

September 1, 2020

Volume 9, Number 9

In this issue:

- COVID-19: Heading "Back" to School
- COVID-19: Summer of Enrichment
- List of COVID 19 Test Optional Schools
- Staying on Track: Senior and Junior Tasks in the face of COVID-19

Helpful Links

For info about SAT I, II, and AP Tests go to:

www.collegeboard.com

For info about ACT test go to:

www.act.org

For info about test optional schools go to:

www.fairtest.org/university/optional

For info about financial aid go to:

www.FAFSA.ed.gov

www.fastweb.com

www.finaid.org

For college search info go to:

www.collegenavigator.gov

www.collegeprowl.com

To take a virtual tour of college campuses go to:

www.youniversitytv.com

www.youvisit.com

To learn about Colleges That Change Lives go to:

www.ctcl.org

Dear Clients, Parents, Referral Sources, and Friends,

With the beginning of the school year, we are heading into uncharted territory. So many questions remain unanswered, and we are concerned. Many of us do not know how long it will truly be before we are back in the classroom. For those of us who are scheduled to be in the brick-and-mortar classrooms, we wonder how long it will take before we are returned to the virtual format of learning, or, if by some miracle, we will make it through the whole school year in the traditional classroom.

Despite the uncertainty of the times, there are some silver linings: teachers, parents, and students are collaborating with one another more than ever before. All of us are being challenged to think outside of the box and create new and innovative ways of communicating, delivering services, and problem solving. New business opportunities are rising from the asked of COVID 19, creating job opportunities where there were none. Interestingly, many of these innovations may come to last well beyond the pandemic, leading to permanent changes in how we all interface with one another.

We are excited to announce that AcademicAlly, LLC is expanding to provide virtual services in Southern California, my childhood community. To be clear, we are not moving to California, rather we are expanding to offer our services to this community. We are actively recruiting California-based coaches and looking forward to this next endeavor. Once it is deemed safe to renew in-person lessons, we will do so, just as we will in Philadelphia. We will continue to provide our Philly-based families with the same quality of service we have been providing for the past 23 years.

We realize the privilege we have to work with all of you, particularly as we navigate the unpredictable nature of this coming school year. We are here for you to troubleshoot the screen-time wiggles, the organization of digital materials, the management of hard copy assignments, the most effective ways to communicate with teachers, the stress of the situation, and the usual list of school challenges.

We are all in this together, working to ensure your child meets with academic and personal success.

In partnership,

Hannah Bookbinder, LSW, M.Ed.

The following schools have made the following changes to their testing requirements for admissions:

Albion College Test Optional Fall 2020

Alfred University Test Optional for Spring and Fall 2021

Alma College Test Optional for traditional first-year students between April 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021

Amherst College Test optional for freshman in 2020-21 admission cycle

Anderson University test optional now

Babson College Test optional for entry in Fall 2021

Baylor University Test Optional for 2021

Bentley College Test Optional Fall 2021 and Spring 2022

Bethany College Test Optional Fall 2020

Boston College Test Optional 2020-21 admission cycle

Boston University Test Optional for first-year students applying for Fall 2021 and Spring 2022

Briar Cliff University waving testing requirements for current high school seniors

Brown University Test optional 200-2021

Bucknell University Test optional beginning fall 2020 for 5-year pilot program

Buena Vista University Test Optional for 2021

Butler University Test Optional for Fall 2021 and beyond, though some programs may still require standardized tests

California State University suspending use of SAT/ACT requirements for school year of 2021-2022

Carnegie Mellon University: test optional fall 2021

Case Western Reserve University Test Optional for students entering Fall 2021

Centre College Test optional for the following cycles: 2021, 22, 23

Carolina Coastal University Test Optional for Fall 2021 applicants with minimum 3.5 high school gpa

Clemson University Test Optional 2021-22

Colgate University Test Optional for students entering in fall 2021

Setting Up Your Space for Success

For many of you, your schoolhouse will be **your** house. It is important for you to set yourself up for success. Here are some suggestions:

