



# COLLEGE APPLICATION OPTIONS AND TIMELINES

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# APPLICATIONS



# WAYS TO APPLY

- **Common Application**
  - Opens August 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Accepted by over 900 schools
  - Fee waivers available
- **Coalition Application**
  - Opens August 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Required by 150 colleges
  - Fee waivers available
- **College-Specific Application**
  - Found on college website
  - May waive application fee





# PREPARE FOR COMMON APPLICATION

## What is needed to complete the application?

- High school transcript – official or unofficial for individual course and grade information
- Activities list – extra curricular, volunteer and work experience
- SAT and/or ACT (if available) – scores for each test, date(s) test was taken or will be taken
- Parent/step-parent/legal guardian information – including occupation, employment status, and education

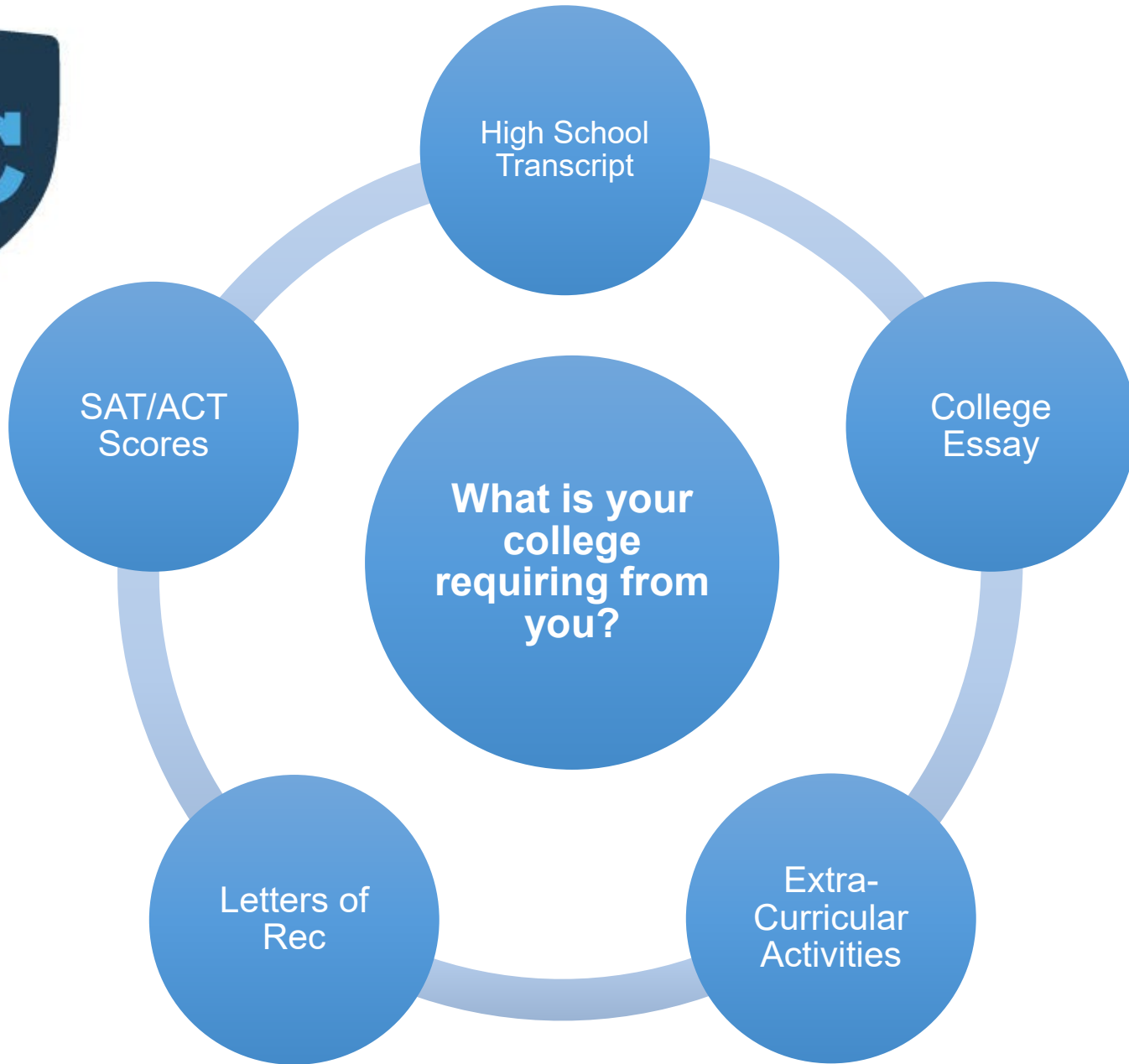


# 10 STEPS TO COMPLETE THE COMMON APPLICATION

1. Start early and take your time
2. Gather materials
3. Meet deadlines and be organized
4. Take control and use your voice
5. Do not abbreviate course titles when reporting senior grades; include 2<sup>nd</sup> semester courses
6. Activities section: list up to ten activities (clubs, sports, community, church, work, family)
7. Additional Information section: use to explain, not complain
