



CHANCELLOR SONNY PERDUE
270 WASHINGTON STREET, S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

PHONE: (404) 962-3000
FAX: (404) 962-3013
EMAIL: CHANCELLOR@USG.EDU

**BOARD OF REGENTS OF
THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA**

February 10, 2026

Presidents
University System of Georgia
Sent via email

Dear Presidents:

The Board of Regents (BOR) of the University System of Georgia (USG) convened for its scheduled meeting on February 10, 2026. During this meeting, the following BOR policy was revised.

Student Affairs

➤ **Board Policy 4.2.1 Admission Requirements for Programs Leading to an Associate or Baccalaureate Degree**

The attached Exhibit provides background information on the policy revision, the effective date, and the language added or removed from the policy section.

Sincerely,

Sonny Perdue
Chancellor

Enclosure

cc: Tracey Cook, Chief Fiscal Officer
Teresa MacCartney, Chief Operating Officer
Dr. Ashwani Monga, Executive Vice Chancellor & Chief Academic Officer
Ashley Jones May, Chief of Staff and Vice Chancellor for External Affairs
Dr. Costas Spirou, Chief Innovation and Entrepreneurial Strategies Officer
Dr. Angela Bell, Vice Chancellor for Research and Policy Analysis
Dr. Timothy Chester, Chief Information Officer
Jeff Davis, Vice Chancellor for Fiscal Affairs
Karin Elliott, Vice Chancellor for Human Resources
Tracy Ireland, Interim Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs
Dr. Dana Nichols, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Student Success
Chris McGraw, Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs and Secretary to the Board
J. Frank Smith, Vice Chancellor for Real Estate and Facilities
Jenna Wiese, Vice Chancellor for Internal Audit, Chief Audit Officer
Dr. Laura Lynch, Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Programs and Policy

Wesley Horne, AVC Compliance, Chief Ethics Officer
Institutional Chief Business Officers
Institutional Provosts
Institutional Dean of Students
Institutional Chief Student Affairs Officers
Institutional Chief Human Resource Officers
Institutional Chief Enrollment Officers
Institutional Legal Officers
Institutional Audit Directors

Exhibit
BOARD OF REGENTS POLICY MANUAL
Revised Policies with Markup
Meeting of February 10, 2026

I. Revisions to Board of Regents Policy Manual, Section 4.2.1 Admission Requirements for Programs Leading to an Associate or Baccalaureate Degree

Background:

The Board approved the following resolution in the meeting held on Jan 13, 2026.

The Board of Regents directs the USO Division of Academic Affairs to develop a policy on the use of the Classic Learning Test (CLT) for admissions purposes, in addition to the SAT/ACT. The policy should be presented to the Board at its February 2026 meeting and apply to students seeking admission beginning Fall 2027. The policy should be designed for all test-optional USG institutions and test-mandatory USG institutions, with the only exceptions being University of Georgia and Georgia Institute of Technology. For these two institutions, only SAT/ACT will be used for admissions purposes at this time. However, it is the goal of the Board to pursue a data-driven approach and after adequate CLT-related admissions and student success data are available, the Board will make further considerations related to the use of CLT across all institutions within the USG.

Following the above resolution, this policy revision adds language regarding CLT to the policy on admissions requirements for programs leading to an Associate or Baccalaureate degree. This revision also makes additional modifications, such as referencing the current titles for sections of the SAT, and streamlining this policy’s paragraphs to clarify how standardized tests are considered in the current year, and will be considered moving forward. Please note that strikethrough text represents a deletion from the current version, and highlighted text represents an addition.

Questions regarding these revisions should be directed to Dr. Ashwani Monga, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer. Dr. Monga may be reached at ashwani.monga@usg.edu.

Effective Date:

The effective date of this policy revision is February 10, 2026.

Former Policy Language:

Excerpt of 4.2.1 Admission Requirements for Programs Leading to an Associate or Baccalaureate Degree

4.2.1.1 Freshman Requirements

At its April 16, 2024 meeting, the Board of Regents voted to continue a waiver of Policy 4.2.1.1, Freshman Requirements, for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 academic years. For those academic years, first-year undergraduate admissions will be test optional for 23 of the 26 University System of Georgia institutions. Standardized test scores (SAT or ACT) will be

required at Georgia College & State University, the Georgia Institute of Technology, and the University of Georgia.

Freshman Requirements apply to first-time freshmen and individuals who have not earned the equivalent of 30 semester hours of transferable postsecondary credit. Students with fewer than 30 semester hours of transferable postsecondary credit must meet the Freshman Requirements at the institution to which they are transferring.

Students applying for freshman admissions to a USG institution must meet the following criteria and additional guidelines as set forth in the [Academic & Student Affairs Handbook](#).

