Annual Report of the Faculty Senate Committee on Admissions 2021-2022

2021-2022 Committee Members

COMMITTEE ON ADMISSIONS	Department	Service Ends
<u>Elected</u>		
Andrew Corley	Languages, Literatures and Cultures	(2022)
Matthew Miller (Chair)	Mathematics	(2022)
Marketa Kubickova	Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism	(2023)
Nathan Huynh	Civil and Environmental Engineering	(2023)
Laura Herbert	Nursing	(2024)
<u>Appointed</u>		
Mary Wagner, ex-officio, Secretary	Admissions	
Sandra Kelly	Provost's Office	
Terrance McAdoo	Instruction and Teacher Education	(2022)
Tarek Shazly	Mechanical Engineering	(2022)
Ozgur Ince	Finance	(2023)
Sabrina Habib	Journalism and Mass Communication	(2024)

During the 2022-2023 academic year, the committee met six times:

- September 16, 2021
- October 12, 2021
- November 15, 2021
- February 3, 2022
- March 15, 2022
- April 14, 2022

Attached is a summary of key updates and actions.

Minutes: September 16, 2021

Attending: Miller, Huynh, Herbert, Kelly, McAdoo, Shazly, Habib, Wagner

Meeting called to order by chairman Miller at 11:03 am

Members of the committee introduced themselves.

Approval of the minutes from the April 13, 2021 meeting: Kelly moved to accept with edit to date correction; McAcdoo seconded. **Motion carried.**

Wagner provided an overview of the entering freshman, transfer and residential bridge class numbers, and profile, followed by summary of applicant behaviors, enrollment and yield by special populations of interest. A review of residential bridge funnel data for Gamecock Gateway and Palmetto Pathway were presented. All data are unofficial, and census is scheduled for mid-October. Wagner noted that data are presented to provide context for current outcomes of the most recent freshman recruitment cycle and are for benefit of admissions committee's future deliberations. OIRAA is official source of data reported to third parties, agencies, DOE, CHE, etc. Slides are not to be shared with outside parties.

Wagner presented annual community standards report. Discussion about whether we wish to reconsider practice of asking these questions on the application were raised by Wagner given several years of data suggesting that a very small minority of applicants experience impact to admission status as result of these questions. Also discussed, do these questions have the unintended effect of discouraging URM students from applying, especially since URMs are over-represented in school discipline cases and less likely to have access to positive outcomes in criminal justice system (i.e., influenced by structural inequality, racial bias, racism, etc.) **Miller asked to table issue** for next meeting to include more discussion on matter.

Wagner presented policy update regarding new transfer standards for Tourism Management and Hospitality Management (moving from 2.25 to 2.5 for transfer admission). New standard was approved by Faculty Senate on Sept. 8, 2021. CHE policy concerning acceptance of AS scores for college credit was presented. Link to the policy here. Wagner noted that given small number in Cambridge credit to date, subject areas will be research and articulated as requests for credit come in. The Registrar's Office manages this process, notifies Admission of scores and courses associated with articulation who then updates the website to reflect transfer policy.

Old Business

BOT letter requesting review of current Test Optional policy presented. In it, BOT asks that we reconsider reviewing the policy annually, provide data and benchmarks to evaluate and support requests for future extension, should the committee request it. Several committee members had to depart meeting early which limited discussion by full committee.

Huynh moved to table the issue until the next meeting. Miller seconded. Motion carried.

New Business

None

Kelly moved to adjourn. Miller seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Wagner, Secretary (ex-officio)

Minutes: October 12, 2021

Chair Miller called meeting to order at 2:02 pm

Attending: Miller, Kubickova, Huynh, Kelly, McAdoo, Shazly, Ince, Habib, Hebert, Wagner

Committee members who were unable to attend September 16 meeting introduced themselves:

Marketa Kubickova, HRSM; Oz Ince, DMSB; Tarek Shazly, CEC

Approval of minutes:

McAdoo moved to approve minutes from 9/16/21 meeting, Kelly seconded. Motion carried.

Enrollment Update:

Wagner provided update on spring 2022 and fall 2022 applications.

