



Item: AS: A-1

Wednesday, July 22, 2009

SUBJECT: FAU Policy on Graduate Admissions

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Recommend approval of a proposed new policy regarding admission of Graduate and Post-baccalaureate Professional Students.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Board of Governors Regulation 6.003 states that each University Board of Trustees must adopt regulations for the admission of graduate and post-baccalaureate students consistent with university mission and Board of Governors regulations.

The proposed policy responds to this requirement and provides university guidelines for the admission of graduate students at Florida Atlantic University in conformity with the BOG regulation. The policy is based upon a framework document developed by the SUS Council of Graduate Deans and has been reviewed and approved by various faculty governance bodies according to established university policies and procedures.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN/DATE

The new policy will be implemented upon approval.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None

Supporting Documentation

Policy on Graduate Admissions

Other Documentation Available:

Presented by:

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FAU Graduate College Proposed Graduate Admissions Regulation

BOG Regulation 6.003

- **Each university board of trustees shall adopt regulations for the admission of graduate and post-baccalaureate professional students. Such regulations shall be consistent with the university mission and Board of Governors regulations.**
- **Institutions are expected to periodically review university regulations for admission of graduate and post-baccalaureate professional students to minimize unnecessary impediments to access, while maintaining academic quality and integrity.**

Adopted April 2008

Development of FAU's Graduate Admissions Regulation

- **In September 2008, the SUS graduate school deans developed a framework document that could be used by each university to develop their own graduate admissions regulation.**
- **The document before you today has been approved by all appropriate FAU faculty governance bodies according to established university policies and procedures.**
 - Using the framework document, the University Graduate Council amended and approved FAU's graduate admissions regulation on November 19, 2008.
 - UFS Steering Committee amended and approved the regulation on January 13, 2009.
 - UFS approved the regulation on January 23, 2009.

FAU Policy Regarding Admission of Graduate and Post-baccalaureate Professional Students

Approved by UGC 11/19/08; Amended and Approved by UFS Steering 1/13/09; Approved by UFS 1/23/09

- (1) Each applicant shall be required to meet minimum University requirements as stated below.
- (2) Applicants must have:
 - (a) an earned bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or from an institution accredited by an equivalent accrediting body or a comparable degree from an international institution.
 - (b) a minimum grade point average (GPA) as determined by the graduate faculty of the program or their designees for either all work attempted as an undergraduate student working toward a baccalaureate degree or all work attempted while registered as an upper division undergraduate student working toward a baccalaureate degree.
 - (c) scores on a nationally standardized graduate admissions test, such as the General Test of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), the Miller Analogies Test (MAT), the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT), or an equivalent, that is acceptable for the program to which the student is applying.

Alternatively, a graduate degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or from an institution accredited by an equivalent accrediting body may substitute for (2) (a) and (b) for admission to a Doctoral program and for (2) (a), (b), and (c) for admission to a Masters program.

- (3) Admission shall be based on a review of credentials by the graduate faculty of the program or their designee in which multiple criteria are used to judge the appropriateness of the applicant to pursue graduate study.
- (4) Each program admissions committee may impose more restrictive admission requirements than those stated above. University and program-specific admissions requirements shall be published in the University Catalog.
- (5) To accommodate special circumstances, the university may waive these requirements for individual students. Such waivers should not be granted routinely.
- (6) The university may develop criteria for admission to specific degree programs which differ from item 2 (c).
- (7) Students who wish to enroll in courses, but not degree programs, at the post-baccalaureate level, may enroll under the classification of post-baccalaureate non-degree students. Admissions committees wishing to admit post-baccalaureate non-degree students to graduate degree programs after the students have satisfactorily completed a specified number of credits may do so under conditions specified by the graduate program.
- (8) Applicants denied admission shall be given notice of denial within a reasonable period of time following the decision.