

2018 - 2019 Removal of the SAT/ACT in the formal UC Admissions Process.

**WHEREAS**, There is a national movement where institutions of higher learning are abandoning the requirement of SAT and ACT scores due to new studies illustrating their ineffectiveness; and

**WHEREAS**, “A major study of more than 950,000 applicants to 28 colleges and universities found the tests failed to fully identify talented students capable of college success”<sup>1</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, Colleges and universities that adopted an optional test policy saw an increase in the total number of applications to their respective institutions, by an average of 29 percent at private institutions and 11 percent at public institutions<sup>2</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, Higher numbers of Black and Latino students applied to institutions that adopted an optional test policy and were admitted<sup>3</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, At present, the University of California policy on the matters is as follows: “All prospective freshmen must submit scores from either the ACT with Writing or SAT with Essay”<sup>4</sup>; and

**Whereas**, the SAT has no mention in the ELC, the Eligibility in the Local Context,

**Whereas**, despite the change in the new SAT in years the University of California Los Angeles had consistently admitted 10% of students who measured 3.4-3.89 unweighted GPA, for the past Five years.

**WHEREAS**, This is an opportunity for the UC to implement an equitable policy by removing additional barriers and reminding students that they are more than just numbers; and

**WHEREAS**, The University of California faculty leaders, including the University President, Janet Napolitano, have announced that they would launch a study aimed at figuring out whether standardized tests like the SAT and ACT accurately predict a student’s qualifications for college admissions purposes<sup>5</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, “California State University Chancellor Timothy P. White said that he has asked academic leaders to study whether the SAT and ACT are valid predictors of student success”<sup>6</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, Standardized testing fails to accurately measure the potential and capabilities of

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.latimes.com/local/education/la-me-uc-regents-20180926-story.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2018/04/27/large-study-finds-colleges-go-test-optional-become-more-diverse-and-maintain>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2018/04/27/large-study-finds-colleges-go-test-optional-become-more-diverse-and-maintain>

<sup>4</sup> <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/freshman/requirements/examination-requirement/index.html>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.latimes.com/local/education/la-me-uc-regents-20180926-story.html>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.latimes.com/local/education/la-me-edu-cal-state-standardized-tests-20181003-story.html>

minority and low-income communities because it has become a measure of wealth with an industry of test prep built around it that does not make it a fair assessment; and it has been found to harbor culturally relevant questions that can induce some students to do poorly simply by not being part of the aforementioned culture,

**WHEREAS**, the 2017-2018 USAC passed the resolution “Dismantle Standardized Testing from the UCLA Admissions Process”

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED**, The 2018-2019 USAC reaffirms calls for UC to cease requiring SAT and/or ACT scores for admission.

**LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the 2018-2019 USAC call on UC to offer alternatives to submitting standardized test scores that better exemplify student abilities, such as work samples or portfolios.