



Admission Council Meeting Notes

Thursday, September 11, 2014

2:00-4:00pm

Department of Higher Education

1560 Broadway – Suite 1600 - Denver, CO 80202

Emily Griffith Conference Room

Attendance: Carl Einhaus (CDHE); Vaughn Toland (MSUD); Nahum Kisner (CCD); Catherine Wilson (CU-D); Chrissy Holiday (CSU-P); Heather Boyd (CSM); Kevin MacLennan (CU-B); and Matthew Cox (UCCS). Phone: Bernadine DeGarbo (TSJC); Timalyn O’Neill (CSU); Melissa Trifletti (CSU); Andy Burns (FLC); Jared Meier (CMU); Keith Howard (CCCS); Stacy for Jeff Horner (PPCC); Dale Gaubatz (WSCU); Shane Larson (CMC); Kim Maxwell (MCC); and Darcy Briggs (ACC).

Agenda

1. Greetings and Introductions
2. Colorado Council Fall Workshop Visits Underway – Carl Einhaus, DHE
 - a. Discussing new Admission Policy
 - b. Gathering feedback for the web-based admission tool
3. Web-based admission tool update – Carl Einhaus, DHE
 - a. College in Colorado hired DATA, Inc. to create tool
All seemed interested to hear development has started, and stressed the importance of careful language that the tool is a guide and not an admission promise or decision.
 - b. Volunteers to be on design committee?
Kevin MacLennan (CU Boulder) agreed to be on committee. If others are interested, please email Carl soon.
It was asked how often institutions will need to or can supply changes to admission standards information supplied in the web-based tool. While CCHE is slated to review the Admission Policy every three years (1.00) there is no specific frequency mentioned in the policy for colleges to submit their admission standards (beyond the initial submission). Any future changes to an institution’s admissions standards will also need to be approved by CCHE (4.01.02.04). Section 7.00 does indicate that institutions need to compile and publish the mid 50 percent data of its more recently enrolled class every spring. It is not clear if it should be “admitted” (the Admission Council thought it should be) and if this information would be used for admission standards. **More discussion is required on this topic, but there is time.**



4. Update on new Admissions Policy – Carl Einhaus, DHE

a. CCHE September meeting Admission Policy discussion

- PARCC concerned discussed – CCHE felt current language gave appropriate flexibility for colleges to use or not use the assessment test after it is validated – no objections voiced at Admission Council meeting regarding the language.
- Discussed guaranteed transfer verbiage and need to align with other policies.
- CCHE asked for clarification on “Selectivity” level (further discussion below).

b. Feedback on changes to Transfer Guaranteed Admission section (4.03.04) – see below

i. Proposed new clarifying language

All in attendance good with new language.

ii. Add non-academic exclusions? (e.g. disciplinary, convictions, etc.)

All in attendance felt it would be good to include disciplinary/convictions exclusions for Transfer Guarantee – Carl will borrow language from college admission applications but will keep broad.

c. Selectivity level discussion

Carl discussed CCHE’s request for a clearer and more useful definition of selectivity level as GPA and test score averages between “Selective” and “Moderately Selective” institutions did not result in a significant difference. Opinion expressed was that selectivity level is more for internal CCHE and statute compliance, and not for marketing or public use. It is an outdated and meaningless categorization tool. Selectivity also is used to determine PWR Endorsed Diploma admission policy (whether it is a guarantee or given priority consideration for admission). But PWR Endorsed Diploma impact on admission can be communicated in the web based tool without having to provide the selectivity level. Advice was to keep levels as is, but to not advertise selectivity levels in marketing and promotion.

d. Minimum Standards, Mid-50% Range, and Window

All in attendance recommended that all language regarding “minimum” standard (4.01.02 and 4.01.02.04) and the section on the “Window” (8.0) be removed. These recommendations will be put forth for discussion with other groups before any change is made. These changes were requested as both contradict the intent of the changes of the Admission Policy of flexibility and to place admission standard decisions for institutions in the institutions hands. A “minimum” can be misconstrued as meaning that students under the given credentials are not admissible and contradicts the direction in advertising the mid-50% of admission standards in the future web-based admission tool. The “window” has lost meaning as there are no compliance demands or ramifications for exceeding the 20% limit. Colleges will be held to their self-identified standards by completion rate standards. College-Readiness requirements (4.01.01) will still be followed and do not need “minimum” standards to do so. Carl discussed with CDHE leadership and there is agreement to bring these recommended changes forward to CCHE. Please discuss this with your institution’s leadership to keep them updated.

- e. “Minimum” Standards Template Discussion – see template at bottom
If minimum standards language is removed from the new Admission Policy, then the template will need to be adjusted accordingly. Further, this may delay the timeline for college submission of admission standards to CCHE and other proposed changes to the Admission Policy. As CDHE leadership is recommending these changes be proposed to CCHE, Carl will modify the template and send out to institutions. As a result of the changes, template deadline has changed – **due to Carl by November 16th** – this is assuming CCHE approves changes at November 6th meeting – admission standards will then be reviewed for approval at the December 4th CCHE meeting.

5. Additional Items?

- Admission Policy timeline discussion (Vaughn - MSUD) – some can begin Fall 2016 while others will begin Fall 2019 – concern anyone? Could create confusion if some are on new policy and some are not. Agreement was made that confusion could be averted by careful language in the web-based admission tool.
- Minimum transfer GPA discussion (many) – if we remove the “minimum” language for freshman admission, is it inconsistent to request a minimum for transfer GPA? Possibly, but changes to the transfer GPA would also impact the transfer guarantee and might be too much change with our limited time frame. All in attendance stated they would be OK if we were not able to change this part of the policy at this time. As other changes are being pursued and are involved, changes to the Transfer Policy will not be requested at this time.

