POLICY: Admission to the University for Undergraduates

A. Purpose & Scope:
To define the criteria used for Undergraduate Admission decisions for each applicant

B. Definition(s):

C. Policy: Undergraduate Admission Categories at California University of Pennsylvania

1. First-Time Degree-Seeking Students
   a. Regular Admission
      i. Official high school transcript showing a cumulative high school grade point average (GPA) ≥2.50 on a 4.00 scale. The GPA can be weighted or unweighted.
      ii. SAT Reading+Mathematics composite score ≥900 (≥980 on the new SAT) or ACT composite score ≥19
      iii. Applicants not meeting both criteria may receive regular admission through the consideration of class rank, type of curriculum completed in relation to proposed major, letters of recommendation, on-campus-interview, extracurricular activities, personal essay, and years since high school graduation.

   b. Conditional Admission
      i. Official high school transcript showing a cumulative high school GPA <2.50 and >2.25 on a 4.00 scale. The GPA can be weighted or unweighted.
      ii. Applicants with a high school GPA ≤2.25 will be Conditionally admitted to the university under the Support for Success program (S4S) and be required to:
         a) Successfully complete the university’s Support for Success (S4S) program in their first semester with at least a 75 percent achievement rate and earn at least a 3.00 GPA in the semester. Students earning a 3.00 GPA in the first semester will be exempt from S4S in their second semester, and their admission status will be changed from Conditional to Regular.
         b) Repeat S4S in their second semester if their first semester GPA is <3.00. The 75 percent achievement rate will still be required.
         c) Students who have a cumulative GPA of <2.00 at the end of their second semester will be dismissed from the university.
         d) Failure to fulfill the 75 percent achievement rate in S4S may be viewed as a violation of their admission and be subject to dismissal from the university.

   c. Provisional Admission
      i. Professional judgment is used to facilitate students’ enrollment when unofficial documents are submitted pending official documents.
      ii. Students are classified as non-degree and financial aid cannot be processed while in this status.
      iii. Upon receipt of required official academic credentials, students may receive Regular or Conditional Admission.

   d. Denied Admission
      i. Applicants with an SAT Reading+Mathematics of ≤1000 (≤1080 on the new SAT) and a high school GPA ≤2.00 will be automatically denied admission.
2. Transfer Students
   a. **Regular Admission** - Official College Transcript indicating a transfer GPA ≥2.00

   b. **Conditional Admission**
      i. Applicants with a transfer GPA ≥1.75 and <2.00 may be admitted under one of the following criteria:
         - Student is transferring from a more highly selective university or a more academically challenging major than the proposed major at California University, or
         - Student is transferring from a community college showing academic improvement in their most recent term, or
         - Student has been out of college for at least three years
      ii. All Conditional Admission transfer students must:
         - Successfully complete the university’s Support for Success (S4S) program in their first semester with at least a 75 percent achievement rate and earn at least a 3.00 GPA in the semester. Students earning a 3.00 GPA in the first semester will be exempt from S4S in their second semester, and their admission status will be changed from Conditional to Regular.
         - Repeat S4S in their second semester if their first semester GPA is <3.00. The 75 percent achievement rate will still be required.
         - Students who have a cumulative GPA of <2.00 at the end of their second semester will be dismissed from the university.
         - Failure to fulfill the 75 percent achievement rate in S4S may be viewed as a violation of their admission and be subject to dismissal from the university.

   c. **Provisional Acceptance**
      i. Professional judgment is used to facilitate students’ enrollment when unofficial documents are submitted pending official documents.
      ii. Students are classified as non-degree and financial aid cannot be processed while in this status.
      iii. Upon receipt of required official academic credentials, students may receive Regular or Conditional Admission.

   d. **Denied Admission**
      i. Transfer applicants with a GPA <1.75 will be automatically denied admission.

3. **High School Early Admission (HSEA)**
   a. Sophomore year of high school completed
   b. Cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 on a 4.00 scale for the last two years
   c. Documentation of having completed a standardized test (PSAT, SAT or ACT)
   d. Participant Authorization Form signed by the Parent/Guardian and High School Administration
   e. At the completion of 30 university credits, students must declare a major or indicate that they do not plan to pursue a degree at California University.
   f. HSEA students are classified as non-degree for each semester while in high school and are ineligible for financial aid awards while in the HSEA program.
   g. HSEA ceases upon graduation from high school.

4. **International Applicants, First-time Degree-Seeking**
   a. Official high school transcript with SAT Reading+Mathematics composite score ≥900 (≥980 on the new SAT) or ACT composite score ≥19.
   b. Official paper-based TOEFL ≥500; or Official Computer-based TOEFL≥173 or iBT TOEFL≥61; or IELTS ≥5.5 or ITEP≥3.5
   c. Two letters of recommendation
   d. Signed Financial Guarantee Statement
   e. Signed Affidavit of Support
f. A document-by-document evaluation including a request of Grade Point Average of official transcripts must be completed for non-English transcripts by an acceptable evaluation service agency, such as WES or Silney, to certify an equivalent degree in the U.S. on a 4.0 scale. For international applicants whose primary method of instruction was not English, TOEFL, IELTS, or ITEP test scores that exceed the university or program minimums must be met and submitted. Agency transcript evaluations and language test scores may be waived if the primary language of instruction is English and on a 4.0 scale. Upon receipt of an official English transcript not on a 4.0 scale, admissions will calculate to determine equivalency.

5. International Applicants, Transfer Students
a. Official college transcript(s) indicating a GPA>2.00.
b. Official paper-based TOEFL ≥500; or Official computer-based TOEFL≥173 or iBT TOEFL≥61; or IELTS ≥5.5 or ITEP≥3.5
c. Two letters of recommendation
d. Signed Financial Guarantee Statement
e. Signed Affidavit of Support
f. A document by document evaluation including a request of Grade Point Average of official transcripts must be completed for non-English transcripts by an acceptable evaluation service agency, such as WES or Silney, to certify an equivalent degree in the U.S. on a 4.0 scale. For international applicants whose primary method of instruction was not English, TOEFL, IELTS, or ITEP test scores that exceed the university or program minimums must be met and submitted. Agency transcript evaluations and language test scores may be waived if the primary language of instruction is English and on a 4.0 scale. Upon receipt of an official English transcript not on a 4.0 scale, admissions will calculate to determine equivalency.

6. Non-Degree Admission
a. Official high school transcript, or
b. Official college transcript from the last institution attended

D. Procedure(s):

E. Effective date: August 30, 2016 starting with Fall 2017 admissions
Updated date: 
Amended Date: