



University of Kentucky
Office of Undergraduate Admission

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Request for extension of test optional admissions pilot:

This summer the Senate Council approved a one-year pilot to allow for a test optional admissions process for entering freshman for the current admissions cycle due to the impact of the pandemic and access to testing for prospective students. Prospective students are currently still experiencing both issues with access to testing, as well as differentials in access to college going support from high school staff due to non-traditional instruction. For these reasons, and to be able to best assess the impact of the test optional admissions process, we are asking for a 3-year extension of the pilot. This extension will cover prospective students applying for the 22-23, 23-24 and 24-25 school years. By approving now, we will be able to announce our intentions early to prospective students, and in doing so will demonstrate UK's support for an accessible option for students dealing with a substantial number of external forces (access to testing, college going support, family financial strain) resulting from the pandemic. Students who have a test score will still be considered, as well as those without test score, using data analysis and college input, this summer and fall.

By way of background, an extensive amount of data was analyzed and shared with the individual colleges to inform the best test optional processes for student retention and progression. Additionally, we (and other KY institutions) worked with CPE on test optional college readiness indicators. In a similar vein, we worked with UK's Math and Chemistry departments on test optional pre-requisite options.

Moving forward analysis will be completed using the matriculated students' current grades in UK coursework and the modality in which they accessed their coursework in their high school prior to matriculation, as national data is demonstrating performance differences based on modality.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Best,

Christine Harper

AVP Student Success, Chief Enrollment Officer