

## **Admits by Exception** – Policy or Implementation revisions

The Graduate School wants to shift the workload of the admit by exception (AE) policy to allow for more discussions with programs regarding their applicant pool and their number of admits by exception. Since programs have been held to and reminded of the standard, they have been more mindful of the qualifications of the students they admit. Most AE admits are very close to the qualifying criteria, so there is little doubt about approving the request. Focusing on justifying the extreme exceptions and high percentage of AE admits would be more in line with the goal of this policy.

Proposed:

Two groups of people exempt from the Admit by Exception rules

- Professional Track admits
- ECU non-degrees who completed 9 hours or more of graduate course work with a GPA of 3.0 and are now entering a degree program

Instead of reviewing every admit by exception application, the Graduate School would only evaluate those with a test score percentile below 20 (Verbal & Quant average for GRE), those with a GPA below 2.6, and/or a TOEFL below 78 overall or below 19 on any section.

A report will be created to show the admit information for a full academic year (rather than per semester), and programs will be contacted when they reach 10% admit by exception. Programs have also asked to see how many AE admits are active in their program in a term, and a report can be created with this information as well.

Another implementation change is to stop adding the GG hold that restricts financial aid. Instead, the graduate school would have a report of AE admits who have 9 hours or less to use for end of term communication with programs.

Since Financial Aid asked us to place the hold restricting financial aid on an admit by exception's record, Julie Poorman has been contacted to see if this proposal meets her requirements. The intent was to prevent awarding aid to a student who is likely to be dismissed. However, these students are no more likely to be dismissed from their programs than regular admit students.