Approved by the Board of Trustees

January 26, 2023

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Board Meeting

January 26, 2023

# INDEFINITELY EXTEND THE REVISION TO THE POLICY REQUIRING STANDARDIZED TESTS FOR INTERNATIONAL AND NON-ILLINOIS FRESHMAN AND TRANSFER ADMISSION TO UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

**Action:** Indefinitely Extend the Revision to the Policy Requiring Standardized Tests for International and Non-Illinois Freshman Admission to Undergraduate Programs

**Funding:** No New Funding Required

On June 10, 2020, the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees approved a revision to the University of Illinois System policy requiring standardized tests for freshman admission to undergraduate programs, allowing a one-year test-optional process. The Board also approved an extension of test-optional admissions in April 2021. Subsequently, in July 2021 the Illinois General Assembly mandated all state universities “may not require applicants who are residents of the State of Illinois to submit standardized test scores to the institution as a part of the admissions process, and the submission of standardized test scores to the institution shall be at the option of the applicant.” The state law did not include the test optional provision for international or out-of-state applicants although, the Board’s earlier action did extend the provision for all applicants.

The University of Illinois System and the three universities are now requesting that they be allowed to extend the test-optional policy for all first year and transfer applicants to include international and out-of-state applicants.

Such an extension will provide maximum flexibility for students 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 of the three universities, who have consulted with their respective university Senates, the President of the University of Illinois System recommends that the Board indefinitely extend the test-optional approach for international and non-Illinois applicants.

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.