

Proposed Admissions Standards Metropolitan State University of Denver

September 2014

Purpose:

The “Submission of Institutional Standards to Commission” (4.01.02.04) section of the *Admissions Standards Policy* approved by CCHE in December 2013 with revisions from September 2014, states the following:

...institutions are required to establish and submit to the Commission for approval admissions standards by December 1, 2014. Institutions will submit admissions standards in a format to be determined by the Department in consultation with the institutions.

Colorado Revised Statute 23-1-113 explains that the admission standards shall be established at “...all state-supported baccalaureate and graduation institutions of higher education in the state.”

It is important to clarify that admission standards are intended to be a means of determining requirements for admission at four-year colleges. Meeting the admission standards does NOT guarantee admission to students as there is a broad range of factors which institutions consider in making decisions.

The CCHE Admissions policy was updated to reflect three areas from which institutions are to set admissions standards (4.01.02). This includes mid 50% range of Assessment Scores from ACT or SAT (4.01.02.01), mid 50% range of Grade Point Average correlated to a 4.0 scale (4.01.02.02), and Rigor (4.01.02.03).

Metropolitan State University of Denver proposes the following standards for admissibility of new first-time entering student applicants:

High School GPA mid 50% range:

Based on analysis of data for the previous year’s admitted new/first-time class, the following range represents the mid-50% high school GPA of our admits: **2.62 – 3.36 GPA.**

Assessment Scores mid 50% range:

Based on analysis of data for the previous year’s admitted new/first-time class, the following ACT/SAT test scores in combination with the aforementioned GPA range were a strong predictor of student success in the first year. Metropolitan State University of Denver also requires students to be at least at the SAI level in English (as demonstrated by a secondary assessment test administered by the MSU Denver English department) and at the MAT 050 level in math (as demonstrated by the Accuplacer exam) to be considered for admission.

ACT Composite range = **18 - 23**

SAT Combined (Critical Reading & Math) range = **930 – 1125**

Rigor:

Beginning with the class of 2008, the CCHE implemented the Higher Education Admission Requirements (HEAR) based on research done by American College Testing (ACT). Metropolitan State University of Denver has also done much analysis on the transcript data of incoming students and has found the coursework listed below to be highly predictive of first-year student success. For the rigor component, Metropolitan State University of Denver proposes to maintain the HEAR standard and content areas listed below for admission into its baccalaureate programs. Metropolitan State University of Denver will also consider students for admission who do not meet HEAR by carefully reviewing other performance indicators such as ACT/SAT test scores, Accuplacer scores, rigor of high school coursework, high school GPA, etc.

<u>Academic Area</u>	<u>2008/2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
English	4 Units	4 Units
Mathematics	3 Units	4 Units
Natural Science	3 Units	3 Units
Social Science	3 Units	3 Units
Foreign Language	Not Req.	1 Unit
Academic Electives	2 Units	2 Units
TOTAL	15 Units	17 Units

Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness (PWR) Endorsed Diploma

Admission Guidelines:

As Metropolitan State University of Denver is a *modified open* institution as listed in the Colorado Admission Standards Policy, **incoming freshman students with the PWR Endorsed Diploma will be guaranteed admission.** Exclusions as listed in the Admission Policy will prevent students from this guarantee (i.e. missing admission application deadline; failure to successfully complete PWR Endorsed Diploma as reflected on the final transcript; and other factors like violations of the institution's campus safety/conduct guidelines.)

Minimum Transfer GPA:

Based on analysis of data of transfer students, the following minimum transfer GPA was a strong predictor of student success upon transferring: 2.3 GPA. MSU Denver will also consider students for admission below this GPA by considering other performance indicators such as high school GPA, ACT/SAT test scores, rigor of high school coursework, Accuplacer scores, transfer courses, etc. However, students must be at least at the SAI level or above in English (as demonstrated by a secondary assessment test administered by the MSU Denver English department or transfer course) and at the MAT 050 level in math (as demonstrated by the Accuplacer exam or transfer course).