



Board of Governors, State University System of Florida

Specialized Admissions Status

Reaffirmation Request Form

In Accordance with Board of Governors Regulation 8.013, Specialized Admissions

INSTITUTION: Florida Atlantic University

DEGREE PROGRAM: B.A./B.S. Biological and Physical Sciences

CIP CODE 300101 **Effective Academic Year** _____

1. Identify the program, major, or tracks that were initially approved for specialized admissions status and for which you are seeking reaffirmation.

B.A./B.S. in Biological and Physical Sciences

2. Which criteria for specialized admissions status does the program meet?

- Limited Resources (If approved, the status will last a maximum of four years)
- Minimal Skills (If approved, the status will last a maximum of five years)
- Accreditation Requirements (If checked, you must also select either limited resources or minimal skills)

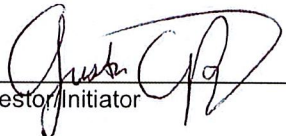
3. If the limited resources criterion above is selected or if the program is a Program of Strategic Emphasis, what efforts has the institution made to increase resources in the program? Describe any additional plans to increase program resources or provide a rationale as to why program resources cannot be increased.
 Not applicable.

The degree-seeking student headcount at the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College has consistently increased from 426 students (Fall 2018) to 581 students (Fall 2021). With this continued growth in enrollment has been a concomitant growth in the number of full-time faculty appointments in the unit from 41 (Fall 20) to 46 (Fall 22). The number of adjunct faculty, affiliate faculty, and graduate student teaching assistants has also steadily increased in recent years to accommodate growth in course sections, senior honors theses, and lab sections. Enrollment size is based on maintaining the 15:1 student-to-faculty ratio required in the college, as well as the intense 1:1 faculty supervision of senior honors theses; therefore, the amount of program resources must ultimately be limited with these unique metrics in mind. Plans are underway to conduct at least two new faculty searches. The college's partnerships with the Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience, UF Scripps Biomedical Research, Stiles-Nicholson Brain Institute, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, and Institute for Health and Human Disease Intervention will afford more undergraduate research opportunities.


4. How has the specialized admissions status impacted the current race and gender profile of the program? What strategies will be implemented to continue to promote and maintain diversity in the program?

In the Fall 2021 semester, 60.9% of students in WHC were female and 39.1% were male. The WHC also has maintained an impressively diverse student body, with 25% of students who identify as Hispanic, 7% Black (not of Hispanic origin) and with 56% of the students identifying as non-white. FAU as a whole is identified as a Hispanic Serving Institution. We do not expect these profiles to change. In particular, the Wilkes Honors College is distinguished in yield of a diverse student body when compared with peer Honors Colleges and Programs. The Honors College will continue to encourage applications from all qualified applicants as well as its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status

Required Signatures


Requestor/Initiator

8/11/22
Date


Signature of College Dean

8/11/22
Date


Signature of Campus EO Officer

8/11/2022
Date


Signature of Provost

8/12/22
Date

Signature of Chair of the Board of Trustees

Date

Date Approved by the Board of Trustees