

FLORIDA **A&M** UNIVERSITY
Board of Trustees
ACTION ITEM

Academic and Student Affairs Committee
Thursday, September 22, 2022
Agenda Item:

Subject: Specialized Admissions

Proposed Board Action: Board of Governors Regulation 8.013 Specialized Admissions (formerly limited access) allows universities to establish additional criteria for admission to undergraduate programs. The following programs are seeking Board of Trustees approval.

- Bachelor of Architecture
- Bachelor of Science in Journalism
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Bachelor of Science in Public Relations

Upon approval, applications for specialized admissions will be submitted to the Chancellor of the State University System.

Attachments: Specialized admissions application for the above programs.



Board of Governors, State University System of Florida
**Specialized Admissions Status
Initial Approval Request Form**

In Accordance with Board of Governors Regulation 8.013, Specialized Admissions

INSTITUTION: Florida A&M University

DEGREE PROGRAM: Bachelor of Architecture

CIP CODE 04.0601 **Effective Academic Year** 2023-2024

1. Does this request for specialized admissions status apply to the whole degree program? If no, please specify which major(s) or track(s) are seeking the status.

Yes.

2. Which criteria for specialized admissions status does the program meet?

Limited Resources (if approved, the status will last a maximum of four years)

Minimal Skills (if approved, the status will last a maximum of five years)

Accreditation Requirements (If checked, you must also select either limited resources or minimal skills)

3. Provide a rationale for why the program meets the criteria selected above.

- If the program is seeking specialized admissions status due to limited resources, provide details regarding which types of resources are limited and how the current demand for the program outpaces these resources.
- If seeking specialized admission status based on accrediting body requirements, please include the name of the accrediting body and a direct link to or copies of the specific standard(s) which require the requested status.

Accreditation and Limited Resources

Enrollment in the School of Architecture & Engineering Technology (SAET) Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch.) degree program is limited based on physical resources to support student learning in a safe environment. FAMU's SAET is currently limited by the number of desks available in the design studios to fully support didactic and interactive learning and to ensure quality instruction and student workspace. Specifically, the Bachelor of Architecture is a National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) accredited, 5-year 150-hour degree program with limited enrollment due to the teaching methodology of the Design Studios. Continuing accreditation by NAAB requires professional architecture programs to maintain adequate space to: (1) Support and encourage studio-based learning; and (2) Support and encourage didactic and interactive learning, including lecture halls, seminar spaces, small group study rooms, labs, shops, and equipment.

The Bachelor of Architecture consists of the following Design Studios.

- 1st Year: ARC 1301 & ARC 1302 Design 1.1 & Design 1.2 (8 credits)
- 2nd Year: ARC 2303 & ARC 2304 Design 2.1 & Design 2.2 (8 credits)

- 3rd Year: ARC 3324 & ARC 3325 Design 3.1 & Design 3.2 (10 credits)
- 4th Year: ARC 4341 & ARC 4342 Design 4.1 & Design 4.2 (10 credits)
- 5th Year: ARC 5352 & ARC 5353 Design 5.1 & Design 5.2 (12 credits)

The faculty to student ratio is 1 to 15 in all studios. The SAET uses a “cold desk” method where every student is assigned a workspace the entire semester. The Bachelor of Architecture program is also limited in that students must display minimal skills through a portfolio review prior to acceptance into the professional program. To accommodate future growth, an online option for year five of the Bachelor of Architecture program has been developed for implementation within the next academic year. Information related to NAAB accreditation may be found at www.naab.org.

4. If the program is seeking specialized admissions status due to limited resources and/or is a Program of Strategic Emphasis, provide the institution’s plan and timeline for increasing program resources. If the institution does not plan to increase capacity over the next few years, please provide a rationale. Not applicable.

Degree programs in the School of Architecture and Engineering Technology (SAET) are designated as Areas of Strategic Emphasis. FAMU is dedicated to the growth of degrees awarded in areas of strategic emphasis of which the B.Arch is included as a STEM degree. As part of FAMU’s 2022-2027 Strategic Plan, the University will prioritize and strengthen well performing academic programs that build on their successes, which we have seen with the Bachelor of Architecture program. As such, new faculty hires are anticipated to meet student demand for the program. As the program is expanding to an online market, additional funding to support curricula development has been provided. As stated earlier, the program is restricted by physical space requirements. Therefore, no additional facility space is anticipated.

