



- I. TITLE:**
STANDARDIZED TEST OPTION ADMISSIONS POLICY

- II. POLICY STATEMENT:** Alabama State University (ASU) is a test-optional institution. ASU's holistic application review process considers high school transcripts and standardized test scores. Students admitted to the University without test scores must take the Accuplacer placement exam. Additionally, students admitted into the Summer Bridge Program must take the Accuplacer Placement Exam. We encourage applicants to decide for themselves whether they wish to submit ACT or SAT results as an additional measure of their academic preparedness.

- III. SCOPE OF POLICY:** Alabama State University Office of Admissions conducts a holistic review of our applicants. We acknowledge that standardized test scores alone may not fully reflect academic preparedness or potential. Therefore, students who choose not to submit ACT or SAT scores may take advantage of the University's test-optional policy by participating in the University's ACCUPLACER assessment to determine course placement.

This test-optional policy speaks to ASU's commitment to equitable access and a more comprehensive approach to determining students' preparedness or potential for academic success. It should be noted that Academic Scholarships are not covered under the test-optional policy. Incoming first-year students or transfer students with less than 15 semester hours of college-level credits who wish to apply for a University academic scholarship must have qualifying test scores on file.

- IV. EFFECTIVE DATE:** This policy is effective upon official approval by the ASU Board of Trustees

- V. AUDIENCE:** All University faculty, academic and administrative personnel, and students are expected to adhere to this policy.

- VI. DESIGNATED RESPONSIBILITIES AND APPLICABILITY OF POLICY:**
The Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Provost, Associate Provost, Assistant Provost, Deans, Associate Deans, Department Chairs and Coordinators, Faculty, Director of Admissions, Recruiters, Academic Advisors, and the University Registrar have a fundamental responsibility to:
 - Have an understanding of this policy and general knowledge of the test option policy.
 - The University Registrar must provide, when requested by the President or Provost, information or data relevant to incorporating this policy into daily operations and distribute it to all faculty, students, and staff.

VII. POLICY MANAGEMENT:

- **Responsible Office(s):** Office of Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, the Office of Academic Affairs, and the Office of Admissions
- **Responsible Executive:** Assistant Vice-President of Student Affairs/Enrollment Management and Admissions, Associate Director of Admissions
- **Responsible Officer(s):** Vice-President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, University Provost, Assistant Vice-President of Student Affairs/Enrollment Management, University Faculty, Academic Deans, and Academic Advisors

VIII. DEFINITION(S):

- a. **ACCUPLACER-** The Next-Generation ACCUPLACER® is a computer-adaptive comprehensive battery of tests designed to assess students' skills levels in Reading, Writing, and Math.
- b. **Traditional Summer Bridge Students-** First-year/first-time freshmen who are "*conditionally*" admitted to ASU based on Tier III admissions standards, e.g., high school GPA below 2.4 and referred to the Summer Bridge program by the Admissions office.
- c. **Standardized Test-**Tests administered to students nationwide from testing companies in partnership with schools, colleges, and universities.
- d. **Superscore-**The highest subsection scores (Math, English, Science, and/or Reading) from the ACT or SATs and taken on different dates.
- e. **Subscores-**The average of those superscores to calculate the composite ACT or SAT score
- f. **Transfer Student-**A student who transfers from another college or University to ASU.

IX. PROCEDURES FOR TEST-OUT OPTIONS/PLACEMENT GUIDELINES

- Students whose high school GPA is below 3.0 with a composite score less than 18/ACT or 870/SAT have the option to take the ACCUPLACER assessment for placement in the appropriate level Math, English, and Reading courses.
- Students whose high school GPA is 3.0 or above with a composite score of at least 18/ACT and 870/SAT will be exempt from the ACCUPLACER and placement in any developmental course.
- Students who submit ACT or SAT subsection scores will be placed in the appropriate level of Math, English, and Reading based on their highest subsection scores
- All Traditional Bridge Students will be required to take the ACCUPLACER regardless of ACT/SAT subsection scores.
- Placements using the subsection scores and ACCUPLACER scores are shown in the table below.

Superscoring

Alabama State University will use superscore test results from the ACT or the SAT to combine the highest subsection scores from tests taken on different dates. For the ACT, this means we will combine the highest English, Math, Reading, and Science subscores and use the average of those scores to calculate the composite ACT score. Under the Test-Optional Admission Policy, the following placement will take place:

- First-time/freshmen students with a 2.4 cumulative grade point average (GPA) or higher without test scores will be admitted under our Tier II admissions category (see table below).
- First-time/freshmen students with a 2.1-2.3 GPA with no test scores will be admitted under our Tier III admissions category, also referred to as the Summer Bridge Program.
- First-time/freshmen students whose cumulative GPA is less than 2.0 will not qualify for the test-optional or regular admissions policies.

ENGLISH PLACEMENT GUIDELINES *				
Course Placement		ACT	SAT	ACCUPLACER
ENG 130	Basic College English I	15 and below	409 and below	Below 249 (writing)
ENG 131	English Composition	16 and above	410 and above	249 and (writing)

MATHEMATICS PLACEMENT GUIDELINES				
Course Placement		ACT	SAT	ACCUPLACER
MAT 130	Intermediate Algebra I	15 and below	400 and below	239 and below
MAT 136	Finite Mathematics	16 and above	430 and above	240 - 252
MAT 137	Pre-Calculus Algebra	18 and above	500 and above	253 - 265
MAT 165	Pre-Calculus Trigonometry	21 and above	530 and above	264 - 276
MAT 265	Calculus & Analytic Geometry I	23 and above	560 and above	277 and above
Exempt		18 and above	500 and above	280

READING PLACEMENT GUIDELINES				
Course Placement		ACT	SAT	ACCUPLACER
REA 130	College Reading Enhancement II	15 and below	409 and below	236 and below
REA 132	College Reading Enhancement III	16 - 17	410 - 449	237-249
Exempt		18 and above	450 and above	250 and above

TIER I	
GPA	ACT/SAT
2.00-2.49	18/940-970
2.50-2.99	17/900-930
3.00-3.49	16/860-890
3.5 +	15/810-850

TIER II	
GPA	ACT/SAT
2.00-2.49	17/900-930
2.50-2.99	16/860-890
3.00-3.49	ANY SCORE
2.4+	NO TEST SCORE

TIER III (SUMMER BRIDGE)	
GPA	ACT/SAT
2.00-2.49	15/810-850
2.50-2.99	14/760-800
2.70+	13/720-750
2.1-2.39	NO TEST SCORE

Document History

Approved by BOT February 3, 2022