- 1) Make sure your workspace is located in a part of the house that is quiet and holds the least number of distractions.
- 2) The family can think about designating specific areas during specific times of the day as quiet spaces. Use signs when necessary to alert family members to times when they need to be conscientious about the noise they make. ("Genius at work, please be quiet," is a great sign to hang!) As silly as this sounds, create hand signals that you can use when attending virtual classes that will indicate whether family members can enter the room.
- 3) Speaking of distractions, noise-eliminating headphones may be helpful in situations where noise is unavoidable. Keep your phone out of your workspace. Use breaks as an opportunity to catch up on notifications.
- 4) If space is limited in your home, take turns using designated quiet rooms-create a schedule if necessary.
- 5) Make sure you have proper lighting, not just for the ability to do work, but so you can be seen effectively by your classmates and teachers during synchronous, virtual instruction.
- 6) Do you have all your supplies? Make a space for your writing utensils, highlighters, printer paper, books, binders/folders, calculator, graph paper, rulers, tape, etc so that everything has a "home" and is easily accessible.
- 7) Sound machines or non-lyrical music can be a friendly means of accompaniment without being distracted and can serve to quiet the noise outside your door or calm the racing thoughts in your mind.
- 8) Even though you may be working out of your home, you still need a tool to monitor long-term and daily assignments. Use a Google calendar, Month-at-a-Glance wall calendar or desk blotter, assignment book, digital sticky notes, OneNote, phone notes, or whatever tool will enable you to successfully track your daily assignments, long-term projects, tests, etc. Be sure to include doctors' appointments, sessions with us, sporting events, so you are truly aware of your time constraints.
- 9) Got the wiggles? Sitting on a large exercise ball or in a swivel chair can help students to move as they learn. Alternatively, the use of a standing desk can enable a student to move around during instruction while remaining within view of the screen.
- 10) Take breaks. One cannot and should not be expected to sit still for long periods of time. It is ok to stand up behind your chair and stretch during class instruction. When working independently, schedule formal breaks to allow for a breath of fresh air or the change of scenery.

College of Charleston Test Optional Fall 2021, home-schooled students must submit scores. Pilot program to be reevaluated next summer to determine its future.

College of Wooster Test Optional for 2021 and beyond

Columbia University Test Optional for first-year applicants to Columbia College and Columbia Engineering 2020-2021

Concordia University Texas Test optional for entering classes in 2020 and 2021

Cornell Test Optional for 2021 applicants

Dartmouth College Test Optional class of 2025

Davidson College Test Optional for three years, starting in 2021

Drury University Test Optional for Fall 2021 applicants and beyond

Duke University Test Optional 2020-2021

Eastern Michigan University Test Optional for Fall 2020, only for first-year domestic students.

Eckerd College Test Optional for two year pilot program Fall 2021-Fall 2022

Elizabethtown College Test Optional Fall 2021

Elon University Test Optional beginning Fall 2021 in a three year pilot program

Emory University Test Optional 2020-2021 academic year

Fordham College Test Optional for two year period beginning with fall 2021 class

Fort Lewis College Test Optional for 2021

Franklin College Test Optional for current high school seniors

Georgetown College Test Optional for Fall 2021

Gonzaga University Test Optional for 2021 applicants

Grand Valley State Test Optional for Fall 2021

Greenville University Test Optional 2021 and beyond

Hamilton College Test Optional for 2021-2022 academic year

With a little bit of creativity and imagination, you can create a space built for success!

Keeping on Track: Seniors: Finish up your college admissions essays and your Common App. Still struggling with those college essays? We can help you to choose the appropriate prompt, formulate some ideas, and finish with a final draft that captures the essence of who you are! We can also help you to present your best self on your application. Call today to schedule an appointment. Pay attention to the ever-evolving standardized test requirements for the schools to which you wish to apply (see the most recent list of test optional schools in the left margin. This list is updated as of July 28th.) Make sure your teachers are ready to write their letters of recommendation. Get your transcripts and test scores (if you took them) lined up and ready to be sent to your colleges. Attend all virtual information sessions being offered through the colleges as well as their virtual tours. If you know anyone who is attending some of the colleges you are applying to, reach out to them to talk about their experiences.