5. If approved for specialized admissions status, what will be the program’s admissions requirements? Additionally, please indicate how these requirements and procedures ensure equal access for qualified Florida College System Associates in Arts graduates competing for available space in the program.

All students seeking entry to the professional Bachelor of Architecture program at FAMU must meet minimum university requirements for admission and the following additional criteria for specialized admission.

Pre-Architecture

- 3.0 Recalculated Core Academic Grade Point Average on a 4.00 Scale
- Test Scores as follows:

Examination	SMATH	SREAD	SWLAN	English	Math	Reading
Redesigned SAT	26	27	27			
ACT				19	22	22

Bachelor of Architectural Studies (Upper Division)

- 2.5 minimum GPA in Architecture courses and General Education
- Minimum “C” grade in all courses

Bachelor of Architecture (BArch)

- 2.75 minimum GPA in last 60 hours; accelerated option requires minimum GPA of 3.0/4.0

- Complete specified courses with a minimum of “C” grade
- Minimum “B” grade in ARC 4341 Architectural Design 4.1
- Mastery in a designated project or Satisfactory Portfolio Review Score

Florida College System Articulation

The existing BArch at FAMU was currently approved with limited access status. While the program requires additional admissions criteria, the curriculum is designed to create a seamless transition for Florida College System (FCS) Associate of Arts graduates. Graduates with an AA degree from the Florida College System (FCS) are generally admitted to the Upper Division (3rd-year studios) of the program provided all criteria for admissions is met, including prerequisites. Additional accelerated mechanisms (minimum GPA of 3.0) are available for advanced or highly qualified students, which provides the option for students to lessen their time to degree or take limited graduate level courses to prepare for graduate school. FCS associate of arts or applied sciences applicants with a minimum 3.0/4.0 enroll in the FAMU Accelerated Option taking graduate level specialized studios enabling them to complete the 120-hour program in two (2) years (B.S. equivalent) and the 150-hour Bachelor of Architecture in three (3).

6. What is the current race and gender profile of the program? Describe the potential impact on the race and gender profiles of the program. What strategies will be implemented to promote and maintain diversity in the program?

It is the policy of Florida A&M University that each member of the University community is permitted to work or attend class in an environment free from any form of discrimination including race, religion, color, age, disability, sex, sexual harassment, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, national origin, and veteran status as prohibited by State and Federal Statues. This commitment applies to all areas affecting students, including programs with specialized admissions.

The Fall 2021 student racial and gender profile is as follows:

- Gender Profile: Females = 53%; Males = 47%
- Racial Profile
 - Hispanic = 6.3%
 - Asian = 2.1%
 - Black = 81.1%
 - White = 7.7%
 - 2 or more races = 2.8%

To ensure continued diversity in the architectural program at FAMU, the University along with program leaders and faculty will continue to recruit and admit students from diverse backgrounds, including race and gender. Such recruitment will include enhanced partnerships with K-12 schools and expanding articulation agreements with Florida College System institutions with designated pre-architecture AA and AS programs.



Board of Governors, State University System of Florida
**Specialized Admissions Status
Initial Approval Request Form**

In Accordance with Board of Governors Regulation 8.013, Specialized Admissions

INSTITUTION: Florida A&M University

DEGREE PROGRAM: Bachelor of Science in Journalism

CIP CODE 09.0401 **Effective Academic Year** 2023-2024

1. Does this request for specialized admissions status apply to the whole degree program? If no, please specify which major(s) or track(s) are seeking the status.

Yes.

2. Which criteria for specialized admissions status does the program meet?

Limited Resources (if approved, the status will last a maximum of four years)

Minimal Skills (if approved, the status will last a maximum of five years)

Accreditation Requirements (If checked, you must also select either limited resources or minimal skills)

3. Provide a rationale for why the program meets the criteria selected above.

- If the program is seeking specialized admissions status due to limited resources, provide details regarding which types of resources are limited and how the current demand for the program outpaces these resources.
- If seeking specialized admission status based on accrediting body requirements, please include the name of the accrediting body and a direct link to or copies of the specific standard(s) which require the requested status.

