First-Time Freshmen Admissions

Policy Statement

Based on statewide regulations, the University establishes qualifications for admission to the institution. The conditions and criteria for admission may vary depending on undergraduate or graduate status, but all applicants must provide an application and evidence of appropriate scholastic achievement through prior educational experience. Additionally, certain degree programs have special admission requirements. Admission to the University does not imply admission to a degree program.

This policy outlines conditions and criteria for admission to EKU as a first-time freshman.

Entities Affected by the Policy

- Persons matriculating to EKU as freshmen
- Office of Enrollment Management
- Office of Admissions

Policy Background

In 2007, 13 KAR 2:020 (Guidelines for Admission to the State-Supported Postsecondary Education Institutions in Kentucky) defined new system-wide assessment and placement standards. EKU redefined its own admission criteria for Fall 2009 admissions and after in order to comply with the revised state-wide standards.

Criteria

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRST-TIME FRESHMEN

Students will be admitted into one of three categories: full admission, directed admission, and success first admission.

FULL ADMISSION

Students who meet the following criteria will be granted full admission to the University:

Have graduated from an accredited high school earning a minimum cumulative high school grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.¹

OR

Have submitted a minimum ACT composite score of 20 or SAT combined verbal/critical reading score of 950 or higher.²

AND
Meet the Kentucky Pre-College Curriculum

AND

Have submitted an official six-semester high school transcript, or a General Equivalency Diploma (GED), or documentation indicating completion of an EKU approved home school or distance learning high school program.¹

¹All students must submit official test scores at the time of application.
²Adult Learners (21 years of age or older) may use Residual ACT, Compass Test, or University Placement Exam results in place of ACT or SAT scores.
³Students must submit final high school transcripts that show graduation.

DIRECTED ADMISSION

Students who meet the criteria for full admission and have ACT (or equivalent SAT) subject scores below 18 in English or 20 in reading, or are missing Pre-College Curriculum requirements will be granted admission to the University in the category.

SUCCESS FIRST ADMISSION

Students who do not meet the specified criteria for full or directed admission and have a high school GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale may be granted admission to the University through the Success First Initiative. Students will be admitted to associate–level programs initially until they demonstrate academic success.

Note: All admitted students must meet the state-mandated college readiness standards for all subjects prior to registering for classes, or they must enroll in required preparatory coursework beginning their first academic semester.

Procedures

Prospective Students
To begin the undergraduate admission process to Eastern Kentucky University, students submit completed application materials, a copy of an official high school transcript with at least six semesters of coursework or a GED completion certificate, and the application fee to the Office of Admissions.

ADMISSION ON APPEAL

Students who apply but are denied admission to the University may submit a written appeal to the Admissions Appeal Committee. The committee will carefully consider all aspects of the applicant’s situation, including academic record and desire to attend EKU, as presented in the appeal request.

If granted admission by the committee, students will partner with an academic success coach and sign a Student Success Agreement specifying academic expectations and requirements for remaining enrolled at the University.

Responsibilities

Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management, Marketing and University Relations
- Ensure that the University stays current and complies with state-defined criteria and regulations regarding admissions standards.

Director of Admissions
- Ensure that all admission counselors receive adequate training for any changes in admission criteria or categories.

Office of Admissions
- Review all submitted applications for admission to the University.
- Determine the appropriate admission category.
- Assist with designing promotional materials that accurately reflect admission criteria.
## Interpreting Authority

- Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management, Marketing, and University Relations

## Statutory or Regulatory References

- [13 KAR 2:020](https://www.laws.ky.gov/) (Guidelines for Admission to the State-Supported Postsecondary Education Institutions in Kentucky)
- [KRS 164.020 (8)](https://www.laws.ky.gov/) (Powers and Duties of the Council [on Postsecondary Education])

## Policy Adoption Review and Approval

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<td>September 6, 2008</td>
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*Approved contingent on the recommendation of Faculty Senate

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