Academic Record

Applicants from a public school regulated by a school system and state department of education or a high school holding accreditation from an approved accrediting body must have graduated from the school and completed the USG’s Required High School Curriculum (RHSC). Consult the [Academic & Student Affairs Handbook](#) for additional information about the RHSC.

Applicants graduating from non-accredited homeschools or high schools must meet the admission criteria required of other applicants but may demonstrate their graduation and completion of the RHSC in an alternative way. USG institutions shall establish a methodology to evaluate completion of the RHSC and high school graduation from non-accredited homeschools or high schools based on guidelines set forth in the Academic & Student Affairs Handbook and approved by the Chief Academic Officer.

The RHSC is comprised of the following units:

Subject	Units
Mathematics	4
English	4
Science	4
Social Science	3
Foreign Language/American Sign Language/Computer Science	2

USG institutions shall require a minimum high school grade point average (HSGPA).

SAT/ACT Scores

Research, comprehensive, and state universities shall establish minimum SAT and ACT score requirements of at least the following:

Test	Scores
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SAT Administered March 2016 or Later	480 on the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section, and 440 on the Math section
SAT Administered Prior to March 2016	430 on the Critical Reading section, and 400 on the Math section
ACT	17 on the English test or Reading test, and 17 on the Math test

Presidents of state colleges may elect whether to establish minimum SAT and ACT score requirements.

Freshman Index The Freshman Index (FI) is calculated using a combination of an applicant's SAT or ACT scores and HSGPA as set forth below:

SAT Administered March 2016 or Later

$$FI = 500 \times (\text{HSGPA}) + 1.06 \times (\text{SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section score} + \text{SAT Math section score}) - 74$$

SAT Administered Prior to March 2016

$$FI = 500 \times (\text{HSGPA}) + \text{SAT Critical Reading section score} + \text{SAT Math section score}$$

ACT

$$FI = 500 \times (\text{HSGPA}) + (42 \times \text{ACT Composite}) + 88$$

Research, comprehensive, and state universities shall establish a minimum FI of at least the following:

Institution Sector	Minimum FI
Research Universities	2500
Comprehensive Universities	2040
State Universities	1940

Presidents of state colleges may elect whether to establish a minimum FI requirement.

For admission for Fall 2026 and later, SAT or ACT scores are required for all Research 1 and Research 2 institutions, and the USG designated liberal arts institution. All other institutions may require test scores based on the applicant high school grade point average. Minimum test scores

and required grade point averages for admission are outlined in the [Academic & Student Affairs Handbook](#).

For applicants requiring test scores, institutions will calculate the Freshman Index (FI) and adhere to the minimum sector FI as outlined above.

4.2.1.2 International Freshman Requirements

Freshman applicants educated outside of the United States shall demonstrate academic preparation comparable to that required of applicants completing high school within the United States. Freshman applicants whose native language is not English shall be required to demonstrate proficiency in the English language.

4.2.1.3 Exceptions to Freshman Requirements

USG institutions may admit freshman applicants not meeting freshman requirements but showing evidence of college readiness using the following alternative categories.

Limited Admissions Category

In recognition of the fact that a limited number of applicants do not meet established standards but do demonstrate special potential for success, institutions are authorized to grant admission to a limited number of such applicants. Institutions shall establish minimum criteria for Limited Admission, which shall include the use of multiple measures whenever possible, such as interviews, portfolios, and records of experiential achievements. In addition, institutions shall require a high school diploma or state-issued high school equivalency diploma or certificate. Research, comprehensive, and state universities shall also require that applicants complete the RHSC and have at least the minimum SAT or ACT scores provided in the Freshman Requirements policy, as well as the minimum FI as specified in the [Academic & Student Affairs Handbook](#).

Presidential Exceptions

Each institution President or his or her designee may grant exceptions to the Limited Admission requirements if the applicant shows promise for academic success and has at least a high school diploma or a state-issued high school equivalency diploma or certificate.

Presidential Exceptions are included as part of the institution's maximum percentage for Limited Admission.

Applicants with Outstanding Scores

Institutions may grant admission to applicants who demonstrate very high academic ability by achieving a Total SAT or Composite ACT score in the upper five percent of national college-bound seniors for the most recent test year and who show other evidence of college readiness.

Admission of Students with Disabilities

Because the core curriculum of each institution requires students to complete college-level courses in English, mathematics, social science, and science, all students must complete the

RHSC in these areas. Applicants with disabilities that preclude the acquisition of a foreign language may petition for admission without this requirement according to procedures established by the USG.

Students with disabilities are expected to meet the sector's minimum SAT or ACT score requirements, but should request the appropriate testing accommodations from the agencies administering the SAT or ACT.