Florida A&M University's undergraduate degrees in Journalism and Public Relations are accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC). Continued accreditation by ACEJMC requires programs to adhere to minimum student-faculty classroom ratios for both face-to-face and online classes. Specifically, Standard 2: Curriculum and Instruction states, "Student-faculty classroom ratios facilitate effective teaching and learning in all courses. Except for campaigns courses, the ratio in skills and laboratory sections, whether on-site or online, should not exceed 20-1." Currently, FAMU's journalism program meets the requirement of no more than 20 students per one faculty in all skills courses. The program currently has nearly 270 undergraduates with six full-time faculty. The curriculum places an emphasis on skills-based learning to provide students with practical experiences designed to simulate workforce settings after graduation. Due to physical space limitations associated with equipment, news and broadcast facilities, and the accreditation requirement to maintain a 20:1 student ratio, FAMU is requesting specialized admissions for its Bachelor of Science in Journalism program.

More information about accreditation by ACEJMC can be found at <http://www.acejmc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/2021-June-RevisedStandardsFinal.pdf>

4. If the program is seeking specialized admissions status due to limited resources and/or is a Program of Strategic Emphasis, provide the institution's plan and timeline for increasing program resources. If the institution does not plan to increase capacity over the next few years, please provide a rationale. Not applicable.

Due to physical space limitations and skills classes ratios, the Journalism program does not anticipate significant expansion within the next academic year.

5. If approved for specialized admissions status, what will be the program's admissions requirements? Additionally, please indicate how these requirements and procedures ensure equal access for qualified Florida College System Associates in Arts graduates competing for available space in the program.

All students seeking entry to the Bachelor of Science in Journalism at FAMU must meet minimum university requirements for admission and the following additional criteria for specialized admission. To be admitted into the Journalism major, students must have a minimum 2.5 GPA and have earned a B or higher in ENC 1101 Freshman Comp Skills and a C or higher in ENC 1102 Freshman Comp Skills II. Florida College System (FCS) graduates with an Associate of Arts degree are eligible for admission to the major upon acceptance to the University and upon meeting the above criteria. Alternative course options are available to FSC graduates who do not satisfy the English composition criteria upon admission to the University. The alternative courses aid in mitigating potential negative impact on FCS associate of arts degree transfer students.

6. What is the current race and gender profile of the program? Describe the potential impact on the race and gender profiles of the program. What strategies will be implemented to promote and maintain diversity in the program?

It is the policy of Florida A&M University that each member of the University community is permitted to work or attend class in an environment free from any form of discrimination including race, religion, color, age, disability, sex, sexual harassment, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, national origin, and veteran status as prohibited by State and Federal Statues. This commitment applies to all areas affecting students, including programs with specialized admissions.

The Fall 2021 student racial and gender profile is as follows:

- Gender Profile: Females = 76%; Males = 24%
- Racial Profile
 - Hispanic = 3%
 - Black = 93%
 - White = 1%
 - 2 or more races = 3%

Diversity within the Journalism program (particularly gender diversity) is expected to remain strong with our recruitment efforts around the state of Florida. We see opportunity to raise awareness and expand our profile with targeted recruitment and retention strategies for transfer and out-of-state students.



Board of Governors, State University System of Florida
**Specialized Admissions Status
Initial Approval Request Form**

In Accordance with Board of Governors Regulation 8.013, Specialized Admissions

INSTITUTION: Florida A&M University

DEGREE PROGRAM: Bachelor of Science in Public Relations

CIP CODE 09.0902 **Effective Academic Year** 2023-2024

1. Does this request for specialized admissions status apply to the whole degree program? If no, please specify which major(s) or track(s) are seeking the status.

Yes.

2. Which criteria for specialized admissions status does the program meet?

- Limited Resources (if approved, the status will last a maximum of four years)
 Minimal Skills (if approved, the status will last a maximum of five years)
 Accreditation Requirements (If checked, you must also select either limited resources or minimal skills)

3. Provide a rationale for why the program meets the criteria selected above.

- If the program is seeking specialized admissions status due to limited resources, provide details regarding which types of resources are limited and how the current demand for the program outpaces these resources.
- If seeking specialized admission status based on accrediting body requirements, please include the name of the accrediting body and a direct link to or copies of the specific standard(s) which require the requested status.

