

Faculty Council on Academic Standards (FCAS) Policy Pertaining to Admission of Student-Athletes

The Office of Admissions is charged with the responsibility to enroll academically able and diverse freshman and transfer classes of a certain size, with specific proportions of non-resident and international students. Admission offers are closely managed to ensure that enrollments do not exceed targeted levels.

Another enrollment consideration is the admission of exceptional student-athletes who are ready to meet the academic demands of the University of Washington. The University needs to identify and reserve adequate enrollment space to populate each team with athletically competitive and academically qualified student-athletes.

Newly admitted student-athletes will fall into one of three admission categories:

1. Routine admission
2. Priority admission
3. Special admission

Up to 100 new freshmen and transfer student athletes from the ‘priority’ and ‘special’ categories may be enrolled over the course of an academic year. (See Addendum 2 for policy criteria governing international student-athletes.)

1) Routine Admission

Routinely admitted freshmen and transfer athletes are those admitted without consideration of their recruited student-athlete (RSA) status. The category includes RSAs who apply late, but are routinely admissible. Late applicants are not included in the 100 spaces allocated for priority and special admission athletes.

2) Priority Admission

Recruited student-athletes considered for priority admission have Higher Education Coordinating Board Admission Index (AI) numbers of 28 or higher, have at least an 80% or greater chance of achieving at least 2.00 GPA by the end of their first academic year at the University, and are not regularly admissible based on comprehensive review results. This category also includes students with up to one year’s deficiency in the social sciences. Applicants eligible for priority admission must, however, satisfy the University’s mathematics and foreign language core requirements for admission.

The Faculty Council on Academic Standards Subcommittee on Admission and Graduation shall be provided at the end of each academic year with progress and retention reports for all ‘priority students’.

3) *Special Admission*

Freshmen recruited with an academic profile which predicts less than an 80% probability of attaining a freshman-year GPA of at least 2.0 (currently represented by an AI number below 28), recruited transfers with GPAs below 2.30, and applicants with mathematics or foreign language core deficiencies will be considered 'special admits'. The total number of admissions from this category shall be limited to **30 students** per academic year.

Decisions about specially admitted student-athletes shall be made by the Director of Admissions in consultation with relevant academic and athletic personnel. A decision may be appealed in a timely manner by the Director of Athletics. An Appellate Committee composed of the Director of Admissions, the Faculty Athletic Representative, the Dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs, and at least one faculty member appointed from the Advisory Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics¹ by the Advisory Committee Chair will consider the appeal. The Chair of the Appellate Committee shall be the Dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs. The Appellate Committee may choose to consider new information and has the prerogative of speaking with the Director of Athletics, relevant coaches, and the student-athlete in question. Only those members of the Appellate Committee who hold faculty rank may vote on Appellate Committee decisions. In hearing such appeals, the Appellate Committee shall be regarded as a subcommittee of the Faculty Council on Academic Standards Subcommittee on Admission and Graduation.

Should the Director of Admission believe that a decision by the Appellate Committee rests on a violation or misinterpretation of the University's admission policies as established by the Faculty Council on Academic Standards, the Director of Admissions shall have the authority to appeal a decision by the Appellate Committee to the Council's Subcommittee on Admission and Graduation. In the event of such an appeal, the Chair of the Appellate Committee and the Director of Admissions shall both attend to present the case to the Subcommittee on Admission and Graduation. In all such cases, the decision of the Subcommittee on Admission and Graduation shall be final. No further appeals are permitted.

The Faculty Athletic Representative shall provide the Subcommittee on Admission and Graduation with an academic year-end progress and retention report on special admission students.

¹ *The Advisory Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics advises the President of the University of Washington on all matters pertaining to (1) institutional control of the athletic program; (2) the academic and financial integrity of intercollegiate athletics; (3) the academic and personal well-being of student-athletes; and (4) the accountability of the athletic department to the values and mission of the University of Washington.*

The committee consists of the following voting members: the Faculty Athletic Representative and nine additional faculty members, and two representatives from the University of Washington Student Athlete Advisory Council. The faculty members shall serve staggered three-year terms that are renewable.

The President shall appoint the faculty members. Half of the faculty members shall be appointed from nominees from the Chair of the Faculty Senate. The Committee shall elect its own Chair who may serve renewable terms.

Ex-officio members (non-voting) of the Committee include: the Dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs, the Vice Provost for Student Life, the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, the Chair of the Faculty Council on Student Affairs or his or her designee, a Presidential representative, the Director of Admissions, and senior athletic administrators as designated by the Committee.

ICA Enrollment Estimates for Late Freshmen and Transfer Applicants

Annually, on the first Monday after April 15, the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics (ICA) will tell the Office of Admissions the number of *freshman places* needed to meet fall recruiting goals. Admissions will account for these reserved spaces in its fall quarter admission plan and in making initial freshmen offers of admission. On May 15, ICA will confirm the number of freshman places needed to meet fall recruiting goals so that Admissions can finalize waiting lists and conclude decisions on late-deposit petitions. By July 1, ICA will tell the Office of Admissions the number of *transfer places* needed for the balance of the summer to meet fall goals.

ICA 'estimate dates' for freshmen and transfers in other quarters are as follows:

- a) Winter quarter: November 1
- b) Spring quarter: March 1
- c) Summer quarter: April 15

The achievement of the University's enrollment goals is extremely important, therefore the reserved places for freshmen and transfers must be closely managed, and the ICA estimates must be accurate.

The Subcommittee on Admissions and Graduation will review this policy at the end of each academic year. Included in the review will be assessments of the accuracy of ICA projections and of the academic progress of student-athletes in the priority and special admission categories.

Addenda

- 1) The Subcommittee on Admissions and Graduation will be provided with a report of the academic services available to athletes.

- 2) The following criteria apply for the routine, priority, and special admission of international student-athletes (ISA):
- a) Routine admission applies to an ISA with a high school GPA of ≥ 3.0 and no academic core deficiencies (with the exception of fine art).
 - b) Priority admission applies to an ISA with a high school GPA between 2.60 and 2.99, and no academic deficiencies (except for fine art and up to one year of social science).
 - c) Special admission applies to an ISA with a high school GPA < 2.60 .*

* Because international transcripts can vary widely, the Director of Admissions retains discretion to classify any ISA in the 'special admission' category.

Initially approved by the Faculty Council on Academic Standards on October 24, 2008 and revised by the Council on December 16, 2011.