

Eleven Dates. One Order. One Finish Line.

From the day applications open to the day you put down a deposit, senior year runs on one fixed sequence — not a random checklist. Every date that actually moves your application, in order.

5/1

the National Candidates Reply Date

accept one offer, pay your deposit — the actual finish line of the whole cycle.

THE FULL SEQUENCE, IN ORDER

AUG 1	Common App opens for the new cycle
SEPT	National Merit Semifinalists announced
OCT	Last SAT/ACT date that reliably reports before EA/ED
OCT 1	FAFSA opens (federal date)
NOV 1/15	Most common Early Action & Early Decision I deadlines
MID-DEC	EA & ED I results released
JAN 1/15	Most common Regular Decision & ED II deadlines
JAN-FEB	Priority financial aid deadlines (CSS Profile)
MID-FEB	ED II results released
MARCH	Regular Decision results released for most schools
MAY 1	Deposit deadline — the cycle's real finish line

Sources: NACAC, Common App, NASFAA, CUNY. These are the most common dates — confirm each one against your specific schools.