



## ***Admissions Decisions Are Coming!***

By spring break, many of our seniors will have received at least one admissions decision from a university that they have applied to, but the vast majority of colleges have until April 1st to release their decisions for Regular Decision applications. Current SJNA seniors can expect a variety of decisions - accepted (yay!), conditional acceptance, deferred, waitlisted, and denied. In this *College and Career Corner*, we'll discuss what each of those admissions decisions means and what options students have, and what steps they can take.



**Accepted** - the decision that all seniors hope to see! If you receive an acceptance letter, CONGRATULATIONS! You have been offered the opportunity to enroll at that university. For most universities, **you will have until May 1st (National College Decision Day) to enroll**. You may enroll sooner, and some of our seniors have already! Students should wait until they hear back from all of their colleges (with the exception of rolling schools that may not respond until after May 1st) before making an enrollment decision. When enrolling, students provide a non-refundable deposit to secure their position at the university and take the first step towards becoming college students.

**Conditional Acceptance** - this decision means that you have met all admission requirements and you are tentatively accepted (yay!), pending that you meet certain terms that are needed before your acceptance can be finalized. For example, many conditional acceptances are due to low GPAs or low grades from previous years and universities want to ensure that you are ready to take on the rigor and challenges of



university classes. Colleges may need to see your final senior-year grades before making their decision to verify that you have improved academically. A conditional acceptance may also mean that documentation or supporting documents are missing. Either way, make sure you read your conditional acceptance letter and conditions carefully to know what steps you need to take.

**Deferred** - this decision can be similar to a conditional acceptance but does not mean that you have met all admission requirements or are guaranteed admission. In most cases, universities have reviewed your application and require more information in order to make a final decision. Oftentimes, this is reviewing your senior-year grades, requesting new test scores, or conducting an interview. You may also be deferred for a specific semester and offered later admission - for example, you had applied for Fall 2022 but you were deferred and admitted for Spring 2023.

**Waitlisted** - this decision is oftentimes confused with a deferral, but there are significant differences. A waitlist means that your application was placed “on hold” and the admissions committee may or may not admit students from a waitlist. Unlike a deferral, new information does not usually change your waitlist decision. If you are on a waitlist, you can usually find out if the school has accepted students from their waitlists in the past and what your chances of acceptance would be. However, because this offers no guarantee of admission, you should not wait and hope to be admitted - consider enrolling at one of your other universities or backup colleges that you have a solid acceptance to.

**Denied** - unfortunately, rejections are a very real part of the college application process. College admissions are competitive, even when acceptance rates are higher. A school with a 75% acceptance rate, for example, still will reject a quarter (or more) of applicants. However, you can reapply to the school for the following semester or year. When deciding for your first semester, however, put your rejection letters aside and only consider your acceptances.

No matter if you get all acceptances or a mix of admissions decisions, it is important to sit down and consider all of your options and what the best choice is for you and your future. If you have any questions or would like help deciphering your admissions decisions or trying to see what the best option might be for you, please visit the College and Career Counselor, Ms. Catherine Lewis, in room 116 or reach out via email at [clewis@sjnacademies.org](mailto:clewis@sjnacademies.org) or call 262-646-7283.