

**CHARLESTON SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**  
**OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR**  
**MANUAL OF ACADEMIC POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

| TITLE   | NUMBER | PAGE   | DATE OF INCEPTION |
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| TYPES OF ACCEPTANCE<br>and ADMISSIONS STANDARDS | A-1    | 1 of 2 | November 26, 1984 |

Purpose: To provide and clarify current types of acceptance and admissions standards used in the admissions process by the Office of Enrollment Services.

**Types of Acceptance:**

1. **Regular** - A student who has met all admission requirements and is pursuing a degree (or teacher certification only). Regular acceptance also includes students who are assigned the academic standing of Probation 1 or Probation 2. Some regularly accepted students are required to fulfill certain requirements based on standardized and placement test scores. A student determined to have potential difficulty with a regular freshman course load may be admitted and given a course load which **must** include a developmental curriculum. Students accepted with academic placement requirements must confirm their placement as required in their acceptance letter **prior** to registration.
2. **Provisional** - May apply to two types of applicants:
  - (a.) A student seeking a degree from Charleston Southern University who has not submitted all the required material for regular admission. Such a student may be accepted on the provision that he or she submit the required material as determined by the Enrollment Services Office prior to preregistration for the next term. Enrollment may only include one Fall or Spring semester and may not exceed 15 credit hours during this period. Graduate students should refer to the appropriate section of the most current Graduate Catalog for credit hour limitations under Provisional Status.
  - (b.) Students over twenty-one years of age may be admitted under this classification if they do not have SAT/ACT scores and do not qualify as a transfer student. Such students are not required to take the SAT or ACT but must submit evidence of academic potential. Any provisionally admitted student over twenty-one years of age who does not receive transfer credit for an English or mathematics course toward the fulfillment of the LAC (Liberal Arts Core) requirement in English or mathematics, or credit for a course equivalent to ENGL 099 or MATH 099, and does not have a current SAT and/or ACT score (less than five years old), must take the required English or mathematics placement exams up to twice prior to completion of their first major semester and prior to registering for any English or mathematics course. This exam will be used to determine whether a student is allowed to register for a credit-bearing English or mathematics course, or if they must first complete either ENGL 099 or MATH 099 (non-credit developmental courses). \*

All students placed into ENGL 099 or MATH 099 will be required to pass MATH 099 during the calendar year before progressing to the next course. In addition, students admitted under this status must also pass English 111 during their first three semesters (fall and spring) at CSU or have acceptable equivalent transfer credit prior to attending CSU. Students who do not meet these requirements will not be allowed to continue at CSU and must complete the transferable equivalent of (1) Mathematics 099 or higher acceptable course, and/or (2) English 099 at another institution before being readmitted at CSU. Once a student provides evidence of English or mathematics proficiency at the ENGL 099 or MATH 099 level or higher, he or she may then progress to the liberal arts core required class in English or Mathematics (the latter depending on one's major and/or minor requirements. Regular admission of these students will be based on "satisfactory academic progress" at the end of 15 credit hours attempted at Charleston Southern University. Failure to meet the "satisfactory academic progress" criteria will result in the student not being allowed to continue at CSU and must complete the transferable equivalent of (1) Mathematics 099 or higher acceptable course, and/or (2) ENGL 099 at another institution before taking additional courses at the University as a degree-seeking student. Students who make satisfactory academic progress but do not demonstrate math proficiency at the Math 099 level or higher may not exceed 15 hours at CSU.

3. **Special** - Students not seeking a degree at Charleston Southern University. This category includes high school students enrolled in honor's programs, consortium students, transient students seeking educational certification or recertification, and others taking personal interest courses. Undergraduate students may take up to 15 hours under this classification before being required to apply for acceptance as regular or degree-seeking (or teacher certification only) student. Students accepted under Special Status are not eligible to receive financial aid at Charleston Southern University.

**Note:** Graduate students should refer to the appropriate section of the current Graduate Catalog for credit hour limitations under Provisional and Special Status.

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**(a.) Test Scores:**

- Current minimum SAT scores required for the Regular acceptance of new freshmen are as follows: Evidence-based Reading and Writing = 530, Math = 490. Note: These scores are based on the redesigned SAT. A minimum ACT composite score of 18 is also acceptable. Sub scores are also considered in the acceptance decision process.
- Current minimum SAT scores required for the acceptance of new freshmen in developmental courses are as follows: Evidence-based Reading and Writing = 450, Math = 440. Note: These scores are based on the redesigned SAT.
- Current minimum ACT scores required for the acceptance of new freshmen in developmental courses are as follows: English = 17, Math= 17, Reading = 15, Science = 15, Writing = 15, and Composite = 15.
- In addition to standardized test scores, a student's high school and/or college records, CSU placement tests and other information may be used in the admissions process. Refer to the other Admissions policies located at <https://www.charlestonsonthern.edu/academics/registrar/academic-policies/> and the current Undergraduate Catalog for more details. Procedures for transfer students, international students and students seeking readmission are also found in the current Undergraduate Catalog.

Dates of policy revision approval: 11/26/84; 4/7/86; 11/4/94 by action of the Admissions Committee and the President's Cabinet. Editorial revisions approved by the Provost on: 8/14/97; 8/7/00; 4/24/03: Under "3. Provisional" part "(b.)" to reflect the new mathematics placement policy approved on this date. Editorial revisions approved by the VPAA on 11/29/10. Editorial revisions by the Director of Admissions 1/2014. Revised by the Executive Director of Enrollment Services September 22, 2016. Revised by the VP for Enrollment Services, VP for Academic Affairs, the Executive Director of Student Success and the chairs of the English and Mathematics department and approved by the Admissions Committee September 2, 2025.