Juniors: Do your best. Work hard on your classes. Figure out ways to stay involved at school and to safely contribute to your community. Do not rest on your laurels and assume that colleges will not be looking closely at your activities. On the contrary, colleges will be curious to see what your class does **despite** COVID 19. Be creative and innovative. Think outside of the box. Attend virtual information sessions and tours of colleges. Speak with students you know who attend the schools to which you are considering applying.

TEST UPDATES

ACT: Here is the link for the latest ACT information: <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/covid-19.html>

SAT: Here is the link for the latest SAT information: <https://pages.collegeboard.org/sat-covid-19-updates>

Harvard University Released letter to current high school juniors stating that applicants entering in Fall 2021 will *not* be penalized if they do not submit AP test scores or SAT Subject Test scores. Juniors should not be concerned if they are unable to take the SAT or ACT multiple times

Harvey Mudd College Test Optional for 2020-2021 and 2021-2022

Haverford College Test Optional for first year and transfer applicants for three-year trial beginning with students entering Fall 2021

Illinois State University Test optional beginning 2021

Indiana University Bloomington Test Optional beginning in 2021

Indiana University Fort Wayne Test Optional beginning with Spring 2021 and beyond

Indiana University Kokomo Test Optional for Fall 2020 admission

Indiana University Northwest SAT/ACT scores requirements waived for students entering Fall 2020

Indiana University Southeast Test Optional for Summer and Fall 2020 enrollment

Iowa State University Test Optional 2021

IUPUI Test optional beginning 2021 and beyond

Johns Hopkins University Test Optional for fall 2021

Limestone College Test Optional for students entering Fall 2020. Students who have SAT and ACT scored are still encouraged to submit them

Loyola Marymount University Test Optional for Fall 2021 applicants

Loyola University New Orleans Test Blind fall 2021

Mansfield University Test Optional for students entering Fall 2020. SAT/ACT scores are preferred for admission to certain programs, such as the B.S. in Nursing program. Admitted students who did not submit SAT/ACT scored (1) may need to take placement tests during orientation and (2) are eligible for a narrower range of merit awards

Marietta College Test Optional 2021-2022

Marymount University Complete Test Optional policy beginning with Fall 2021 semester

Massachusetts Institute of Technology Test Optional for 2020-21

McMurry University (TX) Test Optional for Fall 2020

How to Make the Most of Touring Colleges Virtually

Now that COVID-19 has closed college campuses, experts walk us through how to choose a school online.

BY ANNIE GOLDSMITH

April 10, 2020

Right now, in an alternate universe, high school students are traveling the country looking at prospective colleges. In any ordinary year, juniors would be touring schools over spring break and seniors would be preparing for admitted students' weekends. Even admissions officers would be flying around the nation, attending college fairs, and speaking to high schoolers unable to travel. But in the era of COVID-19, these journeys are some of the millions that have been cancelled.

Colleges and students alike are now trying to adapt to a new normal: virtual tours have replaced in-person ones, information sessions are held over Zoom, and students will likely have to make difficult choices about the next four years of their educations without ever setting foot on a campus or meeting a representative in person.

In a recent Scoir survey, 80% of high school juniors and 84% of parents surveyed reported that campus visits are extremely or very important to their college selection process—so, what now? T&C spoke with college admissions experts to get advice for students and parents alike on how to virtually visit and choose a school.

Evaluate Yourself Before Evaluating A School

Before scheduling a virtual tour, it's important to figure out what kinds of colleges you may be interested in. Jennie Taylor Tucker is the CEO and founder of Pointer, an app designed to inform students about the admissions process and help them customize their search to fit their needs. Her biggest piece of advice for prospective students is to use this time at home to self-evaluate.

"This moment actually provides an opportunity to take pause and reflect on who you are as a person," Tucker suggested. "This is such a challenging process under normal circumstances, and in this moment, so much of what I think students should be doing is thinking about who they are and what makes them tick. The more self-

Mercer University Test Optional for first-year applicants for Summer or Fall 2020

Middlebury College Test Optional policy for at least 3 years, through Fall 2023, on a trial basis

Midway University (KY) Test Optional for Fall 2020

Millersville University Expanding its Test Optional policy to *all* students entering Fall 2020.

