

Approved by the Executive Committee
April 1, 2021

1

Executive Committee Meeting
April 1, 2021

EXTEND THE REVISION TO THE POLICY REQUIRING STANDARDIZED TESTS
FOR FRESHMAN ADMISSION TO UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS FOR
ACADEMIC YEARS 2022-2023 AND 2023-2024

Action: Extend the Revision to the Policy Requiring Standardized Tests for Freshman Admission to Undergraduate Programs for Academic Years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024

Funding: No New Funding Required

On June 10, 2020, the Executive Committee of the Board approved a revision to the University policy requiring standardized tests for freshman admission to undergraduate programs, allowing a one-year test-optional process. The universities now request an extension of test-optional admissions for two more years.

The current nationwide COVID-19 pandemic continues to prevent large numbers of high school students from taking standardized tests due to various state-by-state restrictions, including prohibited gatherings of a certain size. Many private and public universities across the country are extending the test-optional approach for students applying, all citing the coronavirus outbreak. Other universities have gone farther by deciding not to require standardized tests at all and into the future (e.g., Indiana University, University of Chicago).

The three universities are requesting that they be allowed to continue the test-optional approach for the next two years, to cover Academic Year 2022-2023 and

2023-2024. The extension will provide maximum flexibility for students during a time that continues to be affected by the pandemic and will allow each university to collect multi-year data on the impact of the test-optional approach on applications, admissions, and yield.

In conjunction with the Chancellors/Vice Presidents at UIUC, UIC, and UIS, who have consulted with their respective university Senates, the President of the University recommends that the Board extend the test-optional approach through Academic Year 2023-2024.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.