

## 2021 Admissions Updates

Friday, October 30, 2020

### Questions Asked of All Presenters:

*Have you moved to test optional admissions for Fall 2021?*

*Are you accepting ACT superscores?*

*Are you waiving application fees for students for Fall 2021?*

*Are test scores required for financial aid? If not, how are you determining merit aid eligibility?*

*Have you seen an increase or decrease in Fall 2020?*

*What do you anticipate enrollment will look like in Fall 2021?*

### Joanna Finch, Director of Undergraduate Admissions, Webster University

- Test-optional (indefinitely)
- Superscores ACT
- No application fee (indefinitely)
- Test scores not required for financial aid; use holistic approach to determine merit aid eligibility; some scholarships require test scores
- Fall 2020 enrollment increased
- Fall 2021 enrollment difficult to predict

### Christopher Bowen, Assistant Director of Student Financial Aid, University of Missouri-St. Louis

- Test-optional for Fall 2021; students who apply without test scores are reviewed by committee; must have a 3.0+ core GPA and submit a personal statement (resume or letter of recommendation are optional)
- Students with 3.5: GPA eligible for some academic scholarships without test scores
- Superscores ACT
- Students who attend admissions events will receive fee waivers; students can also call the office and speak with a representative to receive a fee waiver
- Slight decrease in freshmen for Fall 2020 and slight increase in transfer students
- Fall 2021 application numbers similar to Fall 2020

### Janiece Jones, University of Missouri-Kansas City

- Test-optional (indefinitely) starting in January 2020 for the majority of programs (does not apply to students in certain majors, Honors College, automatic scholarships, UMKC athletes, or homeschooled students)
- Superscores ACT for admissions; test scores required for financial aid
- Not waiving application fees
- Fall 2021 enrollment difficult to predict

### Tim Eggleston, Regional Admissions Representative, University of Missouri-Columbia

- Test-optional pathway available (must send HS transcript, personal statement, and resume); students will be reviewed holistically for admissions; recommend that these students submit all materials by November 15<sup>th</sup> to meet competitive scholarship deadlines
- December 1<sup>st</sup> – competitive scholarship deadline; test-optional students will be reviewed holistically for all scholarships except the Stamp Scholarship Program
- Superscores ACT for admissions and scholarships
- Fee waivers available for qualified students

- Fall 2020 enrollment grew by 1000 students
- Students slower to apply in Fall 2021; expecting an increase for fall enrollment

**Kat Lara, Admissions Representative, University of Central Missouri**

- Test-optional for Fall 2021 (must have 2.75+ GPA); test scores are required for the nursing program, honors program, and most automatic merit scholarships
- Superscores ACT; will accept ACT scores through June 2021 for Fall 2021 entry
- Waiving all application fees through the end of November 2020
- Fall 2020 enrollment decreased; Fall 2021 enrollment predicted to be flat or slight increase
- Hosting in-person and virtual tours

**Todd Burrell, Director of Undergraduate Admissions, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville**

- Test-optional for admissions for Fall 2021 (must have 2.6+ GPA); students with 2.0-2.59 GPA will be considered by committee and may need to submit additional materials
- Offers test-optional merit scholarships and direct entry; students can qualify for most scholarships through GPA OR test score (do not need both)
- Will receive ACT superscore but will just look at highest composite scores for admissions, scholarships, or direct entry if they will benefit the student
- Fee waivers are available
- Fall 2020 decreased undergraduate enrollment but increased graduate and online enrollment
- Fall 2021 enrollment difficult to predict

**Byron Brownlee, St. Louis City Admission Counselor, Southeast Missouri State University**

- Test-optional as of Fall 2019
- Superscores ACT for admissions and scholarships
- No application fee for domestic students
- Test scores are not required for financial aid; eligibility based on cumulative GPA

**Susan Lutz, Assistant Director of Local Recruitment, Saint Louis University**

- No application fee
- Test-optional (recommended: letters of recommendation, resume, and interview); will only consider test scores if they benefit the student for admissions/merit scholarships
  - Presidential and Martin Luther King Jr. scholarships are test-blind this year
  - Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and nursing students should review website for guidance on whether to submit test scores
- Slight decrease in Fall 2020 enrollment (prior year was largest freshman class ever)
- Fall 2021 application numbers on par with peer institutions

**Christopher Fletcher, Districtwide Director of Recruitment and Outreach, St. Louis Community College**

- Standardized testing no longer primary means to determine readiness for college level work
  - High school GPA only → reading and English placement
  - High school GPA + ACT or Accuplacer → math placement
  - Will provide home virtual Accuplacer testing if needed; voucher must be requested through campus testing center
  - On-campus testing available by appointment
- 12% decrease in enrollment for Fall 2020
- Anticipate increased enrollment for Fall 2021

**Sam Lewis, Assistant Director for Diversity Outreach and Recruitment, Missouri State University**

- Students with 3.25+ GPA eligible for regular admission without test scores; those below 3.25 go through individual review
- No application fee
- Superscores ACT for admissions and scholarships; testing deadlines extended to April 2021
- Fall 2021 applications have slightly increased

**Josie Blasdel, Director of Undergraduate Admission, McKendree University**

- Test-blind (does not use test scores to determine admissions/merit aid); recommended: letter of recommendation and interview
- No application fee
- Increased enrollment in Fall 2020
- Fall 2021 enrollment difficult to predict