Minnesota State University Moorhead Test Optional for Fall 2021

Misericordia University Test Optional Fall 2021

Missouri State University Test Optional for students with gpa of 3.25 or higher. SAT/ACT superscores accepted too.

NCAA Eligibility Center Waiving SAT/ACT requirement for student-athletes entering Division I and II colleges in the 2020-2021 academic year. The Eligibility Center will also adjust its approach to pass/fail grades received in spring/summer 2020 by students at all grade levels

Northeastern University Test Optional for prospective students for the 2021-2022 academic year. Includes undergraduate and graduate students

Northwestern University Test Optional 2020-2021

Ohio University- Athens Campus Adopted a permanent Test-Optional policy

Oregon State University Test Optional for undergraduates entering Fall 2021 and beyond

Ouachita Baptist University Test Optional for the 2020-2021 recruitment cycle

Penn State Test Optional Summer and Fall 2021

Pomona College Test Optional for first-year and transfer students entering Fall 2021

Princeton University Test Optional 2020-2021. Will move to one application deadline (January 1, 2021) for that admission cycle

Purdue University Northwest Test Optional for Summer and Fall 2020

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Test Optional for Fall 2021 and Spring 2022

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Test Optional Fall 2021 and Spring 2022

Rhodes College Test optional for 3 years, which will serve as a pilot project to determine if the Test Optional policy should continue

aware they are, the better their college exploration will be."

Many college counselors ask students to make lists of qualities they'd value in a school. Aaron Fulk, director of college counseling at Marin Academy, a prestigious independent school in Northern California, asks students to take this questioning a step further.

"I think this is an opportunity for our students to actually do the search process in a more thoughtful way," Fulk said. "An important thing for our students is to articulate why they want to go to college. Many of our students and parents often scoff when we ask, but a lot of students can't answer that."

From there, Fulk asks students to figure out what they want out of college, and then explore online resources through that lens. This is also how students should be approaching the task of putting together their wishlist of schools.

Adam Lips, Director of College Counseling at Stanford's Online High School, does not see virtual counseling as an impediment to the process, having worked with students via video conference even before the pandemic.

"Initially, it's finding places that are a good fit for the student, and then when they're applying, it's helping them put together a strong application," Lips said. "I think that all of that can be done extremely effectively in an online environment. I don't think you have to give much up at all. "

Where to Look

Once you've listed a few schools of interest, the next step is to go to a college's website. While these websites are large and overwhelming, there are specific areas targeted to prospective students.

Whitney Soule, Dean of Admissions and Student Aid at Maine's Bowdoin College, suggests beginning with the school's admission requirements. She also noted that many schools that usually mandate standardized testing are relaxing those requirements this year (Bowdoin, for one, is test-optional).

"It's very important to be looking to see how colleges are responding to what would normally be their admission requirements, both curriculum-wise and through standardized testing, so students can feel

Rice University Test Optional 2020-2021

Rochester Institute of Technology students can submit self-reported scores for Fall 2020. Students must submit official scores if admitted and they decide to enroll. Some programs are test optional for Fall 2020, Fall 2021, and beyond. RIT will be test optional.

Rowan University Test Optional 2021 Exceptions include home-schooled students, those seeking admission with a GED, and applicants to the 3+4 medical program through the Medical School or the School of Psteopathic Medicine

Rutgers University Camden Test Optional Fall 2020

Rutgers University Newark Test Optional Fall 2020 and Fall 2021

Rutgers University New Brunswick Test Optional Fall and Spring 2021

Saint Louis University Test Optional for 2021-2022 academic year for most programs

Santa Clara University Test Optional for a two-year period for first-year and transfer students beginning with students entering Fall 2021. Will reassess whether to reinstate the testing requirement after the two-year period

Scripps College Test Optional for students entering in Fall 2021 and beyond. Homeschooled students are strongly encouraged to submit SAT or ACT scores

Seattle University Test Optional starting Fall 2021, GRE and GMAT will be optional for non-law graduate programs for the 2020-21 academic year

Southern Methodist University Test Optional for Spring 2021 and Fall 2021

Southwest Baptist University **Temporary** changes include:

- Test-optional
- Self-reporting of high school GPA
- May take online Classic Learning Test (CLT) to improve academic scholarship eligibility

Spelman College Test Optional for new and first-time students who graduate in high school in 2020-21 school year

Stanford University Test Optional fall 2021

State University of New York SAT/ACT requirements suspended for 2021-2022

Stephen F. Austin State University Test Optional for 2020-2021 academic year

secure about what they're going to have available at the time they apply," Soule said.

