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UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

C. T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS  
OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE BUSINESS PROGRAMS

RECEIVED OCT 20 2009

MEMORANDUM

APPROVED NOV 18 2009

TO: Jeanette Morales, Academic Program Management  
FROM: Frank Kelley, Associate Dean, Bauer College of Business  
SUBJECT: Proposal for changes to freshman undergraduate admission requirements for the Bauer College of Business  
DATE: October 19, 2009

\* Effective fall 2011  
(to be in line w/ 2011 new  
freshman admissions  
standards)

The Bauer College of Business recommends that the Undergraduate Council approve the following changes to freshman undergraduate admission requirements for the Bauer College of Business:

Current UH Bauer College First-Time-in-College Freshman Admission Requirements:

Rank in Class	Minimum Test Scores	
	SAT I Total and SAT Critical Reading	ACT Composite and ACT English
Top 10 %	970 and 480	22 and 19
I Quarter	970 and 480	22 and 19
II Quarter	1050 and 480	24 and 19
III Quarter	1180 and 480	26 and 19
IV Quarter	Not Admissible	

(UH Admission is automatic for top 20%; SAT 1000 for remaining top 50%)

Proposed Bauer College First-Time-in-College Freshman Admission Requirements:

Automatic Admission

First-Time-in-College Freshman students will automatically be admitted to UH Bauer College as a pre-business major if they:

- graduate in the top 20 percent of their high school graduating class with a minimum of 1200 SAT I (critical reading and mathematics) or ACT 26,

- OR rank in the top 50 percent of their high school class and have a minimum of 1250 SAT I (critical reading and mathematics) or ACT 28.

Students with a minimum of 1250 SAT I (critical reading and mathematics) or ACT 28 who do not meet the requirements for Automatic Admission, or if they are home-schooled or earned a GED or attended a high school that does not rank its students, or applicants to the Jesse H. Jones Business Leadership Development Program, will receive an admission counselor review of their application. In reviewing individual applications, additional factors will be considered, such as:

- first-generation college attendance
- socio-economic background
- extent and rigor of their high school curriculum
- special talents, abilities or awards earned
- family responsibilities
- leadership activities
- public service
- extracurricular activities
- letters of recommendation
- personal statements regarding goals, motivation, or special circumstances.

Freshman applicants interested in a business major who do not meet the initial requirements for business have the opportunity to change their major to pre-business once they complete 15 or more semester hours of college courses if they meet the criteria for college transfer and UH non-business student admission.

### **Justification**

The guiding principle for these proposed changes to the UH Bauer College of Business admission requirements for FTIC freshmen is to improve rankings that will attract academically talented students with a minimum impact on accessibility and opportunity for all students who want to study business at the University of Houston. Freshman applicants who do not initially meet the FTIC requirements will continue to have the opportunity to meet the UH non-business student GPA requirements after demonstrating solid but not unreasonable academic performance their first semester or two at the university, which is a 2.75 grade point average on 15 or more hours. The impact will be to improve rankings and retention rates without excluding motivated students from meeting reasonable academic standards for admission or affecting diversity. Students in the top 20% of their high school class will be

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automatically admitted to UH, and the top 50% will be admitted with an SAT of 1000. For any of these students who do not initially meet the Bauer College SAT threshold, they can change their major to pre-business after completing 15 or more hours with a 2.75 grade point average. The same holds true for transfer students. Given the small numbers of students who are admitted to pre-business based on SAT versus transfer students, and the option to change their major after completing 15 or more hours with a 2.75 grade point average, the real impact will be on raising rankings with minimal impact on the number of students admitted and on diversity.

The chart below indicates the impact on diversity with higher SAT scores:

<u>Fall 2008</u>								
<u>FTIC</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>1100+</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>1150+</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>1200+</u>	<u>N</u>
White	28.2%	64	30.0%	48	26.6%	29	22.5%	18
Black	14.1%	32	13.1%	21	11.9%	13	11.3%	9
Hisp	22.0%	50	16.3%	26	17.4%	19	20.0%	16
Asian	31.7%	72	36.9%	59	40.4%	44	42.5%	34
Am.Ind	0.4%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
International	2.6%	6	2.5%	4	1.8%	2	1.3%	1
unspecified	0.9%	2	1.3%	2	1.8%	2	2.5%	2
Total	100%	227	100%	160	100%	109	100%	80

The column that totals 227 is the total number of FTIC admits for Fall 2008. The number of FTIC admits in spring and summer is significantly smaller.

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