



**SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

1333 MAIN STREET

SUITE 200

COLUMBIA, S.C. 29201

RAYBURN BARTON  
Executive Director

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TELEPHONE  
803/737-2260

FAX NUMBER  
803/737-2297

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Mr. R. Austin Gilbert, Jr., Chairman, and Members,  
Commission on Higher Education

**From:** Ms. Dianne Chinnes, Chairman *DC/gm*  
Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

**Consideration of Annual Report on Admission Standards  
for First-Time Entering Freshmen, Fall 1998**

Act 629 of 1988, *The Cutting Edge*, requires that with respect to admission standards at the public colleges and universities:

- In consultation and coordination with the public institutions of higher learning in this state, the State Commission on Higher Education shall ensure that minimal admissions standards are maintained by the institutions.
- The commission, with the institutions, shall monitor the effect of compliance with admission prerequisites that are effective in fall, 1988 (Section 598-104-10(A)).

In April 1988, the Advisory Committee on Academic Programs adopted a procedure that requires each institution annually to report on applications, acceptances, and enrollment, and to specify the minimum approximate SAT score (combined math and verbal) that is required of most applicants for admission as freshmen.

Attached is the annual report on 1998 admission standards for first-time entering freshmen at South Carolina public senior colleges and universities. This document summarizes the results of five different reports related to admission standards and to measures of achievement of first-time entering freshmen for the fall of 1998.

The Report is presented in five parts:

- ◆ Part I: Fall 1998 Applications, Acceptances, and Actual Enrollments;
- ◆ Part II: Fall 1998 Data Related to High School Course Prerequisites;
- ◆ Part III: Fall 1998 SAT and ACT Scores;
- ◆ Part IV: Provisionally Admitted Students;
- ◆ Part V: Fall 1999 Minimum Admissions Requirements

The data for Parts II-IV, and the actual enrollment data included in Part I, were electronically supplied by the institutions via the Commission on Higher Education's Management Information System (CHEMIS).

In Act 359 of 1996, the General Assembly reiterated the importance of reporting admissions standards. Section 59-103-45 again directs the Commission to "review minimum undergraduate admission standards."

### **Recommendation**

The Committee on Academic Affairs recommends this report to the Commission as meeting the stipulations of Act 629 of 1988 and Act 359 of 1996 with respect to reviewing admissions standards and disseminating appropriate information related to admission standards.

/jb

**ANNUAL REPORT ON ADMISSION STANDARDS FOR  
FIRST-TIME ENTERING FRESHMEN, FALL 1998  
SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SENIOR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

This document reviews the results of four different reports related to admission standards and measures of achievement for first-time entering freshmen. The results are presented in five parts:

- **Part I:** Applications, Acceptances, and Actual Enrollments
- **Part II:** Fall 1998 data related to high school course prerequisites;
- **Part III:** Fall 1998 SAT and ACT scores;
- **Part IV:** Fall 1998 data related to provisional students; and
- **Part V:** Fall 1999 minimum admission standards.

**Part I: Applications, Acceptances, and Actual Enrollments**

In Fall 1998, a total of 41,844 applications were received for admission as first-time freshmen at the public senior colleges and universities. Of these, 29,121 or 69.59 percent, met the minimum admission standards at one or more of the public senior institutions and were offered admission to the institution. Of those who were offered admission, 12,665 applicants actually enrolled.

Table 1 shows the number and percent of students who applied, students who were accepted, and students who actually enrolled at each public senior institution.