Old Business:

- 1. Community Standards Report
 - Wagner provided annual update on community standards questions from the 2021 application cycle. This included counts of affirmative statements and decision outcomes related to question responses.
 - Wagner noted that all responses are self-reported and result in few if any extended committee investigations or denials of admission based on student's response. The process is very thorough, time consuming for the small number of affirmative responses received.
 - Wagner posited that the committee may wish to revisit current policy as it exists to move
 these questions to a different point in the application cycle, likely after a student is admitted
 but before they enroll. There is a national movement to "ban the box" among institutions,
 legislatures, and among Common App members to reconsider if or when such questions are
 asked.
 - After some discussion, Miller advised the committee would reconsider the issue after gathering additional data on national trends as well as feedback from campus partners to include housing and campus safety.

2. BOT letter

- Wagner and Miller shared letter from BOT Secretary Howell regarding BOT's request to have the Admissions Committee revisit the duration and timing of review as it pertains to the pilot Test Optional Policy. Note that the Faculty Senate voted to approve TO through the fall 2023 cycle. BOT asked that committee consider reviewing the policy on an annual basis.
- Committee discussed how this is a faculty governance matter that should not require additional review prior to the date originally agreed upon.
- Committee members charged Miller and Wagner to draft a response, distribute to committee via email, offer edits, and then vote by mail on the final response.
- A copy of the final letter sent to FS Chair Korsgaard is attached to these minutes.

New Business:

None

Adjournment:

Huynh moved to adjourn, Kubickova seconded. Meeting adjourned at 3:03 PM.

Copy of Admissions Committee response to BOT request to review Test Optional Policies annually.

November 15, 2021

Audrey Korsgaard, PhD Faculty Senate Chair Faculty Senate Office University of South Carolina Columbia, SC 29208

Dear Dr. Korsgaard,

This letter is a response to the Board of Trustee's request, dated July 16, 2021, to have the Faculty Senate Admissions Committee revisit the timing of the committee's review of the current test optional policy. We are deeply appreciative of the Board's interest in the UofSC admissions process.

The implementation of the Test Optional policy for the Fall 2021 cycle was precipitated by emergency circumstances brought on by the pandemic. Nevertheless, it was a carefully considered decision with every consideration given to expanding holistic review and considering other academic measures of success where scores were not available. The approach was grounded in data and success models built on prior cohorts of students at UofSC. Furthermore, the policy offered a competitive advantage to the institution, as many of our overlap applicant peers had adopted test optional for the Fall 2021 cycle.

In its pilot year, the policy change had the desired effect of increasing application volume overall as well as among SC residents and underrepresented students. In Fall 2021, the university welcomed the second largest freshman class in history with students posting the highest GPAs ever recorded and with students presenting average test scores on par with the class of 2020.

The admissions process includes a long lead time of 18-24 months before the start of the traditional fall freshman term. Students, their parents, and their counselors begin making decisions in the junior year of high school. As such, we help students by finalizing our admissions policies while they are constructing their college lists, even before it is time to apply.

UofSC needs time to adequately assess how students admitted under the provisional test optional policy are performing. The first cohort was admitted for Fall 2021. Data on their performance will not be available until early in 2022. Students who will be applying for Fall 2023 will be making decisions about when and how frequently they should begin testing during their junior year, which is Spring of 2022. A clear policy declaration early in 2022 will assist students in their college search plans. UofSC's strategic position requires that we remain accessible and responsive to the educational needs of our state's population. A clear policy will also provide a competitive market advantage as more than 75% of the nation's institutions intend to remain test optional for the foreseeable future or are seriously considering permanent adoption of Test Optional.

We emphasize that "test optional" does not mean "test blind." Any applicant who wishes to submit test scores may do so, and these scores will be considered. Students who are required to present scores for state, national, or private scholarships are encouraged to also submit these scores as part of their application to UofSC.

Our recommendation is for UofSC to retain the Test Optional policy through the 2022-2023 admissions cycle as originally approved by the Faculty Senate. Faculty governance requires that we present data to faculty senators for reconsideration, which would not allow proper time to implement changes within the one-year requested window. Further, as this topic was carefully considered prior to selecting a two-year period, our committee is confident in the choice made by the faculty body. However, based on the request of the Board, we commit to reviewing the prevailing Test Optional policy on an annual basis, during the spring semester of the committee's meeting schedule, to confirm and reaffirm the committee's direction for the next admissions cycle.

Sincerely,

Matt Miller 2021-2022 Chair Faculty Senate Committee on Admissions

Minutes: November 15, 2021

Meeting called to order at 12:01 pm by Chair Miller.

