

CONDITIONAL ADMISSION FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES (REVISED)

I. General Information and Definitions

Act 1290 of 1997(A.C.A. §6-60-208), as amended by Act 520 of 1999, requires students graduating from high school in 2002 and after to have completed the core curriculum for unconditional admission to public colleges and universities. The following definitions and regulations apply to the implementation of this act. Nothing in the act or these procedures prevents an institution from setting higher admission standards for first-time full- and part-time enrolling students.

All students graduating after May 1, 2002, from Arkansas public high schools, out-of-state high schools, home schooling, private high schools and GED recipients shall be evaluated for the purpose of being granted conditional or unconditional admission status.

A student admitted conditionally is a student admitted to an institution with certain requirements, conditions, or restrictions placed on initial and/or future enrollment status.

A student admitted unconditionally is a student admitted to the institution without requirements, conditions, or restrictions placed on initial enrollment status.

For students seeking unconditional admission to a public four-year college or university, a student must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale. There is no grade point average requirement for unconditional admission to public two-year colleges.

In computing an enrolling student's high school grade point average, the grade point average as computed by the high school (converted to a four-point scale) shall be used. A *course unit* is defined as the credit received for completion of one (1) year of a course in high school or as the credit received for completion of one three-credit hour semester college course (science courses must include a laboratory). *Course unit* credit cannot be awarded for any remedial/developmental course. For high school students receiving concurrent credit, the college course used to meet the core curriculum requirement must be in the same discipline as the high school course and only college algebra or a higher-level college mathematics course will meet the requirement for unconditional admission.

Students enrolling in Certificate of Proficiency programs or noncredit courses are exempt from these requirements.

Students who are not seeking a degree or other award above the Certificate of Proficiency and are enrolled part-time are exempt from these requirements.

These requirements apply to all other award-seeking students and to students who must follow course placement guidelines as required by Act 1290 of 1997.

II. Procedures

Each institution shall develop a plan for the implementation of this act using the following guidelines. Each plan must be approved by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Implementation of the approved plan is a condition for receiving state funds.

1. Each institution will designate an office of responsibility for implementation and define the method of informing incoming students of their admission status.
2. Core academic courses, as required in Section 1 (c)(1)(A) and (B) of Act 1290 (see below) will be designated by each institution. Such courses will be regular, non-remedial credit courses as listed in the college catalog. These courses will be listed in the institution's implementation plan. The implementation plan will also include a listing of appropriate technical courses as required in Section 1 (c) (1)(B).

Section 1 (c)

"(1) At a minimum, these conditional admissions standards shall require the following:

- (A) For a student seeking an associate of arts degree or a baccalaureate degree and who failed to successfully complete the core curriculum, completion of twelve, (12) hours of core academic courses and any necessary remedial courses with a cumulative grade point average of 2.0.
 - (B) For a student seeking a diploma, technical certificate or an associate of applied science degree and who failed to successfully complete the core curriculum, completion of six (6) hours of core academics courses and six (1) hours of technical courses required for the diploma, technical certificate or an associate of applied science degree and any necessary remedial courses with a cumulative grade point average of 2.0." (Act 1290 of 1997)
3. Students must successfully complete (defined as a 2.0 GPA) the required hours of core academic subjects and technical courses (as defined in number 2 above) and any remedial courses within the first 30 semester hours, excluding developmental courses. The institution must develop, define, and implement enrollment consequences (i.e., suspension, expulsion, limited course enrollment, etc.) for students who do not successfully complete (2.0 GPA) the required core academic subjects, technical, or remedial courses within the first 30 semester hours, excluding developmental courses.

The institution's regular definition of cumulative grade point average will be used in defining the attainment of a 2.0 grade point average.

4. Transcripts of out-of-state high school students will be evaluated for meeting the core curriculum. Students not meeting either the core curriculum requirement and relevant grade point average requirement will be admitted conditionally.
5. Students who receive a GED or are graduates of home schooling or private high schools after May 1, 2002, must make a composite score of 19 on the American College Test (ACT) or the equivalent score on the SAT, ASSET, or COMPASS in order to be unconditionally admitted. As with all other students, these students must meet the admission requirements of the college or university where they seek to enroll.

Each college and university will submit a plan for the implementation of the guidelines. Plans must be submitted by October 1, 1998.

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