8. Essay(s) and Letters of Recommendation
9. FERPA (Family Education Rights and Privacy Act)
10. How to make changes?



# ADDITIONAL APPLICATION ELEMENTS

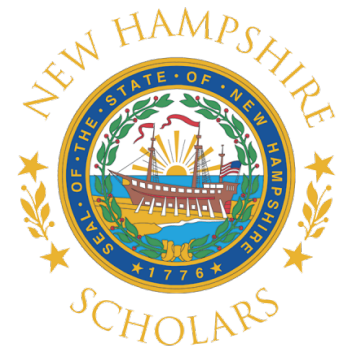




# GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

- **English:** 4 credits
- **Math:** 4 credits or 4 years (including Alg. I, Alg. II and Geometry)
- **Lab Science:** 3 credits (including Biology & Chemistry)
- **Social Science:** 3 ½ credits
- **Foreign Language:** 2 credits in the same language

Each college may have different requirements and require additional or fewer credits!







# ADMISSION TYPES



# APPLICATIONS

Admission Type	Details	Deadline	Commitment
Rolling Admission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- First come, first served</li><li>- Applications are reviewed as they are received, so applying later may mean you miss out (even if you are a qualified candidate)</li></ul>	Within specified time frame until a class is filled	Non-binding
Regular Admission	All applications are reviewed prior to a decision being made	November-January	Non-binding
Early Action (EA)	Receive a decision well in advance of the institutions regular response date	October-December	Non-binding
Early Decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Cannot apply to more than one school</li><li>ED</li><li>-If admitted, student agrees to enroll and withdraw all other applications</li></ul>	October-December	Binding