**TABLE 1  
APPLICATIONS, ACCEPTANCES, AND ACTUAL ENROLLMENTS  
S.C. PUBLIC SENIOR INSTITUTIONS, FALL 1997**

	Number of Applications <sup>1</sup>	Number of Applicants Offered Admission <sup>1</sup>	Percent of Applicants Offered Admission	Number who Actually Enrolled <sup>2</sup>	Percent Accepted and Enrolled
Clemson	9,359	6,458	69.00%	2,709	41.37%
USC-Columbia	10,658	7,529	70.64%	2,811	37.34%
The Citadel	1,473	1,191	80.86%	484	40.64%
Coastal Carolina	2,426	1,912	78.81%	877	45.87%
College of Charleston	6,966	4,551	65.33%	1,939	42.61%
Francis Marion	1,486	908	61.10%	657	72.36%
Lander	1,325	1,175	88.68%	491	41.79%
S.C. State	3,147	1,894	60.18%	739	39.02%
USC-Aiken	1,094	756	69.10%	536	70.90%
USC-Spartanburg	1,259	728	57.82%	586	80.49%
Winthrop	2,651	2,019	76.16%	836	41.41%
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,844</b>	<b>29,121</b>	<b>69.59%</b>	<b>12,665</b>	<b>43.49%</b>

<sup>1</sup>Reported manually by the institutions.

<sup>2</sup>Reported electronically through the Commission on Higher Education Management Information system (CHEMIS).

Lander, The Citadel, and Coastal Carolina offered admission to the largest percentage of applicants. Lander offered admission to approximately 89 percent of those students who applied, The Citadel offered admission to 81 percent of its applicants, and Winthrop offered admission to 79 percent of its applicants. However, only about forty percent of those students who were offered admission at these three institutions actually enrolled at the institution. USC-Spartanburg, USC-Aiken, and Francis Marion enrolled the largest percentage of students who were offered admission. At USC-Spartanburg, 81 percent of the applicants who were offered admission enrolled. At USC-Aiken, approximately 71 percent of those offered admission enrolled, and at Francis Marion, 72 percent of the applicants offered admission enrolled.

## **Part II: Extent to Which 1998 Freshmen Met the High School Course Prerequisites**

Since Fall 1988, public senior colleges and universities in South Carolina have required that applicants for freshmen admission (who graduated from high school in 1988 or subsequent years) must have completed certain high school courses before being admitted. The required courses include the following:

1. **Four units of English.** At least two must have strong grammar and composition components, and at least one must be in **English literature** and at least one must be in **American literature**.
2. **Three units of mathematics.** These include **algebra 1** (for which applied mathematics I and II may count together as a substitute, if a student successfully completes algebra II); **algebra II**, and **geometry**. A fourth mathematics course is strongly recommended. This fourth course should be selected from among **precalculus, calculus, statistics, or discrete mathematics**.
3. **Two units of laboratory science.** At least one unit each of two laboratory sciences should be chosen from **biology, chemistry, or physics**. Two units of the same science will not meet this requirement, but taking one from all three will be helpful. Courses in earth science or physical science will not meet this requirement.
4. **Two units of the same foreign language.**
5. **One unit of advanced math or computer science or a combination of these; or one unit of world history, world geography, or western civilization.**
6. **One unit of U.S. history.**
7. **Two units of additional social studies.** A **half unit in economics** and a **half unit in government** are strongly recommended.
8. **One unit of physical education or ROTC.**

Effective academic year 2001-02 the public senior colleges and universities will require that applicants for freshmen admission must have completed 20 college preparatory courses consistent with the new high school graduation requirements of 24 Carnegie units. These will include:

- four units of English
- three units of mathematics
- three units of laboratory science
- two units of the same foreign language
- three units of social science
- four units of electives (from at least three different fields)
- one unit of physical education for ROTC

Specific details about the new requirements can be found on the Commission's web site located at <http://www.che400.state.sc.us> (under Academic Affairs).

Each institution may make exceptions in admitting 1) students who do not meet all of the prerequisites, limited to those individual cases in which the failure to meet one or more prerequisites is due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the student or 2) students who have taken the applied academics (Tech Prep) courses rather than the required college preparatory curriculum and who meet all other institutional admissions criteria. The prerequisites are not applicable to foreign students, students who receive the high school General Equivalency Diploma (GED), or students who do not enroll in baccalaureate degree programs.