Florida A&M University's undergraduate degrees in Journalism and Public Relations are accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC). Continued accreditation by ACEJMC requires programs to adhere to minimum student-faculty classroom ratios for both face-to-face and online classes. Specifically, Standard 2: Curriculum and Instruction states, "Student-faculty classroom ratios facilitate effective teaching and learning in all courses. Except for campaigns courses, the ratio in skills and laboratory sections, whether on-site or online, should not exceed 20-1." Currently, FAMU's public relations program meets the requirement of no more than 20 students per one faculty in all skills courses. The program currently has nearly 125 undergraduates with two full-time faculty. The curriculum places an emphasis on skills-based learning to provide students with practical experiences designed to simulate workforce settings after graduation. Due to physical space limitations associated with equipment, student practice facilities, and the accreditation requirement to maintain a 20:1 student ratio, FAMU is requesting specialized admissions for its Bachelor of Science in Public Relations program.

More information about accreditation by ACEJMC can be found at <http://www.acejmc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/2021-June-RevisedStandardsFinal.pdf>

4. If the program is seeking specialized admissions status due to limited resources and/or is a Program of Strategic Emphasis, provide the institution's plan and timeline for increasing program resources. If the institution does not plan to increase capacity over the next few years, please provide a rationale. Not applicable.

Due to physical space limitations and skills classes ratios, the Public Relations program does not anticipate significant expansion within the next academic year.

5. If approved for specialized admissions status, what will be the program's admissions requirements? Additionally, please indicate how these requirements and procedures ensure equal access for qualified Florida College System Associates in Arts graduates competing for available space in the program.

All students seeking entry to the Bachelor of Science in Public Relations at FAMU must meet minimum university requirements for admission and the following additional criteria for specialized admission. To be admitted into the Public Relations major, students must have a minimum 2.5 GPA and have earned a B or higher in ENC 1101 Freshman Comp Skills and a C or higher in ENC 1102 Freshman Comp Skills II. Florida College System (FCS) graduates with an Associate of Arts degree are eligible for admission to the major upon acceptance to the University and upon meeting the above criteria. Alternative course options are available to FSC graduates who do not satisfy the English composition criteria upon admission to the University. The alternative courses aid in mitigating potential negative impact on FCS associate of arts degree transfer students.

6. What is the current race and gender profile of the program? Describe the potential impact on the race and gender profiles of the program. What strategies will be implemented to promote and maintain diversity in the program?

It is the policy of Florida A&M University that each member of the University community is permitted to work or attend class in an environment free from any form of discrimination including race, religion, color, age, disability, sex, sexual harassment, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, national origin, and veteran status as prohibited by State and Federal Statutes. This commitment applies to all areas affecting students, including programs with specialized admissions.

The Fall 2021 student racial and gender profile is as follows:

- Gender Profile: Females = 73%; Males = 27%
- Racial Profile
 - Hispanic = 3%
 - Black = 93%
 - White = 3%
 - 2 or more races = 1%

Diversity within the Public Relations program (particularly gender diversity) is expected to remain strong with our recruitment efforts around the state of Florida. We see opportunity to raise awareness and expand our profile with targeted recruitment and retention strategies for transfer and out-of-state students.



Board of Governors, State University System of Florida
**Specialized Admissions Status
Initial Approval Request Form**

In Accordance with Board of Governors Regulation 8.013, Specialized Admissions

INSTITUTION: Florida A&M University _____

DEGREE PROGRAM: Bachelor of Science (BSN) in Nursing _____

CIP CODE 51.380 **Effective Academic Year** 2023-2024 _____

1. Does this request for specialized admissions status apply to the whole degree program? If no, please specify which major(s) or track(s) are seeking the status.

Yes

2. Which criteria for specialized admissions status does the program meet?

Limited Resources (if approved, the status will last a maximum of four years)

Minimal Skills (if approved, the status will last a maximum of five years)

Accreditation Requirements (If checked, you must also select either limited resources or minimal skills)

3. Provide a rationale for why the program meets the criteria selected above.

- If the program is seeking specialized admissions status due to limited resources, provide details regarding which types of resources are limited and how the current demand for the program outpaces these resources.
- If seeking specialized admission status based on accrediting body requirements, please include the name of the accrediting body and a direct link to or copies of the specific standard(s) which require the requested status.

Florida A&M University is seeking specialized admissions for its Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree program. The program is seeking this status based on minimal skills needed to graduate from the program and successful practice in the discipline. Nursing programs have a responsibility to the profession to graduate nurses trained at all levels of patient care. Requiring additional criteria beyond the University's general admissions requirements aids the program in admitting qualified applicants to meet the growing demand for highly skilled nurses. Admitting students with minimal skills who will be trusted to provide high quality patient care in clinical settings is essential. The additional standards aid FAMU's BSN program to carefully evaluate applicants to ensure they can handle the demands of a rigorous curriculum along with meeting accreditation and state licensure requirements to practice.

