

# APPLICATION PLANS, EARLY DECISION AGREEMENT

The table on the inside front cover of this application packet lists Macalester's application deadlines. All materials should be **postmarked** by the deadline indicated. However, students living outside of the U.S. are strongly encouraged to begin the process well in advance due to the difficulties encountered with international postal systems.

## Regular Decision Plan

Most **FIRST-YEAR** students apply to Macalester under the Regular Decision Plan. All required credentials must be sent to the Office of Admissions, postmarked no later than January 15. If the application is completed on time, notification of the admission decision will be mailed by March 31. The candidate will have until the Candidate's Reply Date, May 1, to make a final commitment and submit the required enrollment deposit. All applicants should review the First-Year Application Checklist for further details.

## Early Decision Plan

The Early Decision Plan is an option for **FIRST-YEAR** applicants who know that Macalester College is their first choice. If you have clearly identified Macalester as your top choice, we encourage you to apply under one of these options: Early Decision I (deadline November 15) or Early Decision II (deadline January 2). Early Decision is intended to provide you with an early notification. Each year, approximately 20% of our entering class is admitted through the Early Decision program.

This is considered a "binding" program. As an Early Decision applicant, you certify that Macalester is your first-choice college and that, if admitted, you will enroll at Macalester and withdraw all other college applications. Because you cannot have more than one "first choice," **it is a violation of the Early Decision agreement to apply to more than one college under Early Decision plans.** You may, however, initiate **Regular** (not Early Decision) applications at other colleges with the understanding that these will be withdrawn if you are offered admission by Macalester.

If you are applying for financial aid and have submitted all required forms **on time**, we will notify you about financial aid prior to requiring a final commitment from you.

Applicants who are not accepted through Early Decision will either be deferred to Regular Decision or denied admission. The files of deferred candidates are reconsidered with the rest of the Regular Decision applications; these candidates are released from the binding Early Decision agreement and should continue to complete other college applications. Students who are denied admission through Early Decision will not receive further consideration for admission this year.

Please read the Early Decision Agreement (below) carefully. This agreement must be signed by the applicant, a parent or guardian, and a school counselor. All three signatures are required, and your application will not be reviewed until this form is received. It is the responsibility of the candidate to understand and comply with the rules of Early Decision. **If an Early Decision candidate violates the provisions of the program, Macalester College reserves the right to reconsider and withdraw its offer of admission.**

As with all offers of admission, an Early Decision offer is contingent upon the successful completion of secondary school coursework in good academic standing and at a level commensurate with that upon which the offer was based.

*cut along dotted line*

## Early Decision Agreement

I am an Early Decision candidate for admission to Macalester College and agree to abide by the above rules. This is my only Early Decision application. I understand that in selecting Early Decision, I agree to withdraw applications at other institutions if I am offered admission to Macalester. I also understand that if I am applying for financial aid and have completed the early aid application process on time, I may wait for the Macalester financial aid information before making final confirmation of enrollment. **Note: All three signatures below are mandatory.**

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_ *print or type*

Student's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's or guardian's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

High school counselor's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_