

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA
NOTICE OF PROPOSED REGULATION AMENDMENT**

REGULATION TITLE: UWF/REG-3.001 Admission Standards for First Time In College Student Applicants

SUMMARY: Board of Governors Regulation 6.002, outlining admission standards for students to the State University System, was recently amended. The BOG regulation requires university Boards of Trustees to develop admission regulations consistent with BOG regulations. The proposed amendment to UWF Regulation 3.001 changes UWF admission requirements so that they comport with the BOG's updated academic expectations. In addition, information regarding admission standards for transfer students was removed from UWF Regulation 3.001 so that there would be a separate UWF regulation for this information. UWF Regulation 3.032 contains transfer student admissions information.

AUTHORITY: BOG Regulations 6.001 and 6.002

NAME OF UNIVERSITY OFFICIAL INITIATING PROPOSED REGULATION

AMENDMENT: Dr. Chula G. King, Provost

THE PERSON TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE PROPOSED REGULATION

IS: Anita Schonberger, Deputy General Counsel, aschonberger@uwf.edu, Phone (850) 474-3420; FAX (850) 474-2203; Bld. 10/Rm 122; 11000 University Parkway; Pensacola, FL 32514-5750. Any comments regarding the proposed regulation amendment must be sent in writing to the contact person on or before March 10, 2011 to receive full consideration.

THE DATE THIS NOTICE WAS POSTED ON THE UWF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

WEBSITE: February 23, 2011

THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THIS REGULATION IS SET FORTH BELOW:

Substantial Revision of Regulation 3.001 is proposed. The text below is the proposed new text.

University of West Florida Regulation
UWF/REG-3.001 Admission Standards for First Time in College Student Applicants

(1) General Provisions

- a. Admission decisions to the University of West Florida (“UWF” or “University”) are made by the University subject to the regulations of the Florida Board of Governors (“BOG”).
- b. For the purposes of this regulation, “First Time In College” (“FTIC”) students defines students who have earned a standard high school diploma from a regionally accredited high school or its equivalent. FTIC students have earned fewer than 12 semester hours of transferable college credit since graduating from high school as evaluated by the University of West Florida.
- c. Undergraduate admission decisions for FTIC students are determined on a selective basis within curricular, space and fiscal limitations. Satisfaction of minimum admission requirements does not guarantee acceptance. The selection process may include, but is not limited to, such factors as grades, test scores, pattern of courses completed, class rank, educational objectives, past conduct, academic recommendations, personal recommendations and achievements. Preference for admission in any term will be given to those applicants whose credentials indicate the greatest promise of academic success while enrolled at UWF. Admission to UWF as a FTIC student affords an applicant the ability to enroll as a degree-seeking candidate in pursuit of a baccalaureate degree.
- d. UWF does not discriminate in the admission process based upon age, color, disability, gender (sex or gender identity), marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

(2) First Time In College Student Admission Expectations.

The minimum admission requirements expected of FTIC students are established by the Florida Board of Governors and are set forth in BOG Regulation 6.002. Satisfaction of the BOG minimum requirements does not automatically guarantee admission to the University of West Florida. The BOG minimum admissions requirements are as follows:

- a. A standard diploma from a regionally accredited high school, its equivalent. Applicants with a (General Educational Development) (“GED”) certificate or credential must refer to subparagraph (d). (Students admitted under the Early Admission Program are exempted from this requirement.)

- i. Completion of 18 academic units of college-preparatory, year-long courses or equivalents (normally offered in grades nine through 12) are required as follows:
 - (A) four (4) units of English – three of which must have included substantial writing requirements;
 - (B) four (4) units of mathematics – at the algebra I level and above;
 - (C) three (3) units of natural science – two of which must have included substantial laboratory requirements;
 - (D) three (3) units of social science – history, civics, political science, economics, sociology, psychology or geography;
 - (E) two (2) units of the same foreign language or American Sign Language demonstrating proficiency through the second level; and
 - (F) two (2) additional academic elective units from among these five academic areas and other courses approved by the BOG.

- b. An official standardized test score from either the SAT or ACT.

- c. Each first time in college student applicant (except those with a GED) must have high school grades that meet one of the following to be eligible for admission:
 - i. At least a “B” average (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) as computed by UWF in the required high school academic units in English, mathematics, natural science, social science, foreign language and academic electives; or

 - ii. At least a 2.5 to 3.0 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) as computed by UWF in the required high school academic units in English, mathematics, natural science, social science and foreign language and the following test scores:
 - (A) SAT – Critical Reading \geq 460; **or** ACT – Reading \geq 19
 - (B) SAT – Mathematics \geq 460; **or** ACT – Mathematics \geq 19
 - (C) SAT – Writing \geq 440; **or** ACT – English/Writing \geq 18

- d. For applicants with or earning a GED diploma, the following is required:
 - i. proof of completion of the GED
 - ii. official transcripts from all high schools attended
 - iii. total SAT score of at least 1450 (critical reading, math and writing) or ACT Composite Score of 21

(3) Enrollment Limitations.

The admission of FTIC students to UWF shall be in accord with the University's mission and goals and shall comply with any enrollment limitations established by the BOG or the University.

(4) Limited Access Programs.

Applicants seeking admission to limited access programs must meet the requirements for admission set forth in paragraph two (2) above, in addition to specific departmental requirements. UWF, with approval of the BOG and the Articulation Coordinating Committee, has established the following undergraduate programs as limited access programs:

- a. Athletic Training – College of Professional Studies
- b. Clinical Laboratory Sciences – College of Arts & Sciences
- c. Nursing – College of Arts & Sciences

(5) Restricted Access Programs.

