

APPENDIX II-D: ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission Requirements for Entering First-Year Students

Most first-year students entering The University of Iowa enroll in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS). The College of Engineering also admits students directly in the first year (about 7% of the total entering student class, in recent years). The other undergraduate colleges typically admit qualified applicants at the beginning of their sophomore or junior years—with the exception of a few very well prepared students who may be granted early admission as first-year students to the College of Nursing or the Tippie College of Business, as described below.

In fall 2006, CLAS enrolled 3,870 first year students; the College of Engineering enrolled 315; and, through their early enrollment programs, the College of Nursing enrolled 24 and the Tippie College of Business 80 first-year students (for a total of 4,289 entering first-year students). In fall 2007, CLAS enrolled 3,875 first year students; the College of Engineering enrolled 306; the College of Nursing enrolled 24; and the Tippie College of Business enrolled 82 first-year students (for a total of 4,287 entering first-year students).

See Table II-2 on page 116 of *Fulfilling the Promise* (the University of Iowa 2007-08 self-study) for an overview of admission requirements for entering first-year students.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

The Board of Regents, State of Iowa, sets the admissions standards for the three universities it governs. Current standards dictate that Iowa residents are guaranteed admission to CLAS if they have:

- successfully completed specified high school course requirements as outlined in Table A(II-D).1 below;
- graduated in the top 50% of their high school class; and
- completed an application including ACT or SAT scores, transcripts and the \$40 application fee.

Table A(II-D).1:

High School Course Requirements

| Subject area | Years required |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| English/Language Arts | 4 |
| Single Foreign Language | 2 |
| Science* | 3 |
| Social Studies | 3 |
| Algebra | 2 |
| Geometry | 1 |

* Students must take one full-year course from two of these areas: biology, chemistry, or physics. The third course may be from any area including others not listed, such as general science, physical science, environmental science, and anatomy and physiology, etc. Integrated science courses are evaluated for this requirement based on course content.

For students who have completed the course requirements but do not meet the class rank requirement, the Office of Admissions will apply an alternative calculation, the Admission Index:

$$\text{Admission Index} = (2 \times \text{ACT composite score}) + \text{high school rank}$$

This process applies to both resident and non-resident applicants. For guaranteed admission, an Iowa resident must have graduated in the top 50% of his or her high school class, or present an Admission Index of 95 or greater. A nonresident student must rank in the top 30% of his or her high school class or present an Admission Index of 100 or greater.

The Admission Index also is used to admit entering students directly to the Tippie College of Business and the College of Nursing (see below) and to the University Honors Program, as a criterion for the Presidential Scholarship program, and to award the National Scholars Award and the Advantage Iowa awards.

In cases where the high school does not rank (26% of applicants in fall 2006 came from non-ranking schools), the Office of Admissions bases its decision on a holistic review that takes into account courses taken and grades earned, cumulative GPA, course rigor, ACT and/or SAT scores, and other information the applicant may provide. Any applicant may request such a review.

Students who do not meet the published standards may request an individual review process, which allows them to submit a personal statement and two letters of recommendation along with the other required application materials.

New CLAS Admissions Standards Effective Fall 2009

As described in *Fulfilling the Promise* (see “Entry and Transition”), in summer 2006 the Board of Regents approved a change to the admission requirements that will take effect for students applying to enroll in CLAS in fall 2009. The new standards use a calculation called the Regent Admissions Index (RAI), which takes into account ACT score, high school rank, high school grade point average, and the number of high school courses completed in the core subject areas:

$$\text{RAI} = (2 \times \text{ACT composite score}) + (1 \times \text{high school rank}) + (20 \times \text{high school grade-point average}) + (5 \times \text{number of high school courses completed in core subject areas})$$

For guaranteed admission to CLAS, Iowa residents will need an RAI of 245 or above; nonresidents will need an RAI of 255 or above. Successful completion of the specified high school course requirements will still be required.

Early/Direct Admission Programs

A-58

The College of Nursing and the Tippie College of Business require most students to complete substantial relevant course work before admission, which allows students to make better informed choices and helps those colleges maintain distinctive professional standards. Most undergraduates, therefore, enter the University via CLAS and are only later admitted to one of these colleges if they choose to apply. Both of these colleges do, however, admit a limited number of exceptionally promising first-year students through special admission programs.

College of Nursing Early Admission

Nursing is one of the University’s top ten undergraduate majors (about 2% of total undergraduate enrollment). The College of Nursing admits very few of its majors, however, as first-year students—24 in fall 2006 and the same number in fall 2007. Most students complete several semesters of college work in CLAS before applying to the BSN program, since the minimum prerequisites include courses in biology, microbiology, anatomy, psychology, human development and behavior, chemistry, and rhetoric, as well as a minimum GPA of 2.70 and a grade of C or higher in the prerequisite courses.

The College offers early admission to students who present an Admission Index of 148 or above. Advantages of early admission include eligibility for special scholarships, and advising by the executive associate dean of the College.

