

NDSA-06-2122

A Resolution in Support of Waiving or Making Standardized Test Scores Mandatory for NDUS College Admissions

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Student Association (NDSA) represents the voice of North Dakota's 45,000 public college and university students; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of NDSA is to represent all students enrolled in the North Dakota University System (NDUS) and advocate on issues of higher education in support of access, affordability, quality, and the student experience; and,

WHEREAS, the NDSA recognizes that in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the limited accessibility of standardized testing sites throughout the spring of 2020, the State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) temporarily waived the requirement of standardized tests in NDUS Admission Requirements for Baccalaureate Programs policies through the summer 2022 semester; and,

WHEREAS, 1,400+ U.S. four-year colleges and universities have announced they will not require ACT/SAT scores for fall 2022 entry (FairTest); and,

WHEREAS, the focus of college admission should be centered on the four years of experience, achievements, and GPA a student has accrued in high school; and,

WHEREAS, Standardized test scores can be easily affected by outside influences: anxiety, hunger, fatigue, among other factors; and,

WHEREAS, students may not perform to the best of their ability while under the pressure of completing a timed test that could determine where they will or will not get accepted to college; so,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the NDSA recommends permanent revisions to SBHE policies 402.1.1 and 402.2, along with any other necessary revisions, to allow institutions to waive or make optional ACT/SAT scores, and use high school GPA and core requirements as the primary admission criteria.

Approved by the North Dakota Student Association General Assembly,

Saturday, November 20th, 2021