



EARLY DECISION VERSUS EARLY ACTION

Some schools allow students to apply for admission prior to their standard application submission dates. If you have carefully researched your options, found a college that meets your needs and you meet or exceed the admissions requirements, you may want to consider applying early.

Before applying early, it's important to understand the differences between early decision and early action. Here are some general factors to consider, but make sure you check with each school to ensure you understand their specific requirements and timing.

Early Decision

It is a binding agreement

Typically receive a decision as early as December

Must accept the offer to attend upon receiving a decision

Accept the financial aid package, if offered

Upon receiving the offer to attend, you must withdraw other admission applications to other schools

Early Action

It is a nonbinding agreement, and you do not have to commit until the stated standard decision date

Typically receive a decision in January or February

Do not have to accept the offer to attend until **May 1**

Can evaluate financial aid packages from different schools

Do not have to withdraw admission applications to other schools

If you are considering applying early decision or early action, I encourage you to contact the college's admission office to understand the submission dates and requirements around applying early.

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