

**NO. 12. CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK - AMEND STANDARDIZED TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSION: Board Secretary Gayle M. Horwitz read the resolution for the record.**

WHEREAS, On July 30, 2020, the Board of Trustees of the City University of New York (the “University”) approved the “Special COVID-19 Temporary Suspension of Standardized Testing Requirements for Undergraduate Admission,” which implemented a temporary suspension of standardized admissions testing requirements (e.g., SAT/ACT) for undergraduate admissions for the Spring 2021, Fall 2021, and Spring 2022 admission cycles; and on May 24, 2021 the Board of Trustees voted to extend that policy for the Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 admissions cycles; and

WHEREAS, These actions were intended to address the inability of many high school seniors to prepare for such admissions exams as a result of the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, These actions were aligned with the policy decisions of the majority of universities and colleges across the country to temporarily change their standardized testing policies for admissions by making the standardized SAT and ACT admissions tests optional or suspending their use; and

WHEREAS, These actions were aligned with recommendations from the National Association for College Admission Counseling (“NACAC”), which urged institutions of higher education to reassess the use of the SAT and ACT admissions exams in light of the disruptive effects the COVID-19 public health emergency was having on graduating high school students and academic schedules; and

Cal. No	DISPOSITION
	<p>WHEREAS, In response to these actions and to maintain the University's admissions standards, the University's colleges developed and implemented enhanced admissions practices during the affected terms, including using more information from high school transcripts, with a focus on performance in key subjects and expanding the use of student essays and letters of recommendation at our most selective colleges; and these more comprehensive practices were aligned with a large number of strategically selective peers; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, Nearly 80% of bachelor's degree-granting colleges do not require SAT scores for Fall 2022 admissions, and many are now extending that suspension for two or more years further; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, The enhanced admissions process, put in place during the suspension of requiring SAT or ACT scores, has already shown promise as a better predictor of admitted student success without the use of those scores; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, Broadening the factors used to determine admissions fitness allows our colleges to broaden access to a high-quality education of value without diminishing standards, learning or undergraduate outcomes, which amplifies our ability to serve our mission in sustainable ways; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, The University needs additional time to gather data on the success of students admitted while admissions exams are not required, and a permanent admissions policy will be most effective if based on more complete data on student progress to degree; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, Providing prospective students the option to submit or not submit SAT or ACT scores will likely encourage more of them to apply to the University; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, The COVID-19 public health emergency continues and its resolution is highly unpredictable; now therefore be it</p> <p>RESOLVED, That effective immediately, the University will make the submission of standardized test scores (e.g., SAT/ACT) optional for admission consideration for Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, and Spring 2025 and will communicate to prospective students that standardized admissions tests may be submitted as part of their applications, but that applicants will not be penalized for choosing not to submit standardized test scores; and be it further</p> <p>RESOLVED, That the Chancellor shall take such actions as are reasonable and necessary to give effect to the foregoing while maintaining the University's commitment to inclusive excellence, high standards and organizational sustainability; and be it further</p> <p>RESOLVED, That the University Office of Applied Research, Evaluation, and Data Analytics ("OAREDA") will continue to gather data on the progress of the cohorts of students admitted while the SAT and ACT are optional, and will report its findings annually to the Chancellor.</p>

Cal. No	DISPOSITION
---------	-------------

EXPLANATION: This provisional optional test submission policy will allow the University to gather a full set of data on the efficacy of its enhanced admissions criteria in order to confirm their reliability in predicting student progress. Implementing a test-optional admissions policy for an additional two years will allow the University to build on the advances our colleges have made in admissions practices since Spring 2020, collect more data, and study the role of standardized tests in University admissions to inform future Board policies on undergraduate admissions.

**Moved by Chairperson Thompson, Jr. and seconded by Trustee Ferrer. The resolution was unanimously approved.**

\*\*\*

Moved by Chairperson Thompson, Jr. and seconded by Trustee Cortés-Vázquez, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.