

Dear Colleagues,

We've finalized our Regular Decision selection process and notified applicants of their decisions. Our hope is that the insights below will prove useful as you debrief outcomes, help seniors finalize college plans, guide juniors their college search, and support students seeking transfer admission.

First, some pool-wide context: This year, we reviewed **over 52,000 first-year applications** for a class of roughly **2,100 students**. As in recent years, we admitted about half our incoming class through our Early Decision round. (You can read more about our early pool [here](#).) In addition to growth in volume, recent years have brought considerable **growth in secondary schools represented** in our pool, which now number over 10,000. We expect our **overall admit rate will stay roughly 7%**.

Admitted students have until May 1 to accept their offer. Official steps toward enrolling in the Class of 2027 are outlined on our [Admitted Student Website](#) and will also be snail-mailed with an admit packet.

For applicants who were denied admission: All decisions are final, and we do not have an appeals process. While we encourage students to invest fully in their college choices and embrace whatever terrific options they surely have, you may share that our transfer cohort has grown over the past decade to roughly 225 students, and we welcome students to reapply in future years via that process.

For applicants offered a place on our waitlist: The deadline to accept our waitlist offer is May 1. Students who accept their waitlist spot before April 15 will be asked to reconfirm their interest in the waitlist on that date—we will reach out via email with reconfirmation steps. Our waitlist is unranked, and waitlisted students are welcome to write if they're still keen on Northwestern. Additional materials should be uploaded via the applicant portal or emailed to ug-admission@northwestern.edu. While we always hope we'll be able to make waitlist offers, we of course can't predict anything with certainty.

Please feel free to [contact your regional admissions director](#) with follow-up questions about Regular Decision Outcomes, or to confirm decisions.

I hope the above stats also come in handy as you guide juniors toward best-fit colleges in the coming months. To that end, the following may also interest younger students considering Northwestern:

We'll **remain test-optional** for the 2023–24 admissions cycle. For questions about our testing policies, please refer to our [online FAQs](#) and [contact your regional admissions director](#) for further information.

Our spring [campus-visit schedule](#) is posted through mid-June. For those unable to visit Evanston, we continue to offer a [range of digital programs](#), including school-specific sessions, student panels, and Purple Preview Conversations with current students.

Finally, our “soft” **Transfer application deadline was March 15**. Recognizing that transfer applicants come from a diverse array of life experiences that may not map neatly onto the traditional academic year, we will keep our transfer application open until April 10 for students whose circumstances prevent them from meeting the earlier deadline. Candidates who apply by March 15 are more likely to receive a decision from us earlier, but we fully consider all applicants, with a guaranteed decision by the end of May. Students with higher financial need can learn about our **application fee waivers** [here](#).

We're thrilled to welcome our newest Wildcats and thank you for sending them our way! We also recognize a majority of our decisions cause great disappointment, and we're ever appreciative for the work you do to champion, advise, and support students throughout this process.

Warmly,



Liz Kinsley, PhD
Associate Dean & Director, Undergraduate Admission