The proportion of applicable first-time freshmen meeting all of the prerequisites increased from 96.29 percent in 1996 to 97.40 percent in 1997 and remains virtually stable in 1998 with 97.42 percent.

**TABLE 2**  
**Percent of Applicable<sup>1</sup> First-Time Freshmen Meeting High School Course Prerequisites**

Senior Institutions	1996 Applicable Freshmen	1996 Percent Meeting Prerequisites	1997 Applicable Freshmen	1997 Percent Meeting Prerequisites	1998 Applicable Freshmen	1998 Percent Meeting Prerequisites
The Citadel	471	98.94%	441	97.73%	484	98.76
Clemson	2,542	98.66%	2,589	98.84%	2709	97.15
Coastal Carolina	809	96.66%	801	98.12%	835	99.40
College of Charleston	1,859	99.09%	1,551	98.90%	1908	99.37
Francis Marion	650	94.15%	601	94.84%	657	97.10
Lander	451	91.35%	454	95.59%	491	95.92
SC State	813	91.39%	602	95.95%	739	96.48
USC-Columbia	2,604	97.43%	2,908	98.31%	2738	98.50
USC-Aiken	431	87.01%	477	87.0%	513	91.81
USC-Spartanburg	436	90.37%	551	93.28%	553	90.95
Winthrop	795	93.58%	903	98.22%	817	97.06
<b>Total Sr. Institutions</b>	<b>11,861</b>	<b>96.24%</b>	<b>11,878</b>	<b>97.35%</b>	<b>12,444</b>	<b>97.41%</b>
USC-Beaufort <sup>2</sup>	39	97.44%	53	100%	68	94.11
USC-Lancaster <sup>2</sup>	54	100.00%	47	100%	56	100.00
USC-Salkehatchie <sup>2</sup>	30	100.00%	24	100%	9	88.88
USC-Sumter <sup>2</sup>	68	98.53%	76	98.68%	59	100.00
USC-Union <sup>2</sup>	12	100.00%	13	100%	20	100.00
<b>Total USC Two-Year</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>99.01%</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>99.52%</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>97.64%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>12,064</b>	<b>96.29%</b>	<b>12,090</b>	<b>97.40%</b>	<b>12,656</b>	<b>97.42%</b>

<sup>1</sup>Not applicable to foreign students, GED students, and students who graduated prior to 1988.

<sup>2</sup>At the USC two-year campuses, the prerequisites are applicable only to those students classified by the institution as "baccalaureate-ready" and accepted as such.

### **Part III: Indicators of Academic Preparation, Fall 1998**

Act 629 of 1988, *The Cutting Edge*, requires public senior colleges and universities in South Carolina to report annually to the Commission on the admissions standards for first-time entering freshmen students. Act 359 also requires that the Commission review admissions standards. This report includes the average scores for all first-time entering freshmen, including those admitted under the regular admission policies of the institution and those who are admitted on a provisional basis (admitted under "exceptions" to the regular admission policies), foreign students, and students age 22 and above. Scores are submitted separately for each category of in-state students, out-of-state students, and in-state and out-of-state students combined. However, for this report, only the combined data are displayed. Separate data tables for in-state and out-of-state students in all categories are available upon request.

Beginning in 1995, the Commission began using a more inclusive standard of comparison for indicators of academic preparation for entering students. The combined mean for college entrance examinations has been calculated based on the scores of the entire entering freshman class including foreign students, provisional students, students age 22 and above, and students taking the ACT.

Most students attending South Carolina institutions take the SAT rather than the ACT as a college entrance examination. However, South Carolina institutions are beginning to accept more students who have taken only the ACT. In 1994 and prior years this report has included both ACT and SAT scores, with the SAT combined mean and the ACT combined mean listed separately. The combined means reported separately do not give a true picture of the academic preparation of the total freshman class at each institution.