Attendees: Miller, Corley, Kubickova, Herbert, McAdoo, Ince, Habib, Kelly, Wagner

Minutes approval: Noting one correction related to meeting attendees for 10/12/21 meeting, Hebert moved to approve minutes, Habib seconded, motion carried.

Wagner provided enrollment update for spring and fall 2022 terms. Nov. 15 is Honors app deadline.

Old business:

Miller noted that BOT letter has been forwarded to FS Chair Korsgaard for review.

Wagner presented research related to impact of school disciplinary question presence on Common App. Noted that CA has removed these from the profile and has left it to individual institutions to include them on their application supplements. Research regarding disproportionate impact on URM populations was presented. Wagner mentioned that many institutions still ask some version of disciplinary or criminal conviction questions, with many of these leaning toward disclosures about convictions or matters pertaining to interpersonal violence, sexual assault, stalking, etc. At present, campus police does not support removing all questions from the application, especially those pertaining to criminal behavior.

Wagner also presented research noting that 72% of all affirmative disclosures are in for the "school behavior/suspensions/expulsions" question and that responses to this question rarely if ever result in a student having their application placed on hold or denied. By removing this question, the questions pertaining to more serious legal infractions would remain, thereby setting aside more time to examine the most egregious cases of inappropriate student conduct. After considerable discussion, the committee determined that admissions may benefit from removing the school discipline related question from future applications, provided there is no immediate impact to the academic bulletin (which would require a vote and bulletin change by December Senate meeting).

Habib moved to table the discussion and vote on this action until the February 2021 meeting. McAdoo seconded. **Item is tabled.**

New business:

Miller presented overview of *possible* metrics the committee may use and present to the Faculty Senate to gage impact of the Test Optional (TO) pilot. These might include:

- TO Cohort GPA for first 2 semesters vs. past cohorts (incl. F18/S19; F19/S20*; F20*/S21*; F21/S22)
- Retention rates (1st to 2nd year)
- TO vs. Non-TO Cohorts (F18, F19, F20, F21, F22) Demographics/profile (URM, Academic measures)
- Market considerations: Competitor Actions, National trends

Discussion ensued with members noting that it may be particularly difficult to pick apart impact of TO for terms and cohorts affected by COVID and teaching methods (remote, in person, hybrid). Also noted that different populations behave differently as notable differences exist among URM groups, resident v. Non-resident populations, availability of aid, competitor behavior in marketplace, etc.

Wagner noted that in addition to the statistics requested above, she will work with EM Enrollment Analytics to examine the population for other trends of note.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:03 pm.

Minutes: February 3, 2022

Meeting to order at 2:01 pm by Chair Miller.

Attendees: Miller, Kubickova, Huynh, McAdoo, Shazly, Ince, Habib, Wagner

Minutes Approval: McAdoo moved to approve the minutes from the November 15, 2021 meeting. Habib seconded. Motion caried.

Enrollment Overview

- A. Wagner presented an overview of the Spring and Fall 2022 application cycle.
- B. Wagner presented first semester (Fall 2021) research on the first year Test Optional cohort.
 - a. Preliminary review of first semester data show that there are few if any significant differences based on average number of hours earned and GPA.
 - b. These trends hold up along racial, residency, socioeconomic and college/School subpopulations with some minor exceptions.
- C. Based on the preliminary research of the first cohort and the request of the Board of Trustees to review the status of the pilot periodically, the committee reaffirmed request to extend test optional pilot through the Fall 2023 term.

Old Business

A. Prior discussion about whether or not to adjust or remove Community Standards questions from the UG admissions office was revisited. Wagner reported that partner units outside of admissions are not receptive to taking on this function in their areas. Thus, no update or change to these questions is anticipated for the 2023 admissions cycle.

New Business

No new business.

McAdoo moved to adjourn, Ince seconded. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 2:49 pm

Respectfully submitted, Mary Wagner, Ph.D., Ex Officio Secretary

Minutes: March 15, 2022

Chair Miller called meeting to order at 2:04 pm.

Attendees: Miller, Kubickova, Huynh, Herbert, Kelly, McAdoo, Habib, Wagner.

Minutes Approval: McAdoo moved to approve the minutes from the February 3, 2022 meeting. Motion carried.