Financial aid is another incredibly important factor to consider as you're researching your potential schools. Most institutions have a calculator online where students can input their information and get an estimate about the cost of attendance. Soule noted, "[Students] really should be exploring financial aid as much as they should be exploring what the college is like."

Next on the website, take a look at the school's curriculum. Especially for seniors trying to decide between schools, Fulk asks his students to dive deeply into requirements and course offerings: "[What] always shocks me, the longer I do this job, is the number of students that are going to leave for college in five or six months and have not looked up the curriculum."

Finally, investigate what's important to you. Look at the website pages and social media accounts for potential majors. Research extracurricular options that interest you. Explore housing options. Make sure you're thoroughly examining whatever aspects of college you, personally, value.

Feel (Almost) Like You're On Campus

There are a number of ways to explore campus or speak to students and admissions officers online. From online campus tours to Zoom information sessions, colleges are more virtually accessible than ever.

Though this year may be disappointing for some students, Soule noted that tens of thousands of students nationwide each year are unable to visit colleges before attending, so schools have already been trying to provide more virtual options. "It's important to keep in mind that the lack of opportunity to visit is a new issue for some families and a familiar issue for a lot of families," she pointed out.

When looking at schools virtually, first join the mailing lists of colleges of interest. That way, prospective students will learn about upcoming virtual programming and options via email, which is particularly crucial in this admissions cycle.

"Recognize that college admissions are creating a lot of content very quickly to try to accommodate the lack of in-person exposure," Soule said. "The best way for students to have access to that content is to get onto the mailing lists of colleges they might be interested in."

St. Edward's University Test Optional for undergraduate applicants for Fall 2021 and beyond

St. Olaf College Test Optional for Fall 2020

St. Thomas Aquinas College Test Optional for Fall 2020

Swarthmore College Test Optional for applicants during the 2020-2021 and 2022 cycles. Students can now choose to report results from previous tests, including the PSAT and PreACT. In Fall 2022, the college will assess the policy and determine whether to continue

Syracuse University Test Optional for Fall 2021

Tennessee State University Test Optional for Fall 2020

Texas A&M University Test Optional for Spring, Summer, and Fall of 2021

Texas Christian University Test Optional for students entering in Fall 2021. Students should consider their academic record and co-curricular experiences when deciding whether to submit test scores

Texas Tech University Test Optional Fall 2020

The College of New Jersey Test Optional for 2020-2021 admission cycle for a three-year time period. Does not apply to the 7 year medical program or optometry program.

Trinity University (TX) Test Optional for a 3-year period starting with applicants for Fall 2021. Applicants can self-report unofficial test scores via applicant portal.

Tufts University Test Optional for all undergraduates for a three-year period, beginning with students entering Fall 2021. This will determine whether to reinstate the testing requirement at the end of the three-year period.

Tulane University Test Optional for students applying for a spot in the class entering fall 2021

University of California System **Temporary** policy changed include:

- Test Optional for students entering as freshmen in Fall 2021
- No letter grade requirement for "A-G" courses taken in winter/spring/summer 2020
- Admissions will not be rescinded for students who miss the official transcript deadline- admission will be honored from the first day of class until official documents are received by the UC campus
- No cap on pass/fail units that transfer students may put toward the minimum needed for junior standing

Once you're informed, there will likely be plenty of virtual options available. YouVisit offers free virtual campus tours of over six hundred colleges and universities. All of our experts advised that students attend online information sessions through the schools' admissions offices. And many schools are offering live chat services on their websites, where prospective students can be connected with an admissions officer or student, similar to a customer service experience you might find while online shopping.

