

Seton Guidance Corner

October 20, 2022

ED vs EA vs RD

College-bound seniors will undoubtedly become familiar with the terms Early Decision (ED), Early Action (EA), and Regular Decision (RD). So what's the difference?

Early Decision is a binding contract between student and college, if a student is accepted Early Decision, they must enroll at that school and withdraw all other college applications. Therefore, applying to a school Early Decision is not a decision that should be taken lightly. However, applying Early Decision is the strongest possible way to demonstrate interest, and colleges like admitting students who are not only a good fit, but who are also committed to attending.

Early Action offers students the opportunity to both submit their application and receive their decision early; unlike Early Decision, however, Early Action is non-binding, which means students are not obliged to enroll if they are accepted. Admission rates for the Early Action round are usually higher than Regular Decision, but not higher than Early Decision. Early Action applicants enjoy an advantage in that they get to compete for more available spots.

Regular Decision, like Early Action, is a non-binding admission plan. Among ED, EA, and RD, Regular Decision usually has the lowest acceptance rates, because it usually has the highest volume of applications of any round, and, at the same time, the least number of spots available for students to be admitted. Despite the lower likelihood of admission via this plan, Regular Decision may strategically make sense for some students (i.e. for students who need to improve their GPA or test scores or who need more time for their college search as they narrow down their top choice(s)).

(Adapted from https://www.ivywise.com/ivywise-knowledgebase/resources/article/ed-vs-ea-vs-rd-which-college-application-round-is-right-for-you/?utm_source=marketing+email&utm_medium=october+newsletter)

Seniors, Don't Forget to Fill Out the FAFSA!

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the single most important thing students can do to get money to help pay for college. Colleges and universities use the FAFSA to determine eligibility for federal, state, and college-sponsored financial aid including grants, scholarships, educational loans, and work-study programs. Therefore, even though the FAFSA is technically the application for federal aid, students still have to fill it out to receive state and college-sponsored financial aid as well.

Also, don't forget, the federal government and many states award financial aid on a first-come, first-serve basis, so it is wise to submit the form sooner than later. Also, no matter what your financial situation, you are encouraged to complete the FAFSA. Access the application here: studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/afsa

Join experts during a virtual presentation for helpful tips and information in completing the FAFSA.

<https://sallieaebank.webex.com/sallieaebank/lsr.php?RCID=fe5e1c88ea06e8b5a479e5289a1fbe6e>

HOBY 2023 Leadership Program for Sophomores

Sophomores are invited to apply as Seton's ambassador at the 2023 Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) Leadership Program that will be held June 2-4, 2023, at James Madison University in Harrisonburg. The HOBY program was founded in 1958 and is designed to help high school sophomores recognize their leadership talents and apply them to become effective, ethical leaders in their home, school, workplace and community. Although there is a cost to attend (\$270), this is a great opportunity to develop or enhance leadership skills as well as strengthen your student resume which can be valuable when applying to colleges, military, and trade schools. To apply and be considered to attend as Seton's ambassador, please email Mrs. Guyant at cguyant@setonschool.net by November 10. For more information about the program, visit www.vahoby.org.

Cardinal Newman Society – Recommended Catholic Colleges

Over the next several weeks, the Seton Guidance Corner will highlight a recommended college by the Cardinal Newman Society. This week's feature is **Franciscan University**.

Year Founded: 1946

Number of Students: 2,334

Location: Steubenville, OH

Number of Majors: 70+

Established in 1946 just west of Pittsburgh, Franciscan University's ownership and Catholic identity rest with Franciscan friars, the Third Order Regular of St. Francis. Students experience a strong faith formation and education in a charismatic Catholic environment.

Franciscan offers a comprehensive, liberal arts core curriculum including three Catholic theology and three philosophy courses (five total for science majors). Students can choose from more than 70 majors across five schools of arts and sciences, including computer science, cybersecurity, engineering programs, education, nursing, and theology. An opportunity to spend a semester at Franciscan's Austria campus is also offered.

There are a wide variety of student-led clubs available at Franciscan University to include band, debate, Irish dance, juggling, equestrian, and rock climbing. In addition, there are 18 intramural sports and NCAA Division III teams.

The spiritual life on campus includes daily Mass and a weekly Extraordinary Form Mass. Perpetual Adoration is offered in the Portiuncula Chapel during the school year. Confession is available most days, community Rosary on weekdays, and special events including a monthly Festival of Praise.

(<https://franciscan.edu/> and <https://cardinalnewmansociety.org/college/>)

Scholarship Opportunities

Cooke College Scholarship Program

Amount: Up to \$55,000

Deadline: November 17, 2022

<https://www.jkcf.org/our-scholarships/college-scholarship-program/>

Technology Addiction Awareness Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000

Deadline: January 30, 2023

www.digitalresponsibility.org/technology-addiction-awareness-scholarship

**Please note, opportunities in the Guidance Corner are not endorsements of the programs. They are shared as options for students and parents to carefully consider.*