Enrollment Overview

Wagner presented overview of fall freshmen and transfers

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Election of new committee chair

- Nathan Huynh nominated by Miller. Habib seconded the nomination.
- Huynh elected committee chair for the 2022-2023 year by unanimous consent.
- Wagner and fellow committee members expressed thanks to outgoing chair, Matt Miller, for his leadership during the past year.

Adjourn

Habib moved to adjourn, Huynh seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Wagner, Ph.D., Ex Officio Secretary

Minutes: April 14, 2022

Chair Miller called meeting to order at 11:32 am

Attendees: Miller, Kubickova, Huynh, Herbert, Kelly, Ince, Wagner

Minutes Approval: Approve Minutes (March 15, 2022). Ince moved to accept. Kelly seconded. Motion carried.

Enrollment overview

Wagner provided overview of Fall 2022 term to include both Freshman and Transfer populations
Old Business

A. Community Standards Questions on Campus-Based Applications for UG Admission

Questions pertaining to community standards section of admission application were discussed again with special emphasis on pending school disciplinary charges.

Wagner reported that over 70% of the responses to community standards questions pertain to in-school issues that are considered non-threatening in nature. These are routinely cleared and do not impact status of a student's application. National research also points to disproportional impact on URM students when it comes to who gets written up or disciplined in school settings. Based on these data, UG Admissions recommends removing or editing the questions for clarity.

Current language reads:

Do you currently have any pending school disciplinary charges (non-academic or academic), or have you ever been suspended or expelled for any reason from a high school, college, university or other postsecondary educational institution since 9th grade?

Committee recommended clarifying the above question for *campus-based applications* for admission by breaking it into two questions, one of which focuses on academic integrity since 9th grade.

Proposed Language:

Have you been found responsible for any academic-related infractions in any educational institution since 9^{th} grade?

Have you ever been suspended or expelled for any reason from a college, university, or other postsecondary educational institution?

Huynh moved to accept the edited questions for the 2023 application cycle (effective Spring 2023 forward). Kubickova seconded. **Motion Carried.**

A. Online Programs policy edits

1. Admission Standards

At its meeting on April 7, 2021, the Faculty Senate approved minimum freshman, transfer, and readmit admission requirements for Carolina Online. Given that Carolina Online no longer exists and the name "University of South Carolina Online Programs" is more current nomenclature, **this request to edit policy removes prior reference to Carolina Online. It also simplifies the policy** to leverage existing processes, not separate processes, to expand online program offerings. As a result, polices that reference Carolina Online need to be revised.

Wagner noted that the proposed revised admission requirements (attached) will ensure that applicants to online programs must meet the same requirements as applicants to on-campus programs. This policy emphasizes the commitment and investment of UofSC to educating all South Carolina residents as well as those in the southeastern region and nationally by offering high-quality online programs. It also enables the University to honor the contract entered with Major League Soccer that includes different admission criteria.

Discussion followed with special emphasis placed on clarifying expectations for future changes to MLS admission criteria as well as any new MOUs or contracts that specify different admission criteria. As always, such changes will be reviewed by the Faculty Senate Committee on Admission in the future as needed.

A copy of the proposal is attached to these minutes.

Huynh moved to accept the policy edits. Ince seconded. Motion carried.

2. Behavioral questions

At its meeting on April 7, 2021, the Faculty Senate approved revisions to the Behavioral/Criminal Infractions Policy for Carolina Online. Given that Carolina Online no longer exists and the name "University of South Carolina Online Programs" is more current nomenclature, this request to edit policy removes prior reference to Carolina Online. It also simplifies the policy to leverage existing processes, not separate processes, to expand online program offerings. As a result, polices that reference Carolina Online need to be revised.

These revisions **remove all references to Carolina Online** and separate Carolina Online admission/enrollment management staff while **keeping language that allows for the application to not require applicants to disclose school behavioral or criminal infraction charges unless that information is needed for a specific program for 100% online programs.** For applicants disclosing an infraction if such questions are required on the application, the revisions proposed follow the same process currently used by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

A copy of the proposal is attached to these minutes.

Note: Behavioral/criminal infraction questions will still be asked of students pursuing inperson/in-residence instruction.

Ince moved to accept the policy edits. Huynh seconded. Motion carried.

B. Recognition of Outgoing Committee Concluding 2021-2022 Academic Year

Outgoing Committee members were recognized and thanked for their committee service. This includes Andrew Corley, Matt Miller, Terrance McAdoo, Tarek Shazly.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 12:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Wagner, Ph.D., Secretary, Ex Officio **Proposal:** Revise the minimum freshman, transfer, and readmit admission requirements for University of South Carolina Online Programs, formerly known as Carolina Online.