Because the Commission believes it is important to look at the indicators of academic preparation for the first-time entering freshman class without exclusions, an ACT/SAT combined mean is now calculated for the entire entering freshman class. Scores of students who report only ACT scores have been converted to SAT equivalencies using the ACT-SAT concordance tables developed by the Educational Testing Service (ETS). The converted scores were then averaged with the SAT scores to arrive at an SAT/ACT combined mean.

When ACT scores are converted into SAT equivalents and combined into the mean, the SAT/ACT combined mean is in general slightly lower than the SAT combined mean excluding ACT scores. For 1998 scores, nine are marginally lower (from -1 to -19 points); four remain the same; and three are higher (+2 to +4 points). The SAT/ACT combined mean for South Carolina institutions will be lower, in most cases, than the SAT combined mean, depending on the percentage of students who report only ACT scores at a particular institution. This is because, in general, more than one SAT combined score (verbal and math) converts into the same ACT score, whereas only one ACT composite score converts to an SAT combined score except at the lowest end of the range. Depending on where students' scores fall within a range, including ACT/SAT equivalencies in the calculation of the mean could increase or decrease the combined mean at that institution.

Table 3 ranks institutions by institution type and SAT/ACT combined mean. The combined mean including only SAT scores and the percentage of students reporting ACT scores only is also shown on Table 3.

<b>TABLE 3</b>			
<b>SAT/ACT SCORES OF FIRST-TIME ENTERING FRESHMEN, FALL 1998</b>			
<b>(INCLUDING Foreign and Provisional Students and Students Age 22 and Above)</b>			
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SENIOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITIES</b>			
INSTITUTION	SAT & ACT Combined Mean <sup>1</sup> Including Foreign, Prov. & Age 22 & Above	SAT (Only) Combined Mean Including Foreign, Prov. & Age 22 & Above	% First-Time Freshmen Including Foreign, Prov. & Age 22 & Above Reporting ACT Only
<b>Research Institutions:</b>			
1. Clemson	1145	1145	8.37%
2. USC-Columbia	1092	1093	8.50%
<b>Average Research Institutions:</b>	<b>1118</b>	<b>1119</b>	<b>8.44%</b>
<b>Comprehensive Teaching Institutions:</b>			
1. College of Charleston	1109	1114	7.27%
2. The Citadel	1069	1065	11.98%
3. Winthrop	1038	1042	10.04%
4. Coastal Carolina	995	1004	18.70%
5. USC-Aiken	976	973	8.76%
6. Lander University	967	967	10.18%
7. Francis Marion University	961	961	0.00%
8. USC-Spartanburg	940	944	9.04%
9. S.C. State	872	874	11.50%
<b>Average Four-Year Comprehensive Institutions:</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>994</b>	<b>9.55%</b>
<b>State Average, Senior Institutions:</b>	<b>1016</b>	<b>1013</b>	<b>9.06%</b>
<b>USC Two-Year Regional Campuses</b>			
1. USC-Sumter	939	958	15.30
2. USC-Beaufort	920	931	11.64
3. USC-Lancaster	899	899	1.97
4. USC-Union	878	876	10.44
5. USC-Salkehatchie	855	858	5.26
<b>Average USC Two-Year Regional Campuses</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>888</b>	<b>8.63%</b>
<sup>1</sup> ACT scores converted to SAT equivalencies using the ACT/SAT Concordance Tables.			