FAMU's BSN program is also limited by the number of clinical placements and learning experiences in hospital settings. Many partnering hospitals have limited capacity to provide supervised instruction in direct care patient settings. To ensure that all enrolled students have access to experiential learning, nursing programs must limit the number of admitted and enrolled students at any given time. Additionally, FAMU's is accredited by the Accreditation Commission

for Education in Nursing (ACEN). As part of its criteria, ACEN has minimum licensure examination outcomes that all BSN programs must meet. Specialized admissions for applicants seeking entry into nursing provides additional means for FAMU's program to achieve specified pass rate performance on the NCLEX. The additional criteria help to ensure that admitted students can demonstrate readiness.

More information about ACEN can be found at www.acenursing.org.

4. If the program is seeking specialized admissions status due to limited resources and/or is a Program of Strategic Emphasis, provide the institution's plan and timeline for increasing program resources. If the institution does not plan to increase capacity over the next few years, please provide a rationale. Not applicable.

Nursing is considered a Program of Strategic Emphasis. As such, the University is dedicated to the growth of degrees awarded in areas of strategic emphasis, particularly health-related programs, such as nursing. Strategic investments for nursing will be utilized to increase the number of faculty to deliver high quality instruction and to support improved student learning outcomes and performance on the licensure examination. Investments will also be utilized to provide additional support for academic and student services within the School of Nursing, as well as support to recruit highly qualified candidates to the BSN program.

5. If approved for specialized admissions status, what will be the program's admissions requirements?

All students seeking entry to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing must meet minimum university requirements for admission and the following additional criteria for specialized admission.

Traditional BSN Program Course Prerequisites

The Florida A & M University School of nursing admits students twice a year, in the fall and spring semesters. To be eligible for admission, the below listed prerequisite courses must be completed or in progress at the time of application.

- ENC 1101/ ENC 1102 Freshman Comm. Skills I/II 3 Semester Credits
- MAC 1105 or higher College Algebra or higher 3 Semester Credits
- BSC 1005 & Lab Biological Science or higher 4 Semester Credits
- PSY 2012 or SYG 2000* Intro to Psychology or Sociology 3 Semester Credits
- DEP 2004 Human Growth and Dev. 3 Semester Credits
- CHM 1030 Chemistry for Health Science or higher 3 Semester Credits
- BSC 2093 & Lab Anatomy & Physiology I 4 Semester Credits
- BSC 2094 & Lab Anatomy & Physiology II 4 Semester Credits
- MCB 3005 & Lab Microbiology 4 Semester Credits
- HUN 2401 Human Nutrition 3 Semester Credits
- STA 2023 Intro to Probability & Statistics 3 Semester Credits

The Nursing program also strongly recommends that applicants complete both psychology and sociology courses. Students must also take two humanities courses from an approved list, four approved elective courses, and meet the Civic Literacy requirement for graduation.

Grade Point Average and Course Grade Minimums

- Must have earned an overall GPA of at least a 3.1.
- Proficiency in reading comprehension, math, and science, specifically anatomy and physiology using the standardized Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)

- Must have received a grade of “B” or better in math, science, and nutrition courses.
- Received a grade of “B” or better in prerequisite courses. Only one repeated prerequisite
- Repeated grades for math, science and nutrition will not be considered. The student must meet the minimum letter grade requirement on the first attempt.

Florida College System (FCS) graduates with an Associate of Arts degree are eligible for admission to the major upon acceptance to the University and upon meeting the above criteria.

6. What is the current race and gender profile of the program? Describe the potential impact on the race and gender profiles of the program. What strategies will be implemented to promote and maintain diversity in the program?

It is the policy of Florida A&M University that each member of the University community is permitted to work or attend class in an environment free from any form of discrimination including race, religion, color, age, disability, sex, sexual harassment, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, national origin, and veteran status as prohibited by State and Federal Statutes. This commitment applies to all areas affecting students, including programs with specialized admissions.

The Fall 2021 student racial and gender profile is as follows:

- Gender Profile: Females = 94%; Males = 6%
- Racial Profile
 - Hispanic = 5%
 - Asian = 1%
 - Black = 90%
 - White = 1%
 - 2 or more races = 3%

The School of Nursing is currently developing strategies to recruit more highly qualified students as well as seeking opportunities to diversify the applicant pool.