Requested Effective Date: September 2022

Background:

At its meeting on April 7, 2021, the Faculty Senate approved minimum freshman, transfer, and readmit admission requirements for Carolina Online. Carolina Online no longer exists and we are moving forward with using University of South Carolina Online Programs and leverage existing processes, not separate processes, to expand online program offerings. As a result, polices that reference Carolina Online need to be revised.

Admission Policy for Carolina Online Approved on April 7, 2021:

Application to online programs offered through Carolina Online will be submitted to Carolina Online. The following policies only apply to Carolina Online.

Freshman Admission

An applicant who has not attended a regionally accredited college or university after high-school graduation may be considered for freshman admission. Requirements for admission to online programs offered through Carolina Online include:

- Completed application
- Application fee
- Completion of required high school courses as defined by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education
- Minimum GPA of 2.25
- Official final high school transcript with graduation date
- Standardized test scores (e.g., SAT or ACT), if requested.

Military Freshman Applicants

South Carolina resident applicants with at least two years of active-duty military service may be admitted as freshmen if they graduated high school with a 2.25 GPA, completed minimum college preparatory course requirements outlined

Proposed Revision

The admission criteria for University of South Carolina Online Programs follow the prevailing criteria by student type, including freshman, military freshman, transfer, system transfer, readmission, and non-degree. However, the University may engage in educational partnerships and establish MOUs or contracts for which different admission criteria are applied. Consult with the Office of Undergraduate Admission for additional information.

Online programs are those for which 100% of instruction is conducted online.

by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, and have not attempted any postsecondary work since graduation. The application fee is waived for military applicants.

Transfer Admission

An applicant who has attended another regionally accredited postsecondary institution after high school graduation and attempted one or more courses is a transfer student, irrespective of credit earned, and must meet transfer entrance requirements. Requirements for transfer admission to online programs offered through Carolina Online include:

- Completed application
- Application fee (waived for military)
- Official transcripts from postsecondary institution(s); 30 credit hours are needed to qualify for transfer admission
 - Applicants with a Joint Services
 Transcript may choose to apply
 up to 15 credit hours towards the
 30 credit hours needed to qualify
 for transfer admission
- Minimum GPA of 2.25
- Official final high school transcript with graduation date (only if fewer than 30 credit hours of college-level coursework have been completed)
- Standardized test scores [e.g., SAT or ACT], if requested (only if fewer than 30 credit hours of college-level coursework have been completed)

Courses attempted at another regionally accredited postsecondary institution will be evaluated consistent with University policy on transfer of credit.

Please refer to

https://sc.edu/about/offices and divisions/ registrar/transfer_credits/index.php for further details on transfer credit guidelines.

Readmission

A former UofSC student wishing to return to complete an online program through Carolina Online will need to submit a completed application for readmission. Returning students must have a 2.0 UofSC GPA.

Non-degree Seeking Admission

A student who applies for admission to a program offered through Carolina Online and does not meet the freshman, transfer, or readmit admission requirements may be admitted as a non-degree seeking student. After completing two UofSC Carolina Online program courses (minimum of 6 hours) that are degree-applicable to the Carolina Core or the major and approved by the Carolina Online Director of Enrollment, such students with a 2.25 GPA may be admitted as a degree-seeking student to a Carolina Online program without submitting an additional application. However, such students must submit any requested documentation prior to moving to degree-seeking status. Courses completed while in non-degree seeking status may apply toward the Carolina Online degree program.

Justification:

The proposed revised admission requirements will ensure that applicants to online programs must meet the same requirements as applicants to on-campus programs; but will also enable the University to honor the contract entered into with Major League Soccer that includes different admission criteria. Any changes to the MLS admission criteria or any new MOUs or contracts that specify different admission criteria will be reviewed by the Faculty Senate Committee on Admission. This policy emphasizes the commitment and investment of UofSC to educating all South Carolina residents as well as those in the southeastern region and nationally by offering high-quality online programs.