**Table 4** presents a comparison of the number of students reporting ACT scores only for 1997 and 1998.

<b>Table 4</b> <b>Comparison of the Percent of Students Reporting ACT Scores Only</b> <b>Academic Years 1997 and 1998</b>		
INSTITUTION	% First-Time Freshmen Including Foreign, Prov. & Age 22 & Above Reporting ACT Only in 1997	% First-Time Freshmen Including Foreign, Prov. & Age 22 & Above Reporting ACT Only in 1998
<b>Research Institutions:</b>		
1. Clemson	8.45%	8.37%
2. USC-Columbia	15.69%	8.50%
<b>Average Research Institutions:</b>	<b>12.33%</b>	<b>8.44%</b>
<b>Comprehensive Teaching Institutions:</b>		
1. College of Charleston	24.34%	22.12%
2. The Citadel	18.82%	11.98%
3. Winthrop University	11.51%	10.04%
4. Coastal Carolina University	17.83%	18.70%
5. USC-Aiken	11.01%	8.76%
6. Lander University	12.14%	10.18%
7. Francis Marion University	6.86%	10.95%
8. USC-Spartanburg	12.07%	9.04%
9. S.C. State University	10.29%	11.50%
<b>Average Four-Year Comprehensive Institutions</b>	<b>13.87%</b>	<b>11.44%</b>
<b>State Average, Four-Year Research and Comprehensive Institutions</b>	<b>13.55%</b>	<b>10.44%</b>
<b>USC Two-Year Regional Campuses</b>		
1. USC-Sumter	10.44%	15.30%
2. USC-Beaufort	13.07%	11.64%
3. USC-Lancaster	5.23%	1.97%
4. USC-Union	7.14%	10.44%
5. USC-Salkehatchie	4.59%	5.26%
<b>Average USC-Two Year Regional Campuses</b>	<b>8.09%</b>	<b>8.63%</b>

When compared to data for 1997, Table 4 data indicate a decrease in the percentage of students who are taking the ACT for two of the three sectors included. In 1997, 12.33% of the students entering the research institutions took the ACT compared to 8.44% in 1998. This decrease resulted from a decline at USC-Columbia from 15.69% in 1997 to 8.5% in 1998. For the comprehensive teaching institutions, 13.87% took the ACT in 1997 while 11.44% did so in 1998. By contrast, USC's two-year regional campuses saw a slight increase with 8.63% reporting only ACT scores in 1998 compared to 8.09% in 1997.

**Table 5** compares the SAT/ACT combined mean for each institution for 1995, 1996, and 1997. **Table 5** indicates an increase in the combined SAT/ACT mean for both the public senior institutions and the two-year campuses of USC for 1998. Since 1996, there has been an overall increase for the four-year institutions of 16 points and for USC's two-year campuses of eight points. Of the eleven senior institutions, however, for 1998 six show increased mean scores, two stayed the same, and three decreased.

<b>TABLE 5</b>			
<b>SAT/ACT Scores of First-Time Entering Freshmen</b>			
<b>(including Foreign, Provisional, and Students Age 22 and Above)</b>			
<b>Senior Institutions</b>	<b>1996 SAT/ACT Combined Mean</b>	<b>1997 SAT/ACT Combined Mean</b>	<b>1998 SAT/ACT Combined Mean</b>
The Citadel	1058	1060	1069
Clemson	1127	1139	1145
Coastal Carolina	988	996	995
College of Charleston	1084	1109	1109
Francis Marion	939	963	961
Lander	979	979	967
S.C. State	873	871	872
USC-Columbia	1066	1079	1092
USC-Aiken	966	957	976
USC-Spartanburg	962	940	940
Winthrop	1046	1029	1038
<b>USC Two-Year</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>
USC-Beaufort	929	905	920
USC-Lancaster	890	871	899
USC-Salkehatchie	861	851	855
USC-Sumter	928	932	939
USC-Union	826	862	878
<b>Average Combined Mean for Four-Year Institutions</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>
	1044	1055	1060
<b>Average Combined Mean for USC Two- Year Institutions</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>
	897	891	905

#### **Part IV: Provisionally Admitted Students**

Two types of admission may be offered to a degree-seeking student upon admission to an institution. Applicants who meet the institution's minimum admission criteria and who are offered admission are classified as regular students. Applicants who do not meet the institution's regular admission requirements but who are offered admission using alternative criteria are classified as provisional students.

Table 6 shows provisional freshmen as a percent of total first-time entering freshmen for Fall 1998 for each institution and overall.

