

Board of Regents Policies

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72-5 NONRESIDENT UNDERGRADUATE QUOTAS

History: Res. 164 adopted 5/5/72. See Resolution 5608 adopted 10/5/90, Exhibit A, for further nonresident student definition.

All prior actions of the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents and the Board of Regents of the Wisconsin State University System relating to non-resident undergraduate admissions quotas are hereby rescinded and the following non-resident undergraduate admissions policy is hereby adopted:

1. A common non-resident undergraduate admissions quota of 25% for each campus of the University of Wisconsin System is adopted, beginning 1972-73; and to protect against any possible overbuilding of facilities, the long-range enrollment projections adopted by the Board on April 7, 1972 shall not be adjusted upwards in the future on the basis of new projections of increases in non-resident undergraduate students.
2. Consistent academic standards shall be applied in passing upon admissions applications of both resident and non-resident undergraduates.

72-11 FRESHMAN ADMISSIONS POLICY

History: Res. 239 adopted 7/14/72; amended by 87-7 and Res. 6152, 7/92; supplemented by Res. 6441, 6/93; amended by Res. 7317, 10/96. (See also 87-8.); amended by Res. 7584, 12/5/97; amended by Res. 8267, 12/8/00; reaffirmed by Res. 8318, 3/9/01

Wisconsin has long held a strong commitment to maximize educational opportunity for her citizens. In recognizing the necessity of making educational opportunity equally accessible to all its citizens through the University of Wisconsin System, it is important that the diverse needs of the state's population be accommodated through a flexible admissions policy. The state must meet the dual goals of fulfilling the special missions of each campus and providing accommodation for students at some institutions within the University System's range of programs. The following parameters provide a framework for a System wide admissions policy, from which more specific requirements may be implemented by the various institutions of the university system.

Freshman applicants must satisfy the following minimum requirements to be considered for admission:

- I. Graduation from a recognized high school or equivalent.
 - A. A recognized high school is one which either, (1) is accredited by a regional accrediting association or state university or, (2) is recognized or accredited by a state department of public instruction or its equivalent.
 - B. An applicant who has not graduated from a recognized high school must provide evidence of satisfactory completion of the requirements for a high school equivalency certificate or a diploma from a recognized high school, school system or state department of public instruction based on the GED examination, the Wisconsin High School Equivalency Examination or other established criteria.
- II. Distribution Requirements
 - A. Effective fall 1991, a minimum of 16 high school credits is required. Eleven of the 16 units will be the DPI requirements (P.I. 18.03):

English	4 credits
Social Science	3 credits
Mathematics	2 credits
Natural Science	2 credits

The remaining 5 units will be:

From the above areas or foreign language	3 credits
From the above and/or fine arts, computer science and other academic areas	<u>2 credits</u>
TOTAL	16 credits

Each institution may specify additional unit requirements for the remaining 5 units and may specify required content for all 16 units.

- B. Effective fall 1995, for students graduating from high school in spring 1995 and thereafter, a minimum of 17 high school credits is required. Thirteen of the 17 credits will be distributed as follows:

English	4 credits
Social Science	3 credits
Mathematics	3 credits
Natural Science	3 credits

The remaining 4 units will be:

From the above areas, foreign language, fine arts, computer science and other academic areas	<u>4 credits</u>
TOTAL	17 credits

Each institution may specify additional unit requirements for the remaining 4 units and may specify required content for all 17 units.

- C. In recognition of curricular initiatives occurring in many high schools that depart from a traditional Carnegie unit structure, the UW System has initiated an alternative admission process referred to as Competency-Based Admission. Effective fall 1998, high school officials may elect to prepare a UW System Competency-Based Admission profile in addition to, or in lieu of, the traditional high school transcript for those students whose high school curriculum is not well described by the traditional Carnegie unit structure. The combination of the student's credentials must indicate evidence of preparation in English, social science, mathematics and natural science at a level comparable to that assumed by the traditional distribution requirements. The admission requirements at each institution for students who apply using Competency-Based Admission will be equivalent to the admission requirements for students who apply under the Carnegie unit system.
- III. Evidence that the applicant is prepared to do satisfactory work at the campus to which he or she is applying.
- A. Normally this evidence will consist of the student's rank in class. Any Institution, based on its mission and supportive services, may set specific requirements on rank in class.
- B. Any institution may require test scores of all or some of the applicants as additional evidence but they may not deny admission to any student based on test scores alone.
- C. Students lacking rank-in-class or test score qualifications may be considered if, on the basis of other factors, they appear to have a reasonable probability of success. Particular consideration in admission will be given to applicants who have been out of school for two or more years, service veterans, as defined by state and federal policies, and to students who have been disadvantaged as a result of substandard education, family income level, or ethnic background.
- IV. Requirements for out-of-state students will be the same as those for resident students except that an institution may adopt special requirements for foreign applicants. If the number of qualified out-of-state students exceeds the ability of the institution to accommodate them, the institution shall determine the criteria for selection from among qualified applicants.
- V. Applicants who do not qualify according to the above requirements may appeal for special consideration through the appropriate Director of Admissions. Any institution may conditionally or fully admit applicants who lack the stated requirements but are deemed to merit special consideration.

