



**Graduate Admission Criteria and Denial # 380.0443**

INITIAL EFFECTIVE DATE:	LAST REVISION DATE:	RESPONSIBLE UNIVERSITY DIVISION/DEPARTMENT
June 2012	May 9, 2023	The University Graduate School

**POLICY STATEMENT**

Admission Criteria  
 Applicants for admission to a graduate degree-granting program of the University must meet the minimum standards set forth by the University as well as the specific requirements set by that program. Exceptions for individual students may be granted by the Dean of the University Graduate School (UGS) at the request of the department graduate program director and the dean of the appropriate school or college.

The University graduate admissions criteria include:

- A bachelor’s or master’s degree from an accredited institution or equivalent.

Each graduate program may establish its own admission criteria (including GRE or GMAT) subject to review and approval by the School or College, the Graduate Council, the Faculty Senate, the Dean of the University Graduate School and the Provost. In those cases where the admission standards of specific graduate programs are different than University standards, the graduate programs must have published these policies and procedures in the University Catalog.

If a program does not have an approved admission policy, the default University policy is a 3.0 GPA in the last 60 credits of the undergraduate degree.

An applicant’s character and integrity are qualities that may be used to assess his/her qualifications for admission into a graduate program at FIU. An applicant must have been in good ethical standing at the undergraduate program that granted his/her baccalaureate degree for admission in a graduate program at FIU.

An applicant may be evaluated based on his/her academic record as a graduate student, at FIU or any accredited institution, in addition to his/her undergraduate record.

International applicants whose native language is not English are required to demonstrate English language proficiency through one of the following:

- 80 on the iBT TOEFL (equivalent to 550 on the paper-based version of the Test of English as a Foreign Language);
- 6.5 overall on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS);
- 53 Pearson Test of English - Academic;
- Cambridge English - Advanced;
- 110 Duolingo English Test - Combined
- English Language Institute certification of satisfactory completion of all content areas with at least level six (6) proficiency;
- Applicants who hold an undergraduate or graduate degree from an accredited institution where the language of instruction is English.

The University Graduate Council will consider for review/approval and submission to the Faculty Senate for approval a unit specific admission requirement alternative as follows, in lieu of the above English Language proficiency requirements:

Successful completion of University level English courses from an accredited institution (e.g. ENC 1101, ENC 1102 or other equivalent courses with a letter grade of “B” or higher) that prepare applicants to be proficient in English.

Plus at least one of the following:

- i) Interview (in person when possible or via videoconference).
- ii) Proctored video-taped responses to questions from the admissions committee.
- iii) Other proposed method to directly assess spoken English comprehension and speaking skills

#### Reconsideration of Admission Denial

An applicant whose application for a graduate program is denied but who meets published program minimum admission standards for the graduate program is allowed to seek the reason for the rejection in writing. The applicant may request reconsideration by written petition to the University within thirty (30) days of the date of denial. The route for reconsideration is first to the graduate program of interest, then to the dean of the appropriate School or College, then to the Dean of the University Graduate School. The Dean of the University Graduate School makes the final decision.

#### **SCOPE**

University Community (faculty, graduate students and University Graduate School administration) and applicants to graduate programs.



**REASON FOR POLICY**

To set forth the criteria for admission to a graduate program and admission denial appeal.

**DEFINITIONS**

TERM	DEFINITIONS
N/A	N/A

**ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Graduate Program is responsible for making admission recommendations to the University. The Dean of the Graduate School is responsible for approving the admission of an applicant who was previously denied admission.

**RELATED RESOURCES**

N/A

**CONTACTS**

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**HISTORY**

**Initial Effective Date:** Originally 2.1 UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENT ADMISSION CRITERIA; 2.1.1 MINIMUM GPA AND EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATES OF U.S. INSTITUTIONS; 2.1.2 REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATES OF NON-U.S. INSTITUTIONS; 2.3.1 APPEALS PROCESS; and 2.3.3 ACADEMIC UNIT OR DEPARTMENT ADMISSION EXCEPTIONS from *Graduate Policies and Procedures Manual*.

June 2012

**Review Dates** (*review performed, no updates*): January 31, 2024

**Revision Dates** (*updates made to document*): February 2020; April 20, 2021; May 9, 2023.