

### **Limited Access Review**

#### Dr. Christy England Vice Chancellor for Academic & Student Affairs

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# Background



# What is limited access?



- Mechanism to limit admissions to a program major due to limited resources or because foundational knowledge or skills needed for students to succeed
- Limited access status allows programs to require students to demonstrate certain skills or GPAs
- Defined by Board of Governors Regulation 8.013
- No statutory definition
- Dates back to the Board of Regents (1996)

# Regulation 8.013



#### Programs must meet 1 of the 4 criteria

#### 4 Criteria

- ✓ Limited resources
- ✓ Special skills or talent
- ✓ Higher academic achievement required
- ✓ Upper-level funded FTE enrollment exceeded

Submit form & documentation

#### Approval

- ✓ Board of Trustees
- ✓ Board of Governors

#### Current Monitoring Process

Annual report submitted to the board office

Cyclical review (as part of program review process)

### Limited Access Annual Report





#### Institutions must report to the Board of Governors by October 1

- a list of all limited access programs
- reasons the program is designated as limited access
- minimum admissions standards for each program
- a copy of the most recent review demonstrating the need for retention of limited access status

### Annual Report: Programs





#### **135 Limited Access Programs**

#### **Top 5 Program Areas Designated Limited Access**

Discipline	# of Programs Reported
Business (CIP 52)	30
Visual & Performing Arts (CIP 50)	27
Health (CIP 51)	26
Communication, Journalism, & Related Programs (CIP 9)	14
Education (CIP 13)	13

# Annual Report: Reasons for Designation



# Annual Report: Minimum Admissions Standards





Admissions requirements for limited access programs vary

#### Examples include

- **Higher GPA** than required to be admitted by the institution
- Skills demonstration such as an audition, submission of portfolio or writing sample, or advanced fluency in a language
- Minimum scores on exams such as TEAS VI (Nursing) and General Knowledge Exam (Education)

### Annual Report: Documentation for Continued Need of Limited Access Status





Institutions provided a variety of documentation

- Institutional program reviews
  - Departmental or internal reviews
  - Self-studies
  - 7-year program reviews required by the Board
- Reports for specialized accreditation



# **Limited Access Self-Evaluation Findings & Recommendations**



### Self-Evaluation of Limited Access



Overview of Findings



Regulation is outdated & unclear

 Some programs designated as early as 1996

 Once approved, designations are not sufficiently re-evaluated

# Issues with Regulation 8.013

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- Modify name of limited access to specialized or modified admissions
- Revisit criteria for limited access

	Limited resources	Minimum skills required to be successful	GPA or other standards	Upper Division FTE enrollment exceeded
Potential edits	No change	No change	Remove GPA option*	Remove, no longer funded by FTE

- Require institutions to ensure equitable access
- Broaden annual report language to allow monitoring of all requirements outlined in regulation
- Require limited access status be reassessed by the Boards of Trustees and the Board of Governors on a regular cycle (e.g., limited resource programs every 3 years, all others every 5 years)

\*Grades may be required for prerequisite courses without having limited access status, with approval from ACC

### Status of Limited Access is Dated & Has Not be Reevaluated by the Board



Implementation Year	Active programs	
1996-2000	66	
2001-2005	19	
2006-2010	20	_
2011-2015	11	
2016-present	12	
Unknown	7	
TOTAL	135	

#### 78% (or 105) of programs approved prior to 2010

- Once status is approved, it is only removed upon the institution's request
- Since 2009, only 9 programs have removed the status

# Monitoring Needs Improvement





- Develop template for the annual report to increase consistency & improve quality of information
- Add specific criteria for documenting resources & student demand in annual reports & periodic reviews
- Add criteria to enable monitoring of equitable access

### Recommendations



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- Revise name to Specialized or Modified Admissions
- Review & revise the regulation to improve oversight & monitoring
- Revise Board forms & reports to improve oversight & monitoring & to align with regulation changes
- Reaffirm limited access status for all academic programs with status approval prior to 2019
  - Institutions will submit limited access requests to the Board of Trustees & the Board of Governors for approval
  - Institutions will have an option to remove limited access status
  - New status approvals will have an expiration date, after which institutions have to reapply

### Next Steps



#### **Tentative Timeline**

**February** March April June September to January 2023

Feedback from institutions on proposed changes

Notice of Intent to Amend Regulation 8.013

Release guidance to SUS institutions regarding reaffirmation process

Approval of amendments to Regulation 8.013

**Reaffirmation of Existing Programs** 



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