<END>

Proposal: Revision of the Behavioral/Criminal Infractions Policy for Carolina Online

Requested Effective Date: September 2022

Background:

At its meeting on April 7, 2021, the Faculty Senate approved revisions to the Behavioral/Criminal Infractions Policy for Carolina Online. Carolina Online no longer exists and we are moving forward with using University of South Carolina Online Programs and leverage existing processes, not separate processes, to expand online program offerings. As a result, polices that reference Carolina Online need to be revised.

Proposed Policy Revisions to the Behavioral/Criminal Infractions Policy

Policy for Carolina Online Approved on April 7, 2021

In-Residence Programs

The University of South Carolina-Columbia expects students who join its community of scholars to uphold the tenets of the Carolinian Creed and to conduct themselves according to these standards. Therefore, all applicants for undergraduate admission must disclose any school behavioral, academic or criminal infraction charges occurring prior to their enrollment at the university. Questions pertaining to infractions will be asked on the application for admission. Applicants will be instructed to provide any updated information occurring after submission of the initial application for admission. The signature [or electronic signature] section of the application attests to the accuracy and completeness of all questions on the application. Failure to provide complete and correct information is grounds for immediate revocation of admission and cancellation of registration or enrollment at the University of South Carolina.

The questions dealing with infractions will direct the applicant to provide a written description of the infraction, appropriate date(s), and ultimate resolution or current disposition. Applicants disclosing an infraction will be flagged in the admissions system to prevent any definitive admission decision until the infraction is

Proposed Revision

In-Residence Programs

The University of South Carolina-Columbia expects students who join its community of scholars to uphold the tenets of the Carolinian Creed and to conduct themselves according to these standards. Therefore, all applicants for undergraduate admission must disclose any school behavioral, academic or criminal infraction charges occurring prior to their enrollment at the university. Questions pertaining to infractions will be asked on the application for admission. Applicants will be instructed to provide any updated information occurring after submission of the initial application for admission. The signature [or electronic signature] section of the application attests to the accuracy and completeness of all questions on the application. Failure to provide complete and correct information is grounds for immediate revocation of admission and cancellation of registration or enrollment at the University of South Carolina.

The questions dealing with infractions will direct the applicant to provide a written description of the infraction, appropriate date(s), and ultimate resolution or current disposition. Applicants disclosing an infraction will be flagged in the admissions system to prevent any definitive admission decision until the infraction is reviewed reviewed and the student cleared for final action by the director of admissions.

Behavioral infractions are defined as disciplinary violations at an educational institution (including a college or university) resulting in sanctions including suspension or expulsion since the 9th grade. A designated member of the admissions staff will review the application to first determine academic admissibility. If the student is admissible, the staff member will review the infraction and follow up as necessary, including contacting the applicant's previous educational institutions. The facts of the case will be documented and sent to the director of admissions who will make the final determination of admission.

Criminal infractions include misdemeanors, felonies or other crimes more serious than minor traffic violations (e.g., speeding, driving without a license, etc.). A designated member of the admissions staff will review the application to first determine academic admissibility. If admissible, the staff member will review the criminal infraction to determine the appropriate course of action. If upon investigation the staff member deems the offense to be minor the case may be documented and referred to the director of admissions for a final determination of admission.

If the infraction is more serious, in most instances the case will be sent to a special ad hoc committee¹ for review and determination of eligibility for admission and enrollment. The committee will have access to all application materials and information regarding the infraction and may at their discretion request additional information from the applicant or appropriate authorities outside the university.

The committee will make a formal recommendation of action to the director of admissions. If the committee approves admission they may also note any special conditions of enrollment or eligibility for on campus housing and/or referral to the campus Judicial Affairs Committee. The final decision will be made by the director of admissions.

and the student cleared for final action by the executive director of admissions.

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Criminal infractions include misdemeanors, felonies or other crimes more serious than minor traffic violations (e.g., speeding, driving without a license, etc.). A designated member of the admissions staff will review the application to first determine academic admissibility. If admissible, the staff member will review the criminal infraction to determine the appropriate course of action. If upon investigation the staff member deems the offense to be minor the case may be documented and referred to the executive director of admissions for a final determination of admission.

If the infraction is more serious, in most instances the case will be sent to a special ad hoc committee¹ for review and determination of eligibility for admission and enrollment. The committee will have access to all application materials and information regarding the infraction and may at their discretion request additional information from the applicant or appropriate authorities outside the university.

