

8.013 Specialized Admissions

(1) Specialized admissions status allows the university to establish additional criteria for admission to undergraduate programs. The Board of Governors may approve certain undergraduate degree programs as specialized admissions programs upon request by the university board of trustees if the programs meet one or more of the following categories:

(a) Limited resources: The number of students who meet all the requirements for admission to the university and to the program is in excess of available resources such as space, equipment, or other instructional facilities; clinical facilities; required student-faculty ratios; and fiscal or other resource limitations. The university must submit a plan and timeline for increasing capacity to meet student demand and/or workforce needs, or a sufficient rationale for why capacity cannot be increased, as part of the initial and renewal applications. Programs approved with this status:

1. May use additional admissions criteria that vary from academic year to academic year, depending on program capacity. Any changes to admissions criteria should consider prospective program applicants, including transfer students, who may need to make adjustments to meet the new criteria.
2. Must reapply for this status every four years. If the university does not reapply at the end of four years, the status shall be removed, and the university may no longer utilize additional criteria for admission to the undergraduate program.

(b) Minimal skills: The undergraduate program is of such a nature that applicants must demonstrate through an audition or submission of a portfolio that they possess the minimum skills necessary for them to benefit from the undergraduate program. Once a program is approved for specialized admissions that meets the minimum skills criteria, it does not require reaffirmation unless the admission requirements change.

(2) Undergraduate programs may have the following admissions requirements without seeking specialized admissions status.

(a) Prerequisite courses and minimum grades in prerequisite courses. The establishment of prerequisite courses and grades in prerequisite courses must adhere to requirements established in Regulation 8.010, Common Prerequisites.

(b) Admission requirements and standards established in Florida Statutes.

(3) Undergraduate degree programs approved by the Board of Governors for the Programs of Strategic Emphasis Waiver are not eligible for specialized admissions.

(4) Selection criteria for admission into specialized admissions programs shall be appropriate indicators of academic ability, creativity, or talent to perform required work within the program and of the potential for success. Selection criteria shall not discriminate against students on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, religion, sex, or socioeconomic status. Selection criteria shall not disadvantage Associate in Arts graduates from Florida public postsecondary institutions in favor of students who are currently enrolled at a State University System institution. Qualified Associate in Arts graduates from Florida public postsecondary institutions shall receive priority for admission to such specialized admissions programs over out-of-state and transfer students from private institutions.

- (a) Selection criteria for specialized admissions programs shall be publicized in catalogs and all other sections of the university's public-facing website that provide information about the program, and in any non-public websites or applications that provide information about the undergraduate program with sufficient time for prospective students to prepare to meet the criteria.
- (b) Each university shall advise students who meet the minimum requirements for admission to the upper division of a state university, but are denied admission to specialized admissions programs, of the availability of similar programs at other State University System institutions and the admission requirements of such programs.

(5) Monitoring and Reporting Requirements: Each State University System institution is required to review and certify admission requirements annually for approved specialized admissions programs to the Board of Governors' Office.

Authority: Section 7(d), Art. IX, Fla. Const.; History: New 3-29-07; Amended 6-30-22, 8-30-23, 10-18-24, 09-03-2026.