

Revise Admission Requirements for Carolina Online: For consideration of Faculty Senate, date

Proposal: Revise the minimum freshman, transfer, and readmit admission requirements for University of South Carolina Online Programs, formerly known as Carolina Online.

Requested Effective Date: September 2022

Background:

At its meeting on April 7, 2021, the Faculty Senate approved minimum freshman, transfer, and readmit admission requirements for Carolina Online. Carolina Online no longer exists and we are moving forward with using University of South Carolina Online Programs and leverage existing processes, not separate processes, to expand online program offerings. As a result, policies that reference Carolina Online need to be revised.

Admission Policy for Carolina Online Approved on April 7, 2021:	Proposed Revision
<p>Application to online programs offered through Carolina Online will be submitted to Carolina Online. The following policies only apply to Carolina Online.</p> <p>Freshman Admission An applicant who has not attended a regionally accredited college or university after high-school graduation may be considered for freshman admission. Requirements for admission to online programs offered through Carolina Online include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed application • Application fee • Completion of required high school courses as defined by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education • Minimum GPA of 2.25 • Official final high school transcript with graduation date • Standardized test scores (e.g., SAT or ACT), if requested. <p>Military Freshman Applicants South Carolina resident applicants with at least two years of active-duty military service may be admitted as freshmen if they graduated high school with a 2.25 GPA, completed minimum college preparatory course requirements outlined by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, and have not attempted any postsecondary work since graduation. The application fee is waived for military applicants.</p> <p>Transfer Admission An applicant who has attended another regionally accredited postsecondary institution after high school graduation and attempted one or more courses is a transfer student, irrespective of credit earned, and must meet transfer entrance</p>	<p>The admission criteria for University of South Carolina Online Programs follow the prevailing criteria by student type, including freshman, military freshman, transfer, system transfer, readmission, and non-degree. However, the University may engage in educational partnerships and establish MOUs or contracts for which different admission criteria are applied, upon approval of the Faculty Senate. Consult with the Office of Undergraduate Admission for additional information.</p> <p>Online programs are those for which 100% of instruction is conducted online.</p>

requirements. Requirements for transfer admission to online programs offered through Carolina Online include:

- Completed application
- Application fee (waived for military)
- Official transcripts from postsecondary institution(s); 30 credit hours are needed to qualify for transfer admission
 - Applicants with a Joint Services Transcript may choose to apply up to 15 credit hours towards the 30 credit hours needed to qualify for transfer admission
- Minimum GPA of 2.25
- Official final high school transcript with graduation date (only if fewer than 30 credit hours of college-level coursework have been completed)
- Standardized test scores [e.g., SAT or ACT], if requested (only if fewer than 30 credit hours of college-level coursework have been completed)

Courses attempted at another regionally accredited postsecondary institution will be evaluated consistent with University policy on transfer of credit.

Please refer to https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/registrar/transfer_credits/index.php for further details on transfer credit guidelines.

Readmission

A former UofSC student wishing to return to complete an online program through Carolina Online will need to submit a completed application for readmission. Returning students must have a 2.0 UofSC GPA.

Non-degree Seeking Admission

A student who applies for admission to a program offered through Carolina Online and does not meet the freshman, transfer, or readmit admission requirements may be admitted as a non-degree seeking student. After completing two UofSC Carolina Online program courses (minimum of 6 hours) that are degree-applicable to the Carolina Core or the major and approved by the Carolina Online Director of Enrollment, such students with a 2.25 GPA may be admitted as a degree-seeking student to a Carolina Online program without submitting an additional application. However, such students must submit any requested documentation prior to moving to degree-seeking status. Courses completed while in non-degree seeking status may

apply toward the Carolina Online degree program.	
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Justification:

The proposed revised admission requirements will ensure that applicants to online programs must meet the same requirements as applicants to on-campus programs; but will also enable the University to honor the contract entered into with Major League Soccer that includes different admission criteria. Any changes to the MLS admission criteria or any new MOUs or contracts that specify different admission criteria will be reviewed by the Faculty Senate Committee on Admission and the full Faculty Senate. This policy emphasizes the commitment and investment of UofSC to educating all South Carolina residents as well as those in the southeastern region and nationally by offering high-quality online programs.