<b>Senior Institutions</b>	<b>Total First-Time Freshmen</b>	<b>Provisional Freshmen</b>	<b>Percent Provisional</b>
Clemson	2,709	86	3.18%
USC-Columbia	2,811	280	9.96%
<b>Total Research Institutions</b>	<b>5,520</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>6.63%</b>
The Citadel	484	35	7.23%
Coastal Carolina	877	164	18.70%
Coll. of Charleston	1,939	329	16.97%
Francis Marion	657	59	8.98%
Lander	491	69	14.05%
S.C. State	739	12	1.62%
USC-Aiken	536	42	7.84%
USC-Spartanburg	586	27	4.61%
Winthrop	836	108	12.92%
<b>Total Four-Year Comprehensive</b>	<b>7,145</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>11.83%</b>
<b>Total Senior Institutions</b>	<b>12,665</b>	<b>1,211</b>	<b>9.56%</b>
USC-Beaufort	146	58	39.73%
USC-Lancaster	203	107	52.71%
USC-Salkehatchie	152	110	72.37%
USC-Sumter	196	113	57.65%
USC-Union	67	41	61.19%
<b>Total USC Two-Year</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>56.15%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>13,429</b>	<b>1,640</b>	<b>12.21%</b>

Of the public senior institutions, Coastal Carolina and the College of Charleston enrolled the largest proportion of freshmen admitted on a provisional basis: 18.7 and 16.9 percent, respectively. Lander, Winthrop, USC-Columbia, Francis Marion, USC-Aiken, and the Citadel follow in that order. Of those institutions reporting provisional enrollments, USC-Spartanburg (4.61%), Clemson (3.18%), and South Carolina State University (1.62%) reported the smallest number of provisional students.

At its meeting on August 25, 1997, the Commission approved several recommendations for the institutions to take under consideration regarding provisional students. Among these were two which relate to the data presented in Table 6:

- ◆ Research universities should limit provisional admissions to no more than 10 percent of the first-time entering freshman class.

- ◆ Four-year teaching universities should limit provisional admission to no more than 15 percent of the first-time entering freshman class.

As can be seen from the data presented in Table 6, the research universities are now in compliance with the recommended 10% cap. Decreasing provisional admissions occurred at the following four-year institutions:

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>
Coastal Carolina	19.5%	18.70%
S.C. State	2.8%	1.62%
USC-Aiken	15.96%	7.84%
Winthrop	19.3%	12.92%

Increasing provisional enrollment occurred at the following four-year institutions:

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>
The Citadel	0.0%	7.23%
College of Charleston	11.69%	16.97%
Francis Marion	7.3%	8.98%
Lander	13.66%	14.05%

USC-Spartanburg remained at the same level of provisional students at 4.6%. Coastal Carolina and the College of Charleston were the only four-year comprehensive institutions admitting more than the recommended 15% cap on provisional student admissions.

USC applies the same admissions standards used at its main campus to students who apply to a USC two-year campus and who are classified by the institution as "baccalaureate-ready" students. Because these admissions standards are applicable only to those "baccalaureate-ready" freshmen, more than one-half of the entering freshmen at the USC two-year campuses are classified as provisional students with the percentage increasing from 52.66 percent in 1997 to 56.15 percent in 1998.

#### **Part V: Fall 1998 Minimum Admission Standards**

A component of Act 629 of 1988 requires the Commission to work with public institutions of higher learning in the State to "ensure that minimal admission standards are maintained by the institutions." In 1988 each institution was required to specify annually the minimum approximate SAT score (combined math and verbal) that is required of most applicants for admission as freshmen. In 1993 the Commission approved the collection of additional data to include minimum ACT scores when these were submitted in lieu of SAT scores.

Some institutions use a predictive equation<sup>1</sup> to determine which students to admit. At

these institutions, the minimum required scores will vary somewhat depending on the value and weight of the other elements in the formula. For this reason, the minimum SAT and ACT scores reported by the institutions as required for admission are approximate. The approximate SAT and ACT score requirements reported by each institution for Fall 1999 are shown on **Table 7**.