86-5 USE OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE TEST (SG 24)

History: Res. 3688 adopted 12/5/86, revised by Res. 7875, 3/5/99.

That, upon recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents revise Regent Policy 86-5, Use of Standardized Tests for Admission, to state the following:

The UW System admissions policy shall provide that either the American College Test (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) is to be required of all freshmen entering a campus of the University of Wisconsin System effective in fall, 2000.

It is the intent of the Regents that:

1. The ACT is the preferred test for admission.
2. Institutions themselves will determine how the ACT or SAT is to be used.
3. In no situation can the ACT or SAT be the sole criterion for admission.

Any institution may waive the admission test requirement for freshmen applicants who require special and unique exemption.

87-8 TRADITIONAL AND NONTRADITIONAL FRESHMAN ADMISSIONS POLICY

History: Res. 3810 adopted 6/5/87, amended by Res. 7584, 12/5/97. (See also 72-11.)

Whereas, the purpose of enrollment management is to preserve and enhance educational quality throughout the University of Wisconsin System, and whereas, to assure quality, it is important to use the limited resources in the most effective manner, and whereas institutions, schools, and programs should not admit more students than can be served in an orderly fashion, the Board establishes two categories of freshman admissions: (1) Traditional and (2) Nontraditional. All students admitted in the fall, 1988 will be admitted on the basis of the criteria established within these categories.

1. Traditional Admissions includes:
 - (a) Standard Admissions: Those students (a) who are from a recognized Wisconsin high school, meet the high school academic unit distribution requirements, and effective fall, 1989 have taken the ACT and meet the predetermined high school rank for the institution, (b) who did not meet the predetermined high school rank but meet a predetermined ACT/SAT or combined ACT/high school rank score, or (c) for whom high school rank is not available or who did not meet the standard criteria but who meet other quantifiable criteria such as standardized or institutional achievement test scores, alternate high school units, specified courses, g.p.a., or have demonstrated exceptional talents in particular areas, or (d) effective fall 1998, who are from a recognized high school and meet predetermined admission criteria based on UW System Competency-Based profile.
 - (b) Discretionary Admissions: Those students in the traditional admissions category who meet the predetermined admissions criteria but who have less probability of success. The student's chance of success will be based on a comparison with the past degree recipients admitted on the same criteria. Should there be a need to limit admissions, students in the discretionary admission category would be admitted on a limited basis to achieve the enrollment management goal.
2. Nontraditional Admissions:
 - (a) Older Nontraditional Admissions Over Age 20: Students who do not meet the above criteria but are members of specific groups; for example, students in programs because of physical status or learning disability, minority status or because of substandard income level; veterans; incarcerated; or foreign students. Students who are over the age of 20 will be evaluated on criteria appropriate to their special circumstances.
 - (b) Nontraditional Admissions Under Age 20 (Exceptions): Students who do not meet the above criteria but are members of specific groups; for example, students in programs because of physical status or learning disability, minority status or because of substandard income level; veterans; incarcerated; or foreign students. These students may be admitted but considered exceptions.

Further, the Board of Regents requires institutions to evaluate the retention and graduation success of students admitted under its various admissions criteria to establish baselines for determining the probability of student success. These evaluations shall be shared with the Board of Regents annually, with the initial report due in December 1987.

97-4 COMPETENCY BASED ADMISSIONS

History: Res. 7575 adopted 11/7/97

That, upon recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approve implementation of the Competency-Based Admissions process on a statewide basis, to be used as a supplement to the traditional admission process.