

Admissions and ~~Minimum Performance~~ Retention Standards Set by ~~Departments and/or Colleges~~ Academic Units

The university has admission and retention standards that apply to all undergraduates. The following policy pertains to any additional admission and retention standards proposed by colleges and departments.

Proposals for the addition of admission/retention standards to existing major or college requirements require a Change Major or Change College Requirements proposal via the Curriculum Proposal System. Admission/retention standards that are part of a proposal for a new instructional program are included in the proposal for the new program.

The use of admission/retention standards are most appropriate when based upon demonstrated curricular need. Ideally, lack of resources for a program should be addressed through regular budgetary procedures. However, if admission/retention standards must be used to control the size of a program, only changes to admission standards will be ~~approved~~ considered for approval. Any retention standards beyond those for the entire university must be justified based solely upon demonstrated academic and curricular necessity.

Proposals to change admissions or retentions standards should be clearly justified through specific reference to the following criteria for evaluating curricular or academic necessity:

- A program that is a professional program which leads directly to employment. Often, professional programs must have specialized criteria.
- A program that is accredited by an external professional accrediting organization with accreditation standards that bear upon the proposed admission/retention requirements.
- Practices or internships that involve responsibilities that require exceptional competence or level of performance.
- Demonstrated surplus of graduates relative to the demand for graduates.
- Demonstrated need for a high level of performance required to successfully complete a certain program or certain courses.
- The Curriculum Council approves the requirement that students complete a course in the major with a passing grade of C or better. If a grade of greater than C is required, approval would be based upon the above criteria.

Any proposed admission/retention standards must discuss mechanisms designed to alert and assist students who are having difficulty or are not on track to meet the new standards, or who need to change to another major.

Any new admission/retention standards will be implemented with a new catalog allowing students to select their catalog year based on their pre-program ~~status~~ [MR1].

Courses deemed equivalent to OSU courses which were taken at a community college or other four-year institution must be treated the same as OSU equivalent courses at OSU. The university does not discriminate against students who transfer equivalent courses to OSU.

~~If proposed admission/retention standards deviate from procedures for the computation of GPAs and the policies on the use of repeated courses adopted by the Faculty Senate, the deviation must not work to the disadvantage of students.~~^[MR2]

The opportunities for students to petition for exceptions must be clearly stated.

Retention standards must allow for a period of probation during which students who do not meet criteria for retention but who come close may attempt to improve their performance to that level necessary for them to remain in the program.

Approved: January 1991

Revised: August 2012, APAA