TABLE 7

FALL 1999 ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS  
 APPROXIMATE\* MINIMUM SAT SCORE (COMBINED) AND  
 MINIMUM ACT SCORE REQUIREMENTS FOR  
 FIRST-TIME ENTERING FRESHMEN

	High School Class Rank						Predictive Equation	
	Top 20%		Between Top 20% & Top 50%		Between Top 50% & Top 80%		Yes	No
	SAT	ACT	SAT	ACT	SAT	ACT		
The Citadel	920	20	920	20	920	20		X
Clemson	820	17	1220	27	1580	36	X	
Coastal Carolina	960	20	960	20	960	20		X
College of Charleston	1020	22	1120	24	1270	28	X	
Francis Marion	900	19	900	19	900	19		X
Lander	900	18	1000	21	1100	24	X	
S.C. State	830	17	830	17	830	17		X
USC-Columbia	1000	24	1200	29	1400	33	X	
USC-Aiken***	1000	21	1000	21	1000	21	X	
USC-Spartanburg	850	18	900	19	950	20	X	
Winthrop	900	19	1000	22	1150	25		X
USC-Beaufort**	1000	24	1200	29	1400	33	X	
USC-Lancaster**	1000	24	1200	29	1400	33	X	
USC-Salkehatchie**	1000	24	1200	29	1400	33	X	
USC-Sumter**	1000	24	1200	29	1400	33	X	
USC-Union**	1000	24	1200	29	1400	33	X	

\* Some institutions use predictive equations, formulas which combine elements such as high school class rank and/or high school grade point ratios and/or SAT or ACT scores, to determine which students to admit. At these institutions, the minimum required scores will vary somewhat depending on the value and weight of the other elements in the formula.

\*\*Minimum scores reflect requirements for those qualified by the institution to access baccalaureate programs at USC-Columbia. Students with lower SAT scores and high school rank may qualify for other non-baccalaureate admission categories. Regardless of admission category, all students must meet system four-year campus progression requirements in order to change campuses.

\*\*\*USC-Aiken has identified two significant variables that are utilized in a regression formula which establishes a Predicted Grade Point Average (PGPA), for entering freshmen. These variables are SAT scores and the high school GPA of college prep courses. Of these two variables, the high school GPA of college prep courses is the most important and has more weight in the formula. A student who scores as high as 1100 on the SAT may not be admitted if his/her high school GPA on college prep courses is very low. However, all students who score at least 1000 on the SAT or 21 on the ACT and have a C average on the required college prep courses would be admitted.

Five institutions reported changes in their admissions standards from Fall 1998 to Fall 1999. These institutions and brief descriptions of the changes are listed below:

1. Clemson University lowered its minimum SAT score from 950 to 820 for the top 20 percent and from 1340 to 1220 for between top 20 percent and top 50 percent. For students falling between top 50 percent and top 80 percent it raised its minimum score from 1480 to 1580. The ACT score was changed for the three categories as follows: 20 to 17; 30 to 27; and 33 to 36.
2. Coastal Carolina University raised its minimum SAT and ACT scores for all three categories shown above from 920 to 960 and from 19 to 20, respectively.
3. Francis Marion University raised its minimum SAT and ACT scores for all three categories shown above from 780 to 900 and from 16 to 19, respectively.
4. USC-Aiken raised its minimum SAT and ACT scores for all three categories shown above from 800 to 1,000 and from 17 to 21, respectively.
5. USC-Spartanburg kept the minimum score for the top 20 percent the same for 1998. For students falling between top 20 percent and top 50 percent the SAT score was raised from 850 to 900 for the SAT and from 18 to 20 for the ACT. The minimum scores for students falling between top 50 percent and top 80 percent were raised from 850 to 950 and from 18 to 20, respectively.

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