

Request to Extend Suspension of WSUCA 2.34.09.020
Admissions Test Requirements

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors extend the suspension of 2.34.09.020, the standardized test score requirement for admission to the University, previously extended on June 19, 2020, through the Fall 2022 admission cycle.

Background

On June 19, 2020, the Board of Governors approved an extension of the suspension of WSUCA 2.34.09.020 through the Fall 2021 admission cycle. The rationale for the suspension of those requirements that was discussed with the Board of Governors at that time remains in place today.

The application cycle for the cohort of students applying for admission for Fall 2022 begins on August 1, 2021 and ends on August 1, 2022. Although the SAT and ACT were able to administer college entrance exams beginning in the Fall of 2020 to nearly 60% of the 99,000 Michigan high school graduates, the nearly 40% of students who were not able to test are disproportionately low-income, first-generation, and students of color. Further, most college entrance tests are administered in Michigan public high schools, many of which are closed, and tests are being canceled with short notice to students and families, with few or no options to reschedule the test date. The state administered SAT was scheduled for April 13, 2021. However, the April 13, 2021 test administration was canceled in many districts. Many school districts in Michigan were unable to administer the test due to the recent spike in COVID cases and the Governor's request to suspend in-person K-12 instruction for two weeks. Thus, the same barriers and challenges that existed at the beginning of the pandemic are continuing for high school students related to access to test preparation and administration of the SAT or ACT. The Office of Undergraduate Admissions will continue to utilize the holistic admission decision process instituted last year to review applications for admission, and to ensure student success.