

ATOMIC MIND

2025-2026

COLLEGE APPLICATION TIMELINE

The Starting Line

APRIL

April 20-30

Have you received your parent/counselor/recommender "brag sheets"? Be sure to start working on them!

Ready, Set, Go!

MAY

May 1-31

Finalize all recommendations, begin working on college list (review Naviance, scattergrams, etc.).

Build Your List

JUNE

June 1-8

Begin/continue building your college list (REA/ED/EA/RD/ED2).

June 9-30

Begin brainstorming for and drafting your personal statements. Make sure all recommender brag sheets are complete and handed in before school ends.

Drafts Due

JULY

July 1-19

Create your UC account. First drafts of CAPS & UC PIQ essays are due to Head Advisors. First draft of activities lists for UC & Common App schools are also due.

July 20-31

Intermediate drafts of CAPS, PIQs, and activities lists due for initial review by Head Advisors.

Final CAPS Due

AUGUST

August 1

Create your Common App account and start filling in the info on the Common App tab.

August 10

Submission-ready CAPS, PIQs and activities lists due for Head Advisors' final review.

August 11-31

Begin drafting supplemental essays for REA/ED/EA schools.

Finish Your Essays

SEPTEMBER

September 1-25

Finalize REA/ED/EA school list. Finish all Common App sections (including parent and personal information sections).

September 25-30

Submission-ready supplemental essays due for final review.

Review & Submit

OCTOBER

October 1-15

Final review of all REA/ED/EA applications.

October 16-24

Finalize UC applications.

October 25

Submit all ED/EA/REA applications.

Work on RD Apps

NOVEMBER

November 1

Submit UC application.

November 2-30

Begin work on supplemental essays for RD/ED2 schools; if applying to USC, complete theirs first to be ready for the priority deadline in mid-December. Finalize ED2/RD school list.

The Finish Line

DECEMBER

December 1-5

Submission-ready RD & ED2 supplemental essays are due for final review.

December 5-20

REA/ED and some EA and some decisions are announced.

December 10-19

Review of all RD/ED2 applications to ensure they are submission ready.

December 19 will be our last day in the office for 2025.