The committee will make a formal recommendation of action to the executive director of admissions. If the committee approves admission, they may also note any special conditions of enrollment or eligibility for on campus housing and/or referral to the campus Judicial Affairs Committee. The final decision will

The director of admissions will notify the applicant of the final admission decision. If there are special circumstances or conditions on the applicant's admission these will be communicated to the applicant. If the student is deemed as unfit for university enrollment this will be communicated.

The director of admissions will provide an annual written report to the University Admissions Committee regarding number of cases reviewed and final action in each infraction category.

1. The ad hoc committee may include representation from the following offices: Judicial Affairs, Faculty Senate Committee on Admissions, Housing/Student Affairs, Campus Safety and Counseling Center. The director of admissions or designee will be ex officio and provide staff support to the committee.

Carolina Online Programs

The University of South Carolina-Columbia expects students who join its online community of scholars to uphold the tenets of the Carolinian Creed and to conduct themselves according to these standards. Carolina Online applicants must disclose any academic infraction occurring prior to their enrollment.

Select Carolina Online programs may ask an applicant to disclose school behavioral or criminal infraction charges occurring prior to their enrollment at the university, if required by their program of study. If required, questions pertaining to infractions will be asked on the application for admission. The questions dealing with infractions will direct the applicant to provide a written description of the infraction, appropriate date(s), and ultimate resolution or current disposition. For applicants disclosing an infraction, a designated member of the Carolina Online admissions staff will review the information submitted and follow up as necessary. If the infraction is serious, the case may be sent to a special ad hoc committee¹ for review and determination of eligibility for admission and enrollment. The committee will make a formal recommendation of action to the

be made by the executive director of admissions.

The executive director of admissions will provide an annual written report to the University Admissions Committee regarding number of cases reviewed and final action in each infraction category.

1. The ad hoc committee may include representation from the following offices: Judicial Affairs, Faculty Senate Committee on Admissions, Housing/Student Affairs, Campus Safety and Counseling Center. The director of admissions or designee will be ex officio and provide staff support to the committee.

Online Programs

The University of South Carolina-Columbia expects students who join its online community of scholars to uphold the tenets of the Carolinian Creed and to conduct themselves according to these standards. Online program applicants must disclose any academic infraction occurring prior to their enrollment.

Select online programs may ask an applicant to disclose school behavioral or criminal infraction charges occurring prior to their enrollment at the university, if required by their program of study. If required, questions pertaining to infractions will be asked on the application for admission. The questions dealing with infractions will direct the applicant to provide a written description of the infraction, appropriate date(s), and ultimate resolution or current disposition. For applicants disclosing an infraction, a designated member of the admissions staff will review the information submitted to determine academic admissibility. If admissible, the staff member will review the criminal infraction to determine the appropriate course of action.

If the infraction is more serious, the applicant may be reviewed by a special ad hoc committee¹ for evaluation to further assess their eligibility for admission and enrollment. The committee will have access to all application materials and information regarding the infraction and may, at their discretion, request additional information

Carolina Online director of admissions and may also recommend any special conditions of enrollment and/or referral to the campus Judicial Affairs Committee.

The Carolina Online Director of Enrollment Management will make the final determination of admission. If there are special circumstances or

conditions on the applicant's admission, these will be communicated to the applicant.

The Carolina Online Director of Enrollment Management will provide an annual written report to the University Admissions Committee regarding number of cases reviewed and final action in each infraction category.

1. The ad hoc committee for Carolina Online may include representation from the following offices: Judicial Affairs and Faculty Senate Committee on Admissions. Carolina Online will provide staff support to the committee.

from the applicant or appropriate authorities outside the university.

The committee will make a formal recommendation of action to the executive director of admissions. If the committee approves admission, they may also note any special conditions of enrollment. The final decision will be made by the executive director of admissions.

The executive director of admissions will provide an annual written report to the University Admissions Committee regarding number of cases reviewed and final action in each infraction category.

1. The ad hoc committee may include representation from the following offices: Judicial Affairs, Faculty Senate Committee on Admissions, Housing/Student Affairs, Campus Safety and Counseling Center. The executive director of admissions or designee will be ex officio and provide staff support to the committee.

Justification:

These revisions remove all references to Carolina Online and separate Carolina Online admission/enrollment management staff while keeping language that allows for the application to not require applicants to disclose school behavioral or criminal infraction charges unless that information is needed for a specific program. For applicants disclosing an infraction if such questions are required on the application, the revisions proposed follow the same process currently used by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.



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