The proposed policy codifies the institution's test optional practice in admissions as well as the distribution of financial aid to students. On May 25, 2021, Colorado Governor Polis signed House Bill 21-1067 into law. This bill makes it optional for Colorado's public four-year colleges and universities to require or not require national test scores in the admissions process. Test optional lets applicants decide whether they want to submit national college admissions test scores with their application. Up to this date, CSU required test scores to be submitted as part of the admissions process. Although we were requiring the test scores, CSU has been test optional in practice, both in admissions and financial aid decisions, but does not yet have a policy to compliment House Bill 21-1067.

No additional FTE or resources are required as the test optional practices are already occurring. The policy is to codify the basis of those practices.

No anticipated impacts because the practices of test optional are already occurring.

Policy development will be supported by representatives from the Office of the Provost, the Division of Enrollment and Access, and the University Policy Office.
STAKEHOLDER INPUT

Stakeholder input will be solicited from the Division of Enrollment and Access (including Admissions, Financial Aid, and the Access Center), deans, directors, and department heads listserv, and all employment councils, including faculty, administrative professional, and state classified.

ADMINISTRATIVE/MANAGEMENT/ASSESSMENT

The policy will be administered on an ongoing basis by the office of the Vice President for Enrollment and Access.

PROCEDURES, GUIDELINES AND FORMS

Any required procedures, guidelines, or forms needed will be developed during the policy drafting process.

INTERNAL CONTROLS

Once House Bill 21-1067 was signed into law, the CSU Office of Admissions updated the required checklist items for admission applicants. The requirement for submission of a national test score was removed. To be aligned with the “test optional” definition, there is still the opportunity for an applicant to submit test scores if they wish to have them included in their application review.

The Office of Admissions will continue to evaluate other factors when making admissions decisions. These factors include: high school GPA, academic course selection, rigor of courses, AP/IB courses and exam scores, work experience, volunteer experience, compelling life experience, leadership and fit to college campus.

RELATED POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

HB 21-1067

C.R.S. §23-1-13

REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY THE PRESIDENT’S EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM:

☑ APPROVED TO PROCEED TO POLICY DEVELOPMENT

☐ NOT APPROVED

☐ MORE INFORMATION NEEDED:

Please include OGC, Inclusive Excellence, Advancement, MarComm, Faculty Council, Graduate School, and Jill Higham from CSU Foundation. It is important to consider access.

POLICY IMPACT STATEMENT

College Admissions Use of National Test Scores
and equity when developing this policy.

By: 

Brendan J. Hanlon
Vice President for University Operations