### Definitions of Admission Options in Higher Education

#### Students: Which College Admission Process Best Suits You?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-Restrictive Application Plans</th>
<th>Restrictive Application Plans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Regular Decision</strong></td>
<td><strong>Early Decision (ED)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rolling Admission</strong></td>
<td><strong>Restrictive Early Action (REA)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Early Action (EA)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Definitions:

- **Regular Decision**
  - **Definition:** Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.
  - **Commitment:** Non-Binding

- **Rolling Admission**
  - **Definition:** Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.
  - **Commitment:** Non-Binding

- **Early Action (EA)**
  - **Definition:** Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution’s regular response date.
  - **Commitment:** Non-Binding

- **Early Decision (ED)**
  - **Definition:** Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted they definitely will enroll. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.
  - **Commitment:** Binding

- **Restrictive Early Action (REA)**
  - **Definition:** Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.
  - **Commitment:** Non-Binding

---

Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment.

Students are responsible for determining and following restrictions.

---

**For a copy of this flyer, please visit www.nacacnet.org**