

Connecticut State University System

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BR# 10-54

RESOLUTION concerning ADMISSIONS POLICY FOR FIRST TIME FIRST YEAR STUDENTS in the

CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM September 23, 2010

- WHEREAS, The Connecticut State University System is committed to ensure the academic success of students and to make efficient and effective use of state resources in benefit of its citizenry, and
- WHEREAS, Such commitment requires clear statements about the expectations for the preparation of students in high school so that they are successful at doing college-level work, and
- WHEREAS, The Connecticut State University System is vigorously participating in ongoing efforts at the state, regional and local levels that align high school learning with the expectations for student success at the universities, and
- WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees reaffirms the need to reduce remedial and developmental course work by students entering the CSUS universities, an effort initiated through board resolution #03-42, "A resolution concerning proficiency courses in the Connecticut State University System", and
- WHEREAS, Board resolution #09-64, modifying board resolution #09-17, provides *guidelines* for minimum preparation for first-time, first-year students seeking admission in a CSUS university, and
- WHEREAS, Through Public Act 10-111, the State of Connecticut adopted new course requirements for satisfactory completion of a high school degree commencing with classes graduating in 2018, therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That board resolutions #09-17 and #09-64 be rescinded, and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System adopts the addendum to this resolution, "Admissions Policy for First-Time First-Year Students", incorporating minimum *requirements* for high school preparation by July 1, 2015, and be it further

- RESOLVED, That efforts to align high school curriculum with university expectations be redoubled and coordinated with the Connecticut State Department of Education, including the development of end of year examinations, and be it further,
- RESOLVED, That special learning opportunities programs, particularly those run during the Summer prior to university admission, be excluded from the requirement at the discretion of the Chancellor.

A Certified True Copy:

Karl J. Krapek, Chairman

ADMISSIONS POLICY FOR FIRST-TIME FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

The Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System directs that the following minimum policy be observed at the universities that comprise the CSU System with respect to undergraduate admissions.

Under the direction of the University President and consistent with the policies of the Board of Trustees, the final decision to admit or reject shall be that of the Admissions Director and his/her designee among the professional admissions staff. Only those applicants for admissions deemed to be capable of completing a degree objective according to the standards of graduation determined by the University faculty shall be admitted.

- A. Persistent and active efforts shall be made to recruit and admit a student body that possesses a diversity of talents and cultural backgrounds.
- B. A policy of non-discrimination and equal opportunity for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, national and ethnic origin or disability shall be observed in admissions decisions.
- C. Admission may be offered to qualified graduates of accredited secondary schools, transfer students, home-schooled students, and holders of a General Equivalency Diploma.
- D. For graduates of Connecticut public high schools seeking first-time first-year admission shortly after graduation, the normal admission requirements shall be those outlined below. By July 1, 2015 or thereafter (at Board's discretion), the entering class will be *required* to complete the following high school curriculum, earning a "C" or better in each course:

SUBJECT	REQUIREMENT
ENGLISH	4 years, including composition
MATHEMATICS	4 years, including as required courses Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, a
	fourth year in an algebra-intensive course, such as trigonometry or
	statistics and probability.
SCIENCE	3 years, including at least one year in a life science and one year in a
	physical science, with two laboratory courses recommended
STEM	1 year elective course in one of the science, technology, engineering and
	mathematics subjects
SOCIAL STUDIES	3 years, with at least one year in US History and the equivalent of one-half
	year in civics and American Government required
WORLD	2 years, 3 years recommended (this requirement could be substituted for
LANGUAGE	competency in a second language at the second-course level)
FINE ARTS	1 year
HUMANITIES	1 year in an elective subject
CAREER/LIFE	Strongly encouraged: 1 year in physical education, the equivalent of half
SKILLS	a year in health and safety education, and two years elective courses in
	life skills, such as career/technical, English as a Second Language,
	community service, personal finance, and nutrition and physical activity

Note: Special learning opportunities programs, particularly those run during the Summer prior to university admission, are excluded from the requirement at the discretion of the Chancellor

- E. Requirements in this resolution shall not preclude appropriate admission consideration to graduates of out of state public high school, graduates of non-public high schools, and students who have followed innovative programs or non-traditional curricula. Such consideration should be made on the basis of evidence of qualification for collegiate-level studies.
- F. An official secondary school transcript and an estimate of the applicant's rank in his/her graduating class must be submitted. A recommendation for University admission by principal, headmaster, or guidance counselor must be submitted whenever practicable.
- G. Applicants for first-time first-year admission who are high school students or recent high school graduates shall be required to present results of the Scholastic— Assessment Test (SAT) of the College Board (or of equivalent tests).
- H. As made effective with the March 2005 inauguration of the new SAT, all first-time first-year applicants will be required to submit a standardized writing sample with their admissions tests either the compulsory writing sample incorporated in the new SAT or the optional writing sample offered by the American College Testing (ACT) program.
- I. Factors which may be considered by the Director of Admissions in addition to the high school record and SAT scores include the academic competitiveness of the applicant's secondary school, motivation and maturity, extra-curricular achievements, evidence of leadership potential, special talents, and social and cultural factors.
- J. In the case of applicants for first-time first-year admission who completed secondary school several years previously, the Director of Admission may consider military experience, employment, or other evidence of responsibilities successfully fulfilled.
- K. Applicants for transfer admission must submit an official transcript from all other post-secondary institutions attended. Failure to disclose all institutions attended or to provide transcripts may be considered sufficient reason for refusal of admission or for dismissal after admission. The Director of Admissions may also require a transfer applicant to submit official transcripts of secondary school work and/or SAT scores.
- L. The Director of Admissions may request an interview with an applicant as part of the admissions decision process.
- M. The admissions process of the Connecticut State University System shall be characterized by consideration of each applicant as an individual human being with strengths and weaknesses that do not necessarily fit into a uniform mold. The admissions process shall not be reduced to a mechanistic application of rigid and impersonal cut-off points in official records.

09/15/2010 Academic Affairs Committee 09/23/2010 Board of Trustee