Freshman Applicants

Fitchburg State University evaluates each applicant from any state based on standards established by the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education and the University. We consider high school curriculum, grade point average, SAT and/or ACT scores, school and community service, recommendations, application essay, life experience, special talents and learning styles, and TOEFL scores for students whose first language is not English. Life and work experience are weighted more heavily for applicants who have been out of high school for a significant period of time. Acceptance to Fitchburg State University is contingent upon graduation from high school or equivalent preparation (GED). Students from Massachusetts’ public high school must meet all MCAS graduation requirements.

ACADEMIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Freshman applicants should present a history of a competitive grade point average earned in a comprehensive college preparatory curriculum. All applicants are expected to complete the coursework listed below.

NOTE: Exceptions to the foreign language requirement may be considered for applicants with a documented language-based learning disability, students from a vocational-technical school, and/or ESL students. For more information, please refer to our website.

- English ................................................. 4 units/years
- Math (including Algebra I & II, Geometry, or comparable coursework) ......................... 3 units/years
- Social Sciences (including U.S. History) ...... 2 units/years
- Science (including 2 laboratory courses) ...... 3 units/years
- Foreign Language (same language) .......... 2 units/years
- Electives (extra units/years of above coursework or Arts & Humanities or Computer Science) ..... 2 units/years

MINIMUM REQUIRED GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)

Fitchburg State University recalculates your GPA based on all college preparatory courses completed at the time of application and weights Honors and Advanced Placement courses. We look for a minimum recalculated high school GPA of 3.0; however, we will also consider applicants with a GPA between 2.0 and 2.99 if SAT/ACT scores meet the sliding scale requirements (see column to the right). Applicants that do not meet the sliding scale requirements will be considered on an individual basis for a limited number of admission exceptions.

IMPORTANT: Meeting the minimum GPA and SAT/ACT requirements does not guarantee admission to the University or to a particular major.

SAT OR ACT TEST REQUIREMENT

Applicants who meet the minimum 3.0 recalculated GPA requirement do not have to use the sliding scale for admission, but still must submit SAT/ACT scores if they are applying to Fitchburg State University within three years of their high school graduation. If an applicant’s GPA falls between 2.0 - 2.99, the sliding scale will apply. The SAT scores provided below reflect a combined total for the Critical Reading and Mathematics portions of the SAT. Fitchburg State does not currently include the Writing component of the SAT in the sliding scale. The ACT scores below reflect the composite score only.

IMPORTANT: Meeting the sliding scale standards does not guarantee admission to the University or to a particular major.

NOTE: Applicants with a documented learning disability may choose to identify their documented disability on the application for admission and ask to be considered for the standardized test score exemption.

SLIDING SCALE ADMISSIONS FORMULA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recalculated GPA</th>
<th>SAT (CR and Math)</th>
<th>ACT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.51 - 2.99</td>
<td>920 ..................</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.41 - 2.50</td>
<td>960 ..................</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.31 - 2.40</td>
<td>1000 .................</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.21 - 2.30</td>
<td>1040 .................</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.11 - 2.20</td>
<td>1080 .................</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.00 - 2.10</td>
<td>1120 .................</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 2.00</td>
<td>– not admissible</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FRESHMAN APPLICATION PROCESS & DEADLINES

An application checklist, listing all required materials, is located on the back page of the Undergraduate Application for Admission and is also on our website, www.fitchburgstate/admissions. The University reviews applications on a rolling basis, sending the first set of fall admission decisions by mid-December. We begin to notify spring applicants in mid-fall. On average, students receive an admission decision three weeks from the date their application file becomes complete. The priority deadline for fall applicants is March 1. The priority deadline for spring applicants is November 1. In addition, applicants who wish to be considered for merit scholarships must complete their admission application by February 1 for fall entrance, or by November 1 for spring entrance.
FILM/VIDEO PRODUCTION, PHOTOGRAPHY and NURSING APPLICANTS

Applicants to these programs are reviewed against a higher set of admissions standards. Applicants are encouraged to submit letters of recommendation relevant to their intended major and complete the application by January 1 for fall entrance and by November 1 for spring entrance. We accept freshman and transfer applications for Film/Video Production and Photography for spring entrance. We accept transfer, but not freshman applications, for Nursing for spring entrance. Space is very limited in the spring for both Film/Video, Photography and Nursing applicants.