6. Future Admission Council Meetings – meet monthly?

November 13th is the already scheduled next Admission Council meeting. We will determine next meeting and frequency at the November meeting.

4.03.04 Guaranteed Transfer Admissions (Current Version)

Applicants who have completed an Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Sciences (AS) degree from a public two-year institution will be guaranteed admissions at most* Colorado public four-year institutions provided the student meets the minimum transfer GPA standard [of the receiving institution], has completed all courses with a grade of C- or better and a two-year institution is the last institution attended prior to transfer.

The language in brackets is proposed language. The star after “most” is a footnote that states:

Institutions may have specific policies or procedures which may disqualify a student from admission. Colorado School of Mines does not participate in the guaranteed transfer admissions because of the specialized nature of its academic programs and limited opportunities to begin in a liberal arts or other more general program of study.

4.03.04 Guaranteed Transfer Admissions (Proposed Changes)

Applicants who have completed an Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Sciences (AS) degree from a Colorado public two-year institution will be guaranteed admissions at all Colorado public baccalaureate awarding institutions, except Colorado School of Mines,

provided the student meets the minimum transfer GPA standard, has completed all courses with a grade of C or better and a two-year institution is the last institution attended prior to transfer.*

Admissions to an institution does not guarantee enrollment in a specific degree program. Institutions may have controlled entry due either to space limitations or academic requirements. Students who complete an AA or AS degree concurrent with high school may qualify for guaranteed admissions to an institution, and subsequently may be held to additional criteria for determining students eligibility for specific degree programs. These students will be reported as first-time applicants and may be held to additional institutional expectations of first-time applicants.

**Institutions may have specific policies or procedures which may disqualify a student from admission. University of Colorado Boulder, University of Colorado Denver, and University of Colorado Colorado Springs require completion of the University of Colorado Minimum Academic Preparation Standards (MAPS) for guaranteed transfer admission. Include disciplinary and convictions language.* Keep broad.

(The below template will be modified to remove “minimum” language by Carl and re-distributed to institutions soon.)

Proposed Minimum Admissions Standards
<Name of Colorado College or University>
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 states the following:

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

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

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

In December of 2013, the CCHE Admissions policy was updated to reflect three areas from which institutions are to set minimum admissions standards (4.01.02). This includes Assessment Scores from ACT or SAT (4.01.02.01), Grade Point Average correlated to a 4.0 scale (4.01.02.02), and Rigor (4.01.02.03). <Name of Colorado College or University> proposes the following standards for admissibility of new first-time entering student applicants:

High School GPA:

Provide minimum GPA based on 4.0 scale here.

Example: Based on extensive analysis of data for past 10 years, the following minimum GPA was a strong predictor of student success in the first year: 2.5 GPA

Assessment Scores:

Provide ACT and/or SAT minimum scores here and if your institution requires the written component (composite scores – option to include subscores?). Provide information on any supplemental assessment your college may use (i.e. Accuplacer and/or Compass).

Example: Based on extensive analysis of data for past 10 years, the following test scores in combination with the aforementioned GPA were a strong predictor of student success in the first year. <Colorado College or University> accepts both tests:

ACT Composite = 21

SAT Combined (Critical Reading & Math) = 990

Rigor:

4.01.02.03 states: “Institutions will set a performance indicator using rigor of students’ high school program of study. Research indicates the best preparation for success in college is for a student to take a rigorous high school curriculum. Institutions can assess rigor in multiple ways, recognizing that students engaged in competency-based high school programs of study and those in traditional seat-time based programs may have different methods of demonstrating rigor. Institutions’ performance indicators should accommodate these different demonstrations of rigor...” Please refer to 4.01.02.03 for other examples of rigor beyond HEAR (e.g. quantity and quality of successfully completed core course work; successful completion of AP/IB courses; successful completion of college level course work; positive trend in grades; rigorous senior year course load; and high school courses in chosen career path).

Example:

Beginning with the class of 2008, the CCHE implemented the Higher Education Admission Requirements (HEAR) based on research done by American College Testing (ACT). <Colorado College or University> 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, <Colorado College or University> proposes to maintain the HEAR standard and content areas listed below for admission into its baccalaureate programs.

<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
<u>Academic Electives</u>	<u>2 Units</u>	<u>2 Units</u>
TOTAL	15 Units	17 Units

Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness (PWR) Endorsed Diploma Admission Guidelines:

As 4.02 states, “Open, modified open and moderately selective institutions shall have as part of their admission policies that students with a PWR Endorsed Diploma are guaranteed admission.”

“Selective and highly selective institutions shall have as part of their admissions policies that students with a PWR Endorsed Diploma will receive priority consideration.”

Example:

As <Colorado College or University> is a *moderately selective* 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 24 hour standard:

The minimum cumulative GPA from all previous college-level course work your institution will accept. The minimum Transfer GPA will also be used to determine eligibility for Guaranteed Transfer Admission (excluding Colorado School of Mines).

Example: Based on extensive analysis of data for past 10 years of transfer students, the following minimum transfer GPA was a strong predictor of student success upon transferring: 2.1 GPA.