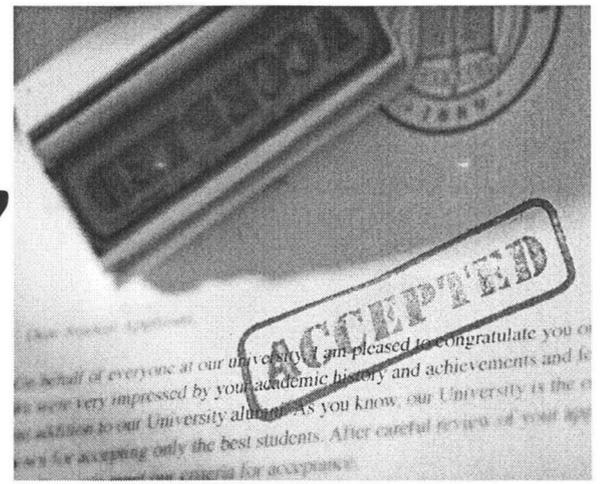


“Applying Early”

Definitions



Many students like the idea of applying to colleges early, having the process completed by winter break and relaxing during the second semester. Applying early might be a good idea for some students, but it is not the recommended route for most. Below is an explanation of some of the terms used to describe the various ways of applying early.

Early Decision

- ✓ You are certain that this is **THE** college for you
- ✓ Application deadlines is usually in October or November
- ✓ This is a **BINDING** commitment: If you are accepted, you will go here and withdraw your other college applications! You may only apply early decision to one school.

Early Action

- ✓ You apply early but decision is **NOT binding**: you are not required to attend this college
- ✓ Most application deadlines are in November/December and will usually receive a decision by winter break
- ✓ You will have until May 1st to decide if you want to attend that school
- ✓ Can still apply to other schools
- ✓ Decisions for admission made primarily on the basis of your performance through junior year
- ✓ Usually harder to get in through early action than regular admission process

Single Choice Early Action

- ✓ New form of early action adopted by Yale, Harvard and Stanford
- ✓ Non- binding early action program that allows you to apply to only ONE college early
- ✓ Deadlines usually in November with a decision by winter break
- ✓ You need to make your decision by May 1st
- ✓ You can still apply to other schools even if you are accepted by a college though single choice early action