Tippie College of Business Direct Admission

Collectively, the major programs in the Henry B. Tippie College of Business enroll about 8% of UI undergraduates. Most students who apply to the Tippie College do so at the end of the sophomore year, after fulfilling requirements that include completion of 60 semester credit hours; completion of six prerequisite courses including calculus,

statistics, micro- and macroeconomics, financial accounting, and managerial accounting, with no grade lower than a C; and a UI, cumulative, and prerequisite GPA of 2.75 or higher.

Out of 1,647 undergraduate students in the Tippie College in [fall 2006](#), 80 were first-year students admitted under the College's [early admission program](#), offered to applicants who presented an Admission Index of 148 or higher. In [fall 2007](#), 82 out of 1,751 undergraduate business students were first-year.

Advantages of direct admission include a targeted seminar course, opportunities for earlier involvement in research and internships, and more flexibility in developing a personalized program over four years of undergraduate study.

Effective fall 2008, the Tippie College of Business has changed the Admission Index requirement to 140 or above, and changed the name of the program to "direct admission."

College of Engineering

The [College of Engineering](#) adds to the high school course requirements an additional year of study in higher math, such as trigonometry, analysis, or calculus (the social studies requirement is lowered to two years). For guaranteed admission to the College, the applicant must also have graduated in the top 30% of his or her class, and have earned an ACT math and composite score of 25 or above.

As is the case for applicants to CLAS, if the high school does not rank, the College will base its decision on a holistic review. Students may also request an individual review process.

Admission Requirements for Transfer Students

In [fall 2006](#), 1,479 undergraduate students transferred to the UI: 1,310 to CLAS, 75 to the Tippie College of Business, 47 to the College of Engineering, 29 to the College of Nursing, 5 to the College of Education, and 13 to the Carver College of Medicine's undergraduate programs. In [fall 2007](#), 1,533 undergraduate students transferred to the UI: 1,347 to CLAS, 93 to the Tippie College of Business, 46 to the College of Engineering, 28 to the College of Nursing, 5 to the College of Education, and 14 to the Carver College of Medicine's undergraduate programs.

A-59

Each college has its own admission requirements for transfer students. In colleges that admit most or all of their students after they have completed some college-level course work—that is, Business, Education, and Nursing, as well as the undergraduate programs in Medicine—the admission requirements for transfer students are consistent with the requirements for UI students applying to the program. See the "Education Within the Major" section of *Fulfilling the Promise* for more information about those requirements.

Students applying to [transfer to CLAS](#) must have completed the high school course requirements and earned a 2.50 cumulative GPA on at least 24 semester hours (36 quarter hours) of acceptable graded credit—or, they must have earned an [Associate of Arts \(AA\) degree](#) from a college with which the UI has an articulation agreement (all Iowa community colleges, Waldorf College, and Black Hawk College in Illinois) and a cumulative transfer GPA of at least 2.00 from all colleges attended (2.25 if from Black Hawk College). Transfer candidates with approved AA degrees are exempt from the high school course requirements, and are deemed to have met the general education requirements. Students with fewer than 24 semester hours will be considered based on their high school and college academic records, as well as ACT or SAT scores.

Students applying to [transfer to the College of Engineering](#) must have completed the high school course requirements plus courses in calculus, chemistry, and physics. They must also have demonstrated success in math, science, and engineering courses, and an acceptable overall GPA.

The College of Dentistry has an undergraduate program in [Oral Health Science](#), designed for students who have earned Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degrees from accredited dental hygiene programs and achieved a minimum GPA of 2.5. The Division of Continuing Education administers the [Bachelor of Applied Studies](#) (BAS) degree, for graduates of community college technical programs who have earned Associate of Science (AS) or AAS

degrees, and the [Bachelor of Liberal Studies](#) (BLS) degree, for graduates of Iowa community colleges and others with some accumulated credit hours. Admission requirements for the BAS and BLS programs include 60 semester hours of transferable credit and a GPA of 2.0 or above (for the BAS) or 2.5 or above (for the BLS).

The University of Iowa will [accept for transfer credit](#) courses completed at colleges and universities accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools or by similar regional associations. The Office of Admissions will evaluate course work completed at non-regionally accredited schools according to the recommendations of the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers and the American Council on Education.

See Table II-3 on page 117 of *Fulfilling the Promise* for an overview of admission requirements for transfer students.

Admission Requirements for International Students

Admission requirements for entering first-year students who attended high school outside the U.S. include documented completion of upper secondary education; above-average grades in a university-preparatory program; completion of the high school course requirements (for Liberal Arts and Sciences or for Engineering, as appropriate); and ACT or SAT scores, if applying to the College of Engineering.

International transfer applicants who attended college outside the U.S. must fulfill those same requirements, and have earned above-average grades in recognized university course work.

Applicants whose first language is not English must also achieve [acceptable scores](#) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). An ACT English score of 21, a combined SAT Critical Reading score of 540, or a total score of 6.5 (with no subscore less than 6.0) on the International English Language Testing System may replace the TOEFL as evidence of proficiency in English.

In [fall 2006](#), 380 undergraduate students from outside the United States enrolled at the UI. In [fall 2007](#), that number increased to 404.