Our experts also recommended a number of other online resources and websites, including Niche, College Confidential, Campus Reel, and individual schools' social media accounts. All of these sources will provide more information about each school, and many also feature photos and video which enable students to get a sense of the campus. Students can also use Google Maps to look at a school's surrounding area, Tucker says: "Are there things in your day-to-day now that you want to carry over to your college experience? Does that environment have similar things?"

Information sessions with admissions officers should also be a part of your virtual college visit. Knowing the constraints of social distancing, colleges are giving students greater access to their faculty and staff than ever before.

"Schools are trying to be mindful of this moment and be as flexible, adaptive, and empathetic as possible to students," Tucker said. "So, there are resources on a school-by-school basis that are available in a way that they wouldn't be normally."

All of our experts agreed that the best way to get a real sense of a school is to talk to as many people as possible, whether you connect with alumni from your high school or ask a school's admissions office to connect you with current students and faculty. "It's not just browsing a website. It's interactive; it's a human being who has a personality and a smile and gestures and is answering questions in real time," Soule said.

Students can tell a lot about a college based on how they're treated, Lips noted. He asks his students to "make direct contact with people who will give you a good sense of what's going to be available to you [at this school], and then also how helpful and welcoming the people from those offices are, too."

A major part of the college search has always been finding a school you connect to personally, as well as academically. That does not change, even though today's search process is different.

University of Central Missouri Test Optional in Fall 2020 for students with a 3.5 GPA or higher. Scores still required to Direct Entry Nursing Program, Education majors, Honors College, NCAA Athletics, and automatic merit scholarships

University of Cincinnati Test Optional for 2 year period beginning with the 2021 applicants. Scores are still required for the Honors Program, the College of Nursing Direct-Admit BSN program, and the Early Childhood Education program

University of Connecticut Test Optional beginning with the 2021-2022 admission cycles

University of the Cumberland Adopting a Test Optional policy for current and future applicants. Test Optional applicants are still eligible for institutional grants and need-based aid

University of Delaware Test Optional for 2021 applicants

University of Hawaii at Manoa Test Optional for 2021-2022 years

University of Houston Test Optional for Summer and Fall 2020

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Test Optional for Fall 2021

University of Louisville Test Optional for Spring 2021, Summer 2021, and Fall 2021

University of Lynchburg Test Optional for 2021-2022

University of Maryland Baltimore County Test Optional for Fall 2021

University of Massachusetts Amherst Test Optional beginning in Spring 2021 thru Spring 2023

University of Memphis Test flexible policy for fall 2021

University of Miami Pilot Test Optional policy Fall 2021

University of Minnesota Duluth Test Optional starting with applicants for the Spring and Fall 2021

University of Minnesota- Twin Cities Test Optional for 2021

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Test Optional adopted August 2020

University of New England Piloting a test blind policy for 2020-2021 academic year

University of Mobile Test Optional for Fall 2020

Keep Some Perspective.

Make no mistake—this is an incredibly difficult time to be applying to college. With mounting uncertainties surrounding the coronavirus, colleges are unsure how and in what form the fall semester will take place, and some current seniors are considering taking a gap year to avoid the possibility of beginning college online.

"I've definitely had many more students thinking about delaying," Lips said. "In any year, I think it's a great idea. Particularly this year, if the college gives that option."

While 89% of Scoir survey respondents said they had no intention of delaying enrollment, those figures may change as we learn more about the impact of COVID-19. Lips also noted that possible deferrals could have rippling consequences, including lower college admittance rates for the class of 2021, since fewer spots will be available if many current seniors defer admission.

With standardized test dates being cancelled and high schools moving to pass/fail grading systems, there are numerous other complications to consider. But despite all of these hiccups, it's important for students to keep everything in perspective.

To that end, Fulk recommended students put more of an emphasis on wellness in their college plans—for instance, an incoming freshman might plan out five things they will do to build community once the semester begins.

"Wellness is actually a far better indicator of success and persistence and graduation than even standardized testing or high school GPA," Fulk said. "We're trying to talk to our students... more about how you are going to find your community as quickly as possible, and how are you going to find people that you can connect with and trust."