Non-Traditional/Adult Applicants

A non-traditional applicant will have graduated from high school more than three years prior to the student attending college. To qualify as a non-traditional applicant, you must have a high school diploma or GED. Adult students are evaluated on a combination of abilities demonstrated in high school, college and life/work experience. For more specific information about entrance requirements, please contact the Admissions Office.

Transfer Applicants

Fitchburg State University evaluates each transfer applicant based on standards established by the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education and the University. You are a transfer applicant if you have a high school diploma or GED and have earned college credits at a regionally accredited college or university after high school, even if it’s just for one course. Transfer students are evaluated on a combination of grade point average and earned credits. We also require high school transcripts and SAT/ACT scores as part of the application if a student graduated high school within three years of applying. If the student holds an Associate’s degree at time of application, SAT/ACT scores are not required.

Minimum standards for transfer admission and evaluation criteria (applicants must meet one of the three following criteria):

1. 12-23 transferable college credits and a minimum 2.5 college GPA; or
2. Up to 23 transferable college credits, a minimum 2.0 college GPA and must also meet the admissions standards for freshman applicants; or
3. 24 or more transferable credits and a minimum 2.0 college GPA.

IMPORTANT: Meeting the minimum transfer standards for admission does not guarantee admission to the University or to a specific major. For purposes of the transfer grade point average (GPA) calculation, the University uses non-remedial credits earned from the most recently attended regionally accredited institution of higher education.

TRANSFER APPLICATION PROCESS & DEADLINES

An application checklist, listing all required materials, is located on the back page of the Undergraduate Application for Admission and on our website, www.fitchburgstate.edu/admissions. The University reviews applications on a rolling basis. On average, students receive an admission decision three weeks from the date their application file becomes complete. The priority application deadline is April 15 for the fall semester and December 1 for the spring semester. Please note that space is limited in Film/Video Production, Photography and Nursing programs.

MASSTRANSFER AND JOINT ADMISSIONS

The Massachusetts Department of Higher Education has established these programs to facilitate the admission and transfer credit approval processes for students transferring between Massachusetts’ public two- and four-year colleges and universities. MassTransfer and Joint Admissions guarantee admission and/or transfer of credit and a potential tuition discount in approved/linked programs with a specified GPA after completion of an associate’s degree. Interested students must apply while in attendance at their current community college or state university. Please contact your college Transfer Office for more information and for the MassTransfer application or Intent to Enroll form. Due to the competitive nature of some of our majors, higher admissions standards may be applied and space cannot be guaranteed in certain programs, such as Film/Video Production, Photography and Nursing.

TRANSFER CREDITS AND RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

The amount of credit that will transfer into a Fitchburg State University program is determined after you have been accepted. Transfer credit is normally granted for courses completed at regionally accredited colleges and universities for which you received a C or better, and which correspond with those offered at Fitchburg State. We will accept up to 60 credits from accredited two-year colleges and up to 75 credits from accredited four-year colleges. Regardless of the number of transfer credits you are granted, you must earn a minimum of 45 credits in residency at Fitchburg State to complete a bachelor’s degree program. Some majors may require core coursework to be completed at Fitchburg State University.

TRANSFERRING FROM MASSACHUSETTS’ COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Many students interested in transferring to Fitchburg State University start their college careers at one of the Massachusetts’ community colleges. In order to help you in the transfer process, lists of commonly transferred courses from each of the 15 Massachusetts state community colleges can be found at www.fitchburgstate.edu/enrollsrv/transferequivalency.cfm.