

Are You Actually Bound?

4 official conditions under which NACAC requires an Early Decision college to release you.



A federal antitrust suit — *D'Amico v. Consortium on Financing Higher Education*, filed August 2025 — is currently testing whether the financial-aid exception protects students in practice, against 32 colleges including Cornell, Duke, and Vanderbilt. No verdict yet.

Source: NACAC, Guide to Ethical Practice in College Admission, 2026 Edition; Cornell University; Boston University; Brown Daily Herald; Higher Ed Dive.