**Shani Lenore-Jenkins, Vice President of Enrollment, Maryville University**

- Test-optional since 2015 for students with 3.0+ GPA; may submit test scores if they qualify the student for a higher merit scholarship than their GPA
- No application fee
- 10% increase in enrollment for Fall 2020
- Fall 2021 enrollment difficult to predict

**Iris Tabb, Director of Admissions, Harris-Stowe State University**

- Test-optional for Fall 2021 admissions; all students with 3.0+ GPA are automatically admitted; applicants with lower GPAs are reviewed using holistic approach
- Scholarships required for merit scholarships
- Does not superscore
- No application fee
- Slight decrease in enrollment in Fall 2020
- Fall 2021 enrollment difficult to predict

**Justin Wilson, Fontbonne University**

- Test-optional for Spring 2021 and Fall 2021; automatic acceptance for students with 2.75+ weighted GPA
- Superscores ACT
- No application fee
- 6% decrease in enrollment in Fall 2020
- Fall 2021 enrollment difficult to predict

**CHAT NOTES**

10:02:52 From Ashley June Moore : PDI Meeting Agreements:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jvH-GM0Avt4bYeYZMhPv25WmafVyfv46RRejzFMMHsY/edit>

10:03:46 From Ashley June Moore : Upcoming Workshops:

<https://stlouisgraduates.org/2020/07/16/professional-development-institute-2020-21/>

10:11:08 From Ashley June Moore : A few more have joined us since the top of the hour, so here are the slides again...

10:14:55 From Chris Bowen : [https://www.umsl.edu/admissions/test\\_optional.html](https://www.umsl.edu/admissions/test_optional.html)  
10:15:05 From Chris Bowen : <https://www.umsl.edu/admissions/admission-events.html>  
10:20:15 From Ashley June Moore : UMKC Admissions Video:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=33fzST45Mtw&feature=youtu.be>  
10:26:58 From Kat Lara : [klara@ucmo.edu](mailto:klara@ucmo.edu)  
10:28:59 From Joanna Finch : Webster Presentation:  
<https://spark.adobe.com/page/yphi1NcsOayrr/>  
10:41:08 From Susan Lutz @SLU : Susan Lutz, [susan.lutz@slu.edu](mailto:susan.lutz@slu.edu), 314-977-3723  
10:43:19 From Ashley June Moore : STLCC Testing Information:  
<https://stlcc.edu/admissions/testing-centers/placement-test.aspx>  
10:51:00 From Josie Blasdel - McKendree University : McKendree University Information:  
<https://youtu.be/gt3VhJ6gr9E>  
11:08:15 From Shani Lenore-Jenkins, Maryville University : [maryville.edu](http://maryville.edu) Shani Lenore-Jenkins,  
[slenore@maryville.edu](mailto:slenore@maryville.edu)  
11:09:04 From Shani Lenore-Jenkins, Maryville University : Maryville Video Tours:  
<https://www.maryville.edu/about/video-tours/>  
11:09:31 From Ashley June Moore : HSSU 100 Top Scholars Article:  
[https://www.stltoday.com/brandavestudios/sponsored/harris-stowe-state-university-aims-to-attract-top-scholars-through-new-scholarship-program/article\\_90c7ca74-f6a3-11ea-8366-736b3667b5a6.html](https://www.stltoday.com/brandavestudios/sponsored/harris-stowe-state-university-aims-to-attract-top-scholars-through-new-scholarship-program/article_90c7ca74-f6a3-11ea-8366-736b3667b5a6.html)  
11:11:03 From Ashley June Moore : Common Black College App:  
<https://commonblackcollegeapp.com/>  
11:13:07 From Iris Tabb, HSSU : Please contact me at [tabbi@hssu.edu](mailto:tabbi@hssu.edu) for more information  
about the TOP 100 Scholars Program.  
11:14:31 From Iris Tabb, HSSU : Also, take a look at our COVID parody video  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n18d7ioe8lw>  
11:16:08 From Mrs. Kombrink : Does anyone have a comprehensive list of colleges and  
universities who are test optional and superscoring for admission and scholarships? Thanks!  
11:19:37 From Ashley June Moore : Here's a website that might be helpful for test optional  
schools: <https://www.fairtest.org/university/optional>  
11:19:38 From Kaitlyn Venta : Thank you colleges - that was fantastic!!  
11:19:50 From Shani Lenore-Jenkins, Maryville University : Thanks everyone!!  
11:20:26 From Russell Brannen : Thank you SOOOO much to everyone who organized this and to  
the representatives presenting. Much appreciated for the comprehensive updates.  
11:20:27 From Todd Burrell : Thank you all for your time today. Happy Halloween weekend.  
11:20:42 From Blair Dammerman : Informed! Thanks for the updates.  
11:20:44 From Marvin Bullard : Informed  
11:20:50 From Russell Brannen : Hyped  
11:20:50 From Iris Tabb, HSSU : Happy Holloween!  
11:20:51 From Pauline Johnson : Awesome!..... thanks again, glad I was able to join this time.  
11:20:53 From Ryane Boyd : Informed  
11:20:55 From Joanna Finch : Informed!  
11:21:02 From Jeanne Hutson : Thankful!  
11:21:03 From Sam Lewis : Informed!  
11:21:03 From Mrs. Kombrink : Thank you!  
11:21:12 From Britni STLCC : excited! Happy Halloween  
11:21:14 From Melissa Findley : Happy Halloween - GREAT INFO shared!  
11:21:42 From Meladee Patterson : excellent presentation