# EARLY ACTION VS EARLY DECISION

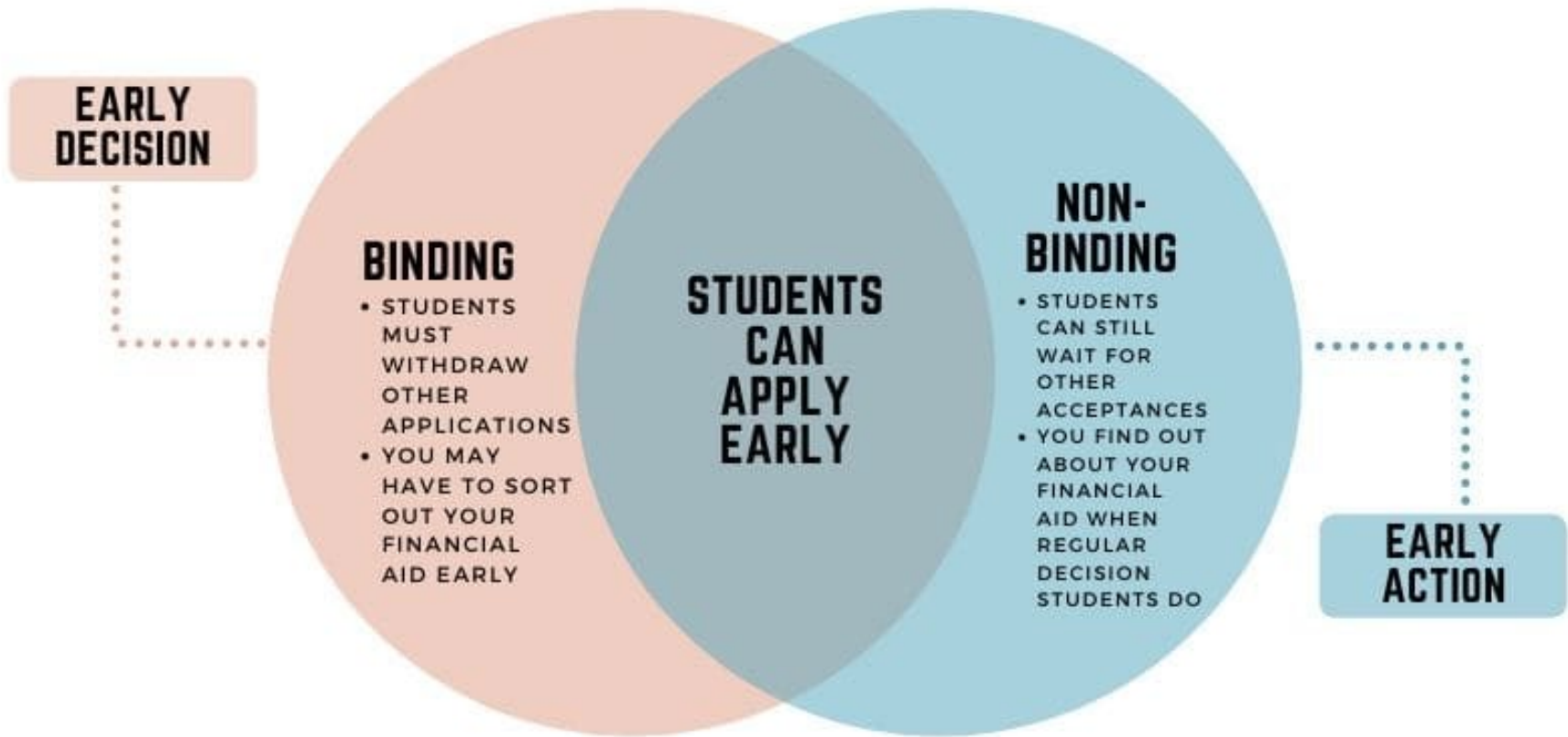


Image from College Raptor



# EARLY ACTION

## Pros

- Shows the school you're interested
- Non-binding, you'll have plenty of time to view other offers before making your final decision
- You can apply to more than one school Early Action

## Cons

- Must be ready to send applications in early November
- Strong senior grades/course rigor will not factor into admission decision



# EARLY DECISION

## Pros

- Could increase likelihood of acceptance
- Demonstrates to the school you're **EXTREMELY** interested in attending
- Final college decision will be made much earlier in the process

## Cons

- Binding contract between you and the school
- Application is due earlier in the process
- Your senior year grades will not factor into your review
- Unable to compare offers of financial aid



# REGULAR ADMISSION

## Pros

- Typically have later deadlines allowing you more time to complete applications and showcase senior grades
- Apply to multiple colleges without restriction
- All financial aid offers are available for comparison before decision

## Cons

- Not as much time to compare options and make your decision
- Can be tough to wait for decisions when classmates are hearing from their colleges



# TIMELINES



# JUNIOR YEAR

## Junior Year

- Take the PSAT (at start of year)
- Attend college fairs and/or career fairs
- Take another CCSNH course!
- Take appropriate, challenging senior year courses

## Spring

- Attend NHHEAF's Destination College ( You are doing this right now!!)
- Attend an Applying 101 presentation
- Meet with School Counselor to make a plan for the fall

## Summer

- Visit campuses
- Know who you will ask to write your letters of recommendation
- Start college essay and Common Application





# SENIOR YEAR

## Fall

- Register and take ACT or SAT (again, if needed)
- Start admission application (if applying ED or EA)
- Get organized - check all deadlines
- File FAFSA starting October 1 (*but before each school's deadline*)

## Winter

- Complete admission application
- Search and apply for outside scholarships

## Spring

- Receive and compare financial aid packages
- Consider funding options
- Decide and deposit to your school by May 1



# NATIONAL DECISION DAY

**May 1<sup>st</sup>**

- Enrollment deposits will be required at your college (these can range from \$250-\$1000)
- You can submit earlier than May 1, but it's not required!
- Check in with your college to see how to submit deposit





# QUESTIONS?





# THANK YOU!

**Center for College Planning**  
**603.227.5444**

**collegeplanning@nhheaf.org**

Schedule an appointment online:

**[Calendly.com/nhheaf\\_ccp](https://calendly.com/nhheaf_ccp)**



Book an appointment