

# College Jargon

## **Early Decision:**

This choice is for the student who is positive that a particular school is his or hers number one choice. Early Decision applications are usually due by November 1<sup>st</sup> and must be turned into the Guidance Office by October 20, 2007. Early decision is binding. Once a student is accepted early decision, he/she must withdraw every other application he/she may have submitted to any other college. If a student is not accepted, he/she can be deferred to the regular decision pool and may then continue to apply to other colleges. A student may apply to only one school for Early Decision.

## **Early Action:**

A student who applies early action is not bound to accept the offer from that school if he/she is accepted. The student may continue to apply to other schools. The advantage to early action is that the student will know on or about December 15 whether or not he/she has been admitted. For some students this relieves the pressure and they have that safe school in place. Early action applications must also be in by October 20<sup>th</sup>. Unlike Early Decision, Early Action is not binding. As with all important matters, it is always prudent to call the college and be sure.

## **Regular Decision:**

Apply to any college by its deadline.

## **Rolling Admission:**

Rolling Admission schools usually continue to accept applications until the enrollment is full. Although the deadline can be flexible the thing to remember about this type of admission procedure is that you will receive a reply from the school or university within three to four weeks after your completed application is received.

## **Wait List/Alternate List:**

This is a response to an applicant indicating his/her application is acceptable, but the limit of accepted students has already been reached; waitlisted students may be admitted after May 1<sup>st</sup> if space becomes available.

## **Conditional Acceptance:**

Admission offered on the condition that the student successfully complete specified requirements such as attending summer school, taking remedial courses, or maintaining a certain GPA during the first semester of study.

## **Deferred Admission:**

This is a plan by which acceptance to a college or university is granted but student delays enrollment for a semester or year due to special circumstances.

## **Letters of Recommendation:**

Most colleges request a letter of recommendation. Some require more than one and may have their own form. You should keep track of these requests and try to use the same letters over for different schools. Therefore it is important that you ask two teachers for whom you have done well. Refer to "Guidelines for College Applications" to review the procedure for requesting and completing the **Request for Recommendation Form** that is also on the Guidance link under forms.