

To our counselor community—

We hope you're weathering this month with plenty of Valentine's Day chocolate on hand. To everyone toughing out this eventful winter, hang in there—the days are getting longer! (And our beach days are getting closer!

Reminder: Evanston is a [beach town](#). 😊)

I'm writing to share details about Regular Decision release, campus visits, testing policies, and transfer resources. Click [here](#) to skip to the highlights.

Regular Decision Candidates: Decision Release & Pool-wide Context

We'll release Regular Decision results on Wednesday, March 25th. Applicants will receive an email letting them know a decision is available in their applicant portal.

While we cannot share any decision-related information with counselors prior to March 25th, we'll provide pool-wide context to counselors at that time to help guide your conversations with students and families. On March 25th, we'll make this contextual information available via our [online counselor hub](#) and will email a link to all counselors listed on an RD School Report form. (Note: if your email is not listed on the school report form, you can still access the information online on our counselor hub.)

Counselors with a Slate.org account can view the status of their students' applications after a student has viewed their decision. You can create an account on Slate.org if you do not currently have one.

We cannot discuss individual decisions with counselors, but we welcome connections with high school and CBO counselors after decision release should you have follow-up questions. Please refer to our [regional teams webpage](#) for the appropriate direct contact on our Admissions team.

Campus Visit Updates

Our campus visit schedule is live through early June and includes exciting new offerings. In addition to a [general campus tour and admissions & aid overview](#), we now offer [three themed tours](#) designed to highlight Northwestern's interdisciplinary and applied-learning opportunities, and get folks inside more campus spaces:

- Engineering and Design
- Journalism, Arts, & Media
- Labs, Libraries, & Learning Beyond the Classroom

Visitors can also attend select in-person [academic overview sessions](#). Those who prefer to explore on their own can [register for a self-guided tour](#).

And because we know a trip to Evanston isn't feasible for all families, we offer a [range of digital programs](#) to give all prospective students meaningful ways to explore and connect with our community. Our [YouTube channel](#) is also packed with archived tours, panels, and more.

Testing Policies

Northwestern's test-optional policy will continue for undergraduate first-year and transfer applicants. Applicants may submit an SAT or ACT score if they wish, but these scores are not required.

For students who choose to submit an ACT, we do not require the optional science section.

Visit our [Standardized Testing FAQs](#) page for additional information about our testing policies.

Resources for Transfer Applicants

If you are supporting former students as they finalize transfer applications, here are a few resources:

- Information on our new [Early Decision Transfer round](#) (deadline March 2!)
- [Resources](#) for transfer applicants
- Northwestern [Admissions publications](#)

As always, we're grateful for everything you do and hope you'll never hesitate to reach out.

Warmly,

Liz Kinsley
Dean of Undergraduate Admission

Highlights:

- **Regular Decision release March 25**
 - Will post pool-wide context to [counselor hub](#)
 - Counselors can view decisions on [Slate.org](#)
- **[Campus visit options](#) (NEW: themed tours!)**
- **[Digital programming](#) (NEW-ish: [alumni convos](#))**
- **[Testing policies](#) for first-years and transfers**
- **Transfer [deadlines](#) (NEW: Early Decision option)**