Some academic programs require a portfolio review, audition, or some element of pre-qualification prior to admission to the program. Explanations of these requirements are published in the Undergraduate Catalog by program. Applicants interested in one of these academic programs will receive an admission decision for the University from the Office of Undergraduate Admission, but the actual admission to the academic program is determined by the department.

(6) General Application Processing for First Time In College Student Applicants

- a. A complete application for admission, including all required documentation and the non-refundable application fee, must be submitted by all students except those who were previously enrolled at UWF in a degree program.
- b. Applications for admission are accepted as early as 12 months before the requested term of entry. Complete applications must be submitted before the published application deadline date for the term desired. UWF reserves the right to return the application and application fee when the application is received after the published deadline or after any enrollment limit is reached for the requested term of entry. UWF also reserves the right to accept applications for admission after the deadline on a space-available basis.
- c. Applications for admission are evaluated using a comprehensive review in the Office of Undergraduate Admission. All decisions are communicated in a letter issued to the applicant by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

- d. Admission to UWF is granted for a specific term and to a specific academic program. Students whose major is undeclared at the time of application will be assigned “undecided” as their academic program choice. The specific term of entry and the academic program to which the student is admitted are both stated in the decision letter.
- e. All official transcripts, test scores, and other credentials must be received directly from the issuing institution or agency. Standardized test scores (SAT, ACT, TOEFL, CPT and PERT) may be considered to be official if they are recorded on an official high school transcript. It is the applicant’s responsibility to request official copies of all required credentials and to assure their receipt by UWF. All documents and credentials submitted become the property of UWF. The originals will not be returned to applicants nor forwarded to a third party.
- f. UWF reserves the right to request validation of an applicant’s test scores (SAT, ACT, TOEFL, CPT, or PERT) prior to making an admission decision if deemed necessary.
- g. A final high school transcript, showing the graduation date, must be submitted as soon as issued, to confirm the candidate’s eligibility to enroll. UWF reserves the right to rescind the admission to the University if the final transcript demonstrates the applicant no longer meets the standards for admission.
- h. An application which contains false, fraudulent or incomplete statements may result in denial of admission, denial of further registration, and/or revocation of degree(s) awarded.
- i. The University shall evaluate an applicant’s previous conduct to determine whether offering the applicant admission is in the best interests of the University. Applicants with a record of previous misconduct at an educational institution or criminal conduct will be evaluated during the admission process in accordance with UWF Regulation 3.003.
- j. All FTIC students are required to participate in the New Student Orientation program on the University campus.
- k. Applicants may request to change their term of entry to a different term. The newly desired term of entry must be within one academic year of the originally requested term of entry provided there is no alternative enrollment at another college or university in the interim. For example, an applicant for the fall 2010 term could change the term of entry to the spring 2011 term or the summer 2011 term but not the fall 2011 term, where one academic year would have elapsed from the original term of entry.

- i. All requests for changes of entry dates must be submitted in writing and received before the published application deadline for the new desired term of entry.
- ii. A new application and application fee is required for applicants who accumulate additional academic coursework between the original term of entry and the desired term of entry.
- iii. A new application and fee is required for applicants who wish to be considered for admission for a term that begins more than 12 months after the originally requested term of entry.
- iv. Applicants who request to change their term of entry will be re-evaluated for admission using the admissions requirements and selection criteria in effect for the new term requested.
- v. Those changing terms of entry who apply to a limited access or restricted program will have their application re-evaluated within the context of the subsequent applicant pool.

(7) Applications and documents submitted by those applicants who are either denied or who do not enroll are retained as inactive files for one year only and are then destroyed.

(8) UWF provides reasonable substitution for any requirement for admission for any person who establishes that he or she is disabled as defined in Section 1007.264 (1), F.S. The applicant must establish that his or her inability to meet the admission requirement is related to the disability.

(9) When applicants present scores for more than one administration of the SAT exam, the highest sub-scores from each test instance are used to compute the best possible composite score for admission consideration. The same process is used for ACT exams.

(10) FTIC student applicants who do not meet the minimum admissions criteria may be considered for admission to the University of West Florida. Such applicants will be evaluated for admission on a case by case basis using a comprehensive review of factors, such as, but not limited to, a combination of test scores and GPA that indicate potential for success, improvement in high school record, family educational background, socioeconomic status, graduation from a low performing high school, graduating from an International Baccalaureate program, geographic location, military service, special talents or abilities, or other special circumstances that contribute to a diverse student body.

(11) Appeal
First time in college student applicants denied admission may appeal this decision in writing to the Office of Undergraduate Admission. This request must contain reasons why reconsideration is warranted and should highlight extenuating circumstances and/or

appropriate alternative evidence of academic achievement, ability, motivation and responsibility that indicates potential for success at UWF. Student-initiated appeals are heard by the Undergraduate Admission Appeals Committee.

(12) Early Admission Expectations

Early Admission decisions are made as a result of a comprehensive review in the same fashion as other FTIC student admission decisions.

(13) Dual Enrollment Expectations

Admission requirements are outlined in the articulation agreements between UWF and the corresponding school district officials.

History-New 10/1/75, Formerly 6C6-3.01, Amended 5/20/87, 3/1/88, Converted to UWF/REG 3.001-7/21/05, amended _____.