Revised Policy Language in Change Tracker

Excerpt of Section 4.2.1 Admission Requirements for Programs Leading to an Associate or Baccalaureate Degree

4.2.1.1 Freshman Requirements

~~At its April 16, 2024 meeting, the Board of Regents voted to continue a waiver of Policy 4.2.1.1, Freshman Requirements, for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 academic years. For those academic years, first-year undergraduate admissions will be test optional for 23 of the 26 University System of Georgia institutions. Standardized test scores (SAT or ACT) will be required at Georgia College & State University, the Georgia Institute of Technology, and the University of Georgia.~~

Freshman Requirements apply to first-time freshmen and individuals who have not earned the equivalent of 30 semester hours of transferable postsecondary credit. Students with fewer than 30 semester hours of transferable postsecondary credit must meet the Freshman Requirements at the institution to which they are transferring.

Students applying for freshman admissions to a USG institution must meet the following criteria and additional guidelines as set forth in the [Academic & Student Affairs Handbook](#).

~~Academic Record~~ **Academic Record**

Applicants from a public school regulated by a school system and state department of education or a high school holding accreditation from an approved accrediting body must have graduated from the school and completed the USG's Required High School Curriculum (RHSC). Consult the [Academic & Student Affairs Handbook](#) for additional information about the RHSC.

Applicants graduating from non-accredited homeschools or high schools must meet the admission criteria required of other applicants but may demonstrate their graduation and completion of the RHSC in an alternative way. USG institutions shall establish a methodology to evaluate completion of the RHSC and high school graduation from non-accredited homeschools or high schools based on guidelines set forth in the [Academic & Student Affairs Handbook](#) and approved by the Chief Academic Officer.

The RHSC is comprised of the following units:

Subject	Units
Mathematics	4
English	4
Science	4
Social Science	3
Foreign Language/American Sign Language/Computer Science	2

USG institutions shall require a minimum high school grade point average (HSGPA).

SAT/ACT Scores Standardized Test Scores

For the 2024-25 and 2025-26 academic years, standardized test scores (SAT or ACT) are required at Georgia College & State University, the Georgia Institute of Technology, and the University of Georgia. All other institutions may require test scores based on the applicant high school grade point average.

For Fall 2026 admission and beyond, standardized test scores are required for all Research 1 and Research 2 institutions, and the USG designated liberal arts institution. All other institutions may require test scores based on the applicant high school grade point average. Minimum test scores and required grade point averages for admission are outlined in the [Academic & Student Affairs Handbook](#).

Research, comprehensive, and state universities shall establish minimum SAT and ACT score requirements of at least the following: minimums provided below. Beginning Fall 2027, CLT scores may be substituted for the SAT scores based on the CLT-SAT concordance tables at all test-optional and test-mandatory institutions, with the only exceptions being the Georgia Institute of Technology and the University of Georgia.

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Presidents of state colleges may elect whether to establish minimum SAT and ACT standardized test score requirements.

Freshman Index

~~Freshman Index~~ The Freshman Index (FI) is calculated using a combination of an applicant's SAT, ~~or ACT, or CLT~~ scores and HSGPA as set forth below:

~~SAT Administered March 2016 or Later~~

~~FI = 500 x (HSGPA) + 1.06 x (SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section score + SAT Math section score) - 74~~

~~SAT Administered Prior to March 2016~~

~~FI = 500 x (HSGPA) + SAT Critical Reading section score + SAT Math section score~~

ACT

FI = 500 x (HSGPA) + (42 x ACT Composite) + 88

CLT (effective for Fall 2027 admissions)

CLT scores are converted to SAT scores based on the CLT-SAT concordance tables and the SAT FI formula is used to calculate the FI.

Research, comprehensive, and state universities shall establish a minimum FI of at least the following:

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For applicants requiring test scores, institutions will calculate the Freshman Index (FI) and adhere to the minimum sector FI as outlined above.

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Presidential Exceptions

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Presidential Exceptions are included as part of the institution's maximum percentage for Limited Admission.

Applicants with Outstanding Scores

Institutions may grant admission to applicants who demonstrate very high academic ability by achieving a Total SAT or Composite ACT score in the upper five percent of national college-bound seniors for the most recent test year and who show other evidence of college readiness. Effective for admission beginning Fall 2027, at all institutions except the Georgia Institute of Technology and the University of Georgia, applicants may be considered for admission under this provision by achieving a Total CLT score that converts to a Total SAT within the upper five percent of national college-bound seniors for the most recent test year, and they show other evidence of college readiness.

Admission of Students with Disabilities

Because the core curriculum of each institution requires students to complete college-level courses in English, mathematics, social science, and science, all students must complete the RHSC in these areas. Applicants with disabilities that preclude the acquisition of a foreign language may petition for admission without this requirement according to procedures established by the USG.

Students with disabilities are expected to meet the applicable sector's minimum SAT or ACT standardized test score requirements, but should request the appropriate testing accommodations from the testing agencies administering the SAT or ACT.

New Policy

Excerpt of Section 4.2.1 Admission Requirements for Programs Leading to an Associate or Baccalaureate Degree

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