

Early Decision Contract

Juris Doctor Program

Application for Admission – Fall 2027

EARLY DECISION CONTRACTS MUST BE
SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH
LSAC (WWW.LSAC.ORG)

Early Decision candidates commit themselves to matriculate at Columbia if admitted on this special basis. **An applicant may not be an Early Decision candidate at more than one law school during the same annual admissions cycle.**

Early Decision candidates to Columbia most certainly may apply to other law schools while applying to Columbia on an Early Decision basis. However, they must do so fully realizing that (1) they are required to withdraw immediately all other law school applications when notified of their acceptance to Columbia as an Early Decision candidate; (2) they are required to decline any acceptances they may have received prior to admission to Columbia under the Early Decision Plan; and (3) they may not initiate any new applications after learning of their acceptance to Columbia under the Early Decision Plan. Failure by admitted Early Decision applicants to honor their aforementioned commitments will result in Columbia revoking its offer of admission. Applicants for whom financial aid will be an influential factor in their eventual enrollment decision should consider very carefully whether they want to apply to our binding Early Decision Plan, because they will be unable to compare offers from various law schools.

Early Decision candidates are evaluated for admission according to the same selection criteria that apply to regular candidates. While their particular enthusiasm for Columbia, manifest in their designation of Columbia as their law school of choice, is considered by our Admissions Committee, Early Decision candidates do not enjoy significant advantage in the keenly competitive selection process that annually yields Columbia's entering class of nearly 400 students from an applicant population of over 8,000 candidates.

Some Early Decision applicants not offered admission will be reviewed again in April as part of the Regular Applicant pool; others will be informed that their application for admission has been denied and will not be evaluated again that year.

Unsuccessful Early Decision applicants, of course, may continue being considered for admission to law schools where they had previously applied and may initiate applications to additional law schools thereafter, if they wish.

Instructions

If you have chosen to apply as an Early Decision candidate, please complete this form and submit it to LSAC with all other required application materials no later than November 15, 2026. You will be notified of Columbia's decision by late December.

To the Applicant

I have read the above contract and understand the stated policies and practices that govern the Early Decision Plan of admission at Columbia Law School. Columbia is my first choice, and I wish to be considered as an Early Decision candidate. If accepted under this Plan, I will matriculate at Columbia Law School. I agree to withdraw immediately all my applications to other law schools, to decline any acceptances I may have received prior to admission to Columbia under the Early Decision Plan, and to initiate no new ones if and when accepted to Columbia as an Early Decision candidate. I also understand that I am not permitted to enter into an Early Decision agreement with any other law school.

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LSAC ACCOUNT NUMBER

SIGNATURE

DATE