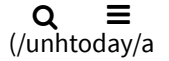




# NEWSROOM (//WWW.UNH.EDU/UNHTODAY/NEWS)



## UNH Moves to Test-Optional Admissions Policy

Monday, May 6, 2019

(HTTPS://WWW.UNH.EDU/UNHTODAY/NEWS/2019/05/06/UNH-MOVES-TO-TEST-OPTIONAL-ADMISSIONS-POLICY)

DURHAM, N.H.—Beginning next fall, high school students applying to the University of New Hampshire will no longer be required to submit standardized test scores with their application. A three-year pilot program will begin with students entering UNH in fall 2020.

“The data consistently shows that grades earned in high school over four years bear a much greater relationship to how well a student will do in college than standardized test scores do,” said Rob McGann, director of admissions and interim vice president for enrollment management. “Standardized testing certainly has some predictive value, but not as much as a student’s high school GPA.”

According to McGann, the university has two goals in moving to a test-optional policy. One, a greater diversity (race/ethnic, first generation, socioeconomic, gender, etc.) of applicants for whom standardized testing presents a real or perceived barrier to pursuing an education at a flagship university. Two, reinforcement that the most important part of the admissions decision-making process is a student’s high school classroom academic record. National data and the university’s own projections suggest these outcomes.

The decision not to require SAT or ACT scores from undergraduate applicants to UNH was made after extensive research that included reviewing admissions and UNH first-year academic performance data for past entering classes, which showed that high school grades and overall GPA best predict how well a first-year student will do at UNH. The Faculty Senate, a legislative body with representatives from every academic department, voted overwhelmingly in favor of moving to test-optional admissions. Students may still opt to include standardized test scores with their application, but there will be no preference given to students who do or do not include them.

According to The National Center for Fair and Open Testing, more than 1,000 four-year colleges and universities do not use the SAT or ACT to admit the majority of their undergraduate applicants.

The University of New Hampshire inspires innovation and transforms lives in our state, nation and world. More than 16,000 students from all 50 states and 71 countries engage with an award-winning faculty in top-ranked programs in business, engineering, law, health and human services, liberal arts and the sciences across more than 200 programs of study. As one of the nation’s highest-performing research universities, UNH partners with NASA, NOAA, NSF and NIH, and receives more than \$110 million in competitive external funding every year to further explore and define the frontiers of land, sea and space.



**MEDIA RELATIONS**

Media Contact

Erika Mantz (/unhtoday/contributor/erika-mantz) | Communications and Public Affairs | erika.mantz@unh.edu (mailto:erika.mantz@unh.edu)

LATEST NEWS

University of New Hampshire Announces May 2021 Graduates (/unhtoday/news/release/2021/05/22/university-new-hampshire-announces-may-2021-graduates) May 22, 2021

UNH Works to Solve a Million Dollar Problem for Aquaculture Industry (/unhtoday/news/release/2021/05/20/unh-works-solve-million-dollar-problem-aquaculture-industry) May 20, 2021

UNH Finds Angel Investor Market on the Rise in 2020 (/unhtoday/news/release/2021/05/19/unh-finds-angel-investor-market-rise-2020) May 19, 2021

Media Advisory: University of New Hampshire 2020 and 2021 Commencements (/unhtoday/news/release/2021/05/18/media-advisory-university-new-hampshire-2020-and-2021-commencements) May 18, 2021

UNH Research Estimates 1.4 Million Children Have Yearly Violence-Related Medical Visits (/unhtoday/news/release/2021/05/12/unh-research-estimates-14-million-children-have-yearly-violence-related) May 12, 2021

VIEW ALL >

✉ SUBSCRIBE TO UNH TODAY (HTTPS://WWW.UNH.EDU/MAIN/UNH-TODAY-SUBSCRIPTION)



University of New Hampshire (https://www.unh.edu)

UNH Today is produced for the UNH community and for friends of UNH.

The stories are written by the staff of UNH Communications and Public Affairs. (https://www.unh.edu/cpa)

Email us: unhtoday.editor@unh.edu (mailto:unhtoday.editor@unh.edu). (mailto:unh.today@unh.edu)

MANAGE YOUR SUBSCRIPTION > CONTACT US >



(https://www.linkedin.com/edu/university-of-new-



hampshire-

(http://www.unh.edu/communications/unh-today/feeds)

UNH Today • UNH Main Directory: 603-862-1234

Copyright © 2021 • TTY Users: 7-1-1 or 800-735-2964 (Relay NH)

USNH Privacy Policies (http://www.usnh.edu/legal/privacy.shtml) • USNH Terms of Use (http://www.usnh.edu/legal/tou.shtml) • ADA Acknowledgement (http://www.unh.edu/about/ada.html)