"Your primary concern needs to be your personal health and well-being. You need to do what's best for you," Lips said. "Even though people are skeptical of the colleges and cynical about the admissions process, I think [the colleges] try to be reasonable and are going to be accepting and understanding."

Finally, remember that you are not alone. The whole world has been turned upside down by the coronavirus and everyone is handling it in their own way. Students will react differently, but remember that everyone applying to college right now is going through the same problems.

"I try to remind our juniors that every junior in the country is going through this," Fulk said. "They shouldn't feel like they're behind—certainly they can have all sorts of emotional responses to this. They can be frustrated or angry or disappointed, but it should be unifying. Everyone is experiencing this together."

University of New England Test Optional for Fall 2020

University of North Carolina System Change in minimum admissions requirements: 2.5 GPA or 1010 SAT score/ 19 composite ACT score; **applicants must submit test scores** but the system schools may choose to admit based on GPA alone. Each UNC system school has freedom to set its own requirements above these minimums. Effective for a three-year period, beginning with students enrolling in Fall 2020

University of Northern Iowa Test Optional for 2021

University of Notre Dame Test Optional for 2020-2021 application cycle

University of Oregon Test Optional for students entering Fall 2021 and beyond. Standardized tests scored will still be needed for certain automatic scholarships

University of Pennsylvania Test optional Fall 2020-2021

University of Pittsburgh Bradford Campus Test Optional for Fall 2020

University of Rhode Island Test Optional for 2021

University of Richmond Test Optional for Fall 2021

University of South Carolina Test Optional for 2021-2022 academic year

University of Southern California Test Optional for 2021-2022

University System of Georgia Test Optional for students entering Summer and Fall 2020. Students without test scores must meet specific GPA thresholds. Applies to all USG schools except UGA and Georgia Tech, which have already have fall class waitlists

University of Tennessee Test Optional 2021

University of Texas at Austin Test Optional for Fall 2021

University of Toledo Piloting a Test Optional admissions model for Summer and Fall 2020. Test Optional NOT available to:

- Homeschooled students
- Students who attend high schools that do not report grades
- Students applying for majors in the colleges of Nursing, Engineering, and Health and Human Services will use self-reported grades and GPAs to conditionally admit students until final transcripts are available

University of Utah Test Optional for 2021-2023

University of Vermont Test Optional for 2020-2021

Pay it Forward: Do you know someone who is struggling with the shift to virtual classroom learning?? Send them this newsletter or forward us their contact information. We want to help!

Contact Us

<http://www.Academic-Ally.com>

Hannah@Academic-Ally.com
610 647-3959 ext. 105

University of Virginia at Wise Lifting test requirements for incoming freshmen and transfers with less than 30 credits

University of Washington Test Optional for Fall 2021 and beyond. The change is immediately in effect for the Seattle campus. The standardized testing policies for UW Bothell and UW Tacoma will be reviewed

University of Wisconsin-Madison Test Optional extended through Summer 2023

Vassar College Piloting a Test Optional policy for the 2020-2021 admissions cycle. Will evaluate after the one-year pilot to determine whether test-optional policy should continue

Virginia Tech Test Optional for 2020-2021

Washington and Lee University Test Optional for 2021 applicants

Washington State University Vancouver Test Optional for Fall 2020

Wellesley College Test Optional for first-year applicants entering in Fall 2021. Suspending the regular Decisions with Early Evaluation option for first-year applicants entering Fall 2021. Regular decision deadline move to January 8 from January 15

Westminster College (New Wilmington Pa) Waiving SAT/ACT requirements for students entering Fall 2020

West Virginia Wesleyan College Test Optional for Spring 2021 and Fall 2021

William and Mary Launching a three-year test optional pilot program with the 2021 academic year

Williams College Test Optional for students applying as freshman or transfers during the 2020-2021 admissions cycle. For students who choose to submit test scores, results will be considered as a part of the holistic admissions process. Due to school closings, remote learning, activity cancellations, and temporary changes in high school grading systems, they will grant additional flexibility and are willing to work with students affected by COVID-19 and their school counselor

Yale University Test Optional for 2020-2021. SAT Subject tests will not be considered during the 2020-2021 admissions cycle

Vanderbilt Test Optional Fall 2021