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*Chair of the Assembly of the Academic Senate
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University of California
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
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June 2, 2023

**HAN MI YOON-WU, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS**

Re: UCOPE Recommendations on ELWR Satisfaction

Dear Han Mi:

At its May 24 meeting, the Academic Council approved two recommendations from the University Committee on Preparatory Education (UCOPE) related to satisfaction of the UC Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR).

The first recommendation is to establish two new methods for satisfying the ELWR by allowing scores of 3 or higher on either the Advanced Placement (AP) Seminar or AP Research exams administered by the College Board as sufficient to satisfy the ELWR.

The second recommendation is to make permanent the pilot begun in the 2017-18 admissions cycle that allows a cut-off score of 680 on the SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Test (EBRW) as sufficient to satisfy the ELWR.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Cochran".

Susan Cochran, Chair
Academic Council

Cc: UCOPE
Academic Council
Campus Senate Executive Directors
Executive Director Lin

Encl.



Eileen Camfield, Chair
University Committee on Preparatory Education
ecamfield@ucmerced.edu

University of California
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

May 1, 2023

SUSAN COCHRAN, CHAIR
ACADEMIC SENATE

RE: AP SEMINAR AND AP RESEARCH SCORES FOR ELWR SATISFACTION

Dear Susan:

During our January 26th and April 27th meetings this year, the Committee on Preparatory Education (UCOPE) discussed the possibility of adding the scores for the AP Seminar and AP Research courses to the mechanisms for satisfying the Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) before matriculation to the UC. At our April meeting, the committee unanimously approved accepting scores of 3+ on either AP Seminar or AP Research for ELWR satisfaction.

UCOPE requests that Academic Council endorse this recommendation, thereby establishing a couple of new methods for satisfying the ELWR on a permanent basis, effective beginning matriculating students in Fall 2023. Undergraduate Admissions at UCOP should be notified about this decision.

This decision is based on a couple of factors. First, AP Seminar and AP Research – together referred to as AP Capstone – are at this point courses that most resemble what students actually encounter in UC college-level writing courses. Each of these AP courses requires substantial research-based writing, detailed feedback from peers and the instructor, meaningful revision, and presentation. Second, the 2023 IRAP study “AP Capstone Exams and the Entry Level Writing Requirement” found that these scores are at least on par with other scores that are currently accepted for ELWR satisfaction. The study concludes that “UCOPE should adopt the proposal to accept AP Capstone Research and Seminar scores of three or higher to meet ELWR...”, assuming that UCOPE sees no significant downside to this adoption, which it does not.

UCOPE requests that Academic Council endorse this recommendation and inform Executive Director of Undergraduate Admissions Yoon-Wu of this decision. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eileen Camfield".

Eileen Camfield, Chair
University Committee on Preparatory Education



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May 1, 2023

SUSAN COCHRAN, CHAIR
ACADEMIC SENATE

RE: THE REVISED SAT AND ACT AND UC'S ENTRY LEVEL WRITING REQUIREMENT

Dear Susan:

In 2017, the Committee on Preparatory Education (UCOPE) discussed revisions to the SAT, including the elimination of the combined score on its writing section and the introduction of an Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) score and a separate SAT Essay score. UCOPE unanimously voted in favor of setting the threshold for the SAT EBRW at 680 to satisfy the Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) for a pilot period that began in the 2017-2018 admissions cycle, and agreed to review subsequent outcomes data.

During its meetings on January 26th and April 27th meetings, the committee reviewed an analysis of data from the 2019 admissions cycle comparing Advanced Placement, SAT, and ACT scores to data from the systemwide Analytical Writing Placement Exam as well as performance in post-ELWR lower division writing courses in academic year 2019-2020. Based on the discussion, UCOPE voted unanimously to end the pilot and to confirm the cut score of 680 on the current SAT EBRW for ELWR satisfaction.

The committee asks that you endorse this recommendation and notify Executive Director of Undergraduate Admissions Yoon-Wu. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eileen Camfield".

Eileen Camfield, Chair
University Committee on Preparatory Education