



This policy and procedure ensures compliance with NCAA and conference rules regarding the admission of student-athletes with special talent(s) who do not meet the university's general admission standards.

Forms Used for Documentation:

1. Special Talent Request Form

Individuals and/or Departments Involved:

1. Athletics Compliance Office
2. Head Coach of Designated Sport
3. Prospective Student-Athlete
4. University Admissions Office
5. Special Talent Committee
(subcommittee of the University Senate on Admissions and Standards)
6. Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

NCAA Bylaw 14.1.6.1.1 – Special Admission

A student-athlete may be admitted under a special exception to the institution's normal entrance requirements if the discretionary authority of the president or chancellor (or designated admissions officer or committee) to grant such exceptions is set forth in an official document published by the university (e.g., official catalog) that describes the institution's admissions requirements.

Policy

1. **General Admission Standards.** Georgia State University generally accepts a prospective student-athlete if the following conditions are met:
 - a. The prospective student-athlete has a Freshman Index of 2500 or greater;
 - b. The prospective student-athlete has a core-course grade-point average (GPA) of 2.000 or higher; and
 - c. The prospective student-athlete has SAT scores of 430 or higher on the Verbal section and 400 or higher on the Math section, or ACT scores on the English, Math, Reading, and Science sections of 17 or higher.
 - i. It is highly recommended that a prospective student-athlete with one (1) or more test scores below the minimum standard take the ACT Compass. If the prospective student-athlete does not pass the ACT Compass, he or she is not guaranteed admission to Georgia State.
2. **Special Talent Admission Overview.** Students with special talents who do not meet the university general admission standards are considered through a special admissions review process. Applications for students in this category are reviewed by the Special Talent Committee, a subcommittee of the University Senate on Admissions and Standards. During its deliberations, the committee reviews GPA, test scores, grades, and other relevant factors. The committee members recommend to the Provost those students whom they determine have a reasonable chance of academic success at Georgia State University. Recommendations include the committee's rationale for each student.
3. **Special Talent Admission Standards.** A prospective student-athlete may be a candidate for admission via the Special Talent Committee if the following conditions are met:
 - a. The prospective student-athlete has a core-course GPA of 2.000 or higher;

- b. The prospective student-athlete has a Freshman Index of 2020 or higher;
 - c. The prospective student-athlete meets the College Preparatory Curriculum (CPC) requirements by passing the required high school courses;
 - a. Any four (4) English/Language Arts;
 - b. Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and one (1) Higher Level Math course;
 - c. One (1) Life Science/Lab, one (1) Physical Science/Lab, and two (2) Science Elective courses;
 - d. One (1) U.S. History, one (1) World History, and one (1) Social Science Elective course; and
 - e. Two (2) Foreign Language courses (both units must be the same language).
 - d. The prospective student-athlete is a Final Qualifier and therefore meets the requirements of the NCAA Division I Sliding Scale;
 - e. The prospective student-athlete has made a verbal commitment to or signed a National Letter of Intent (NLI) with Georgia State University; and
 - f. The prospective student-athlete is deemed a “program changer” by the sport program’s Head Coach.
4. **Tier 1 Special Talent Candidates.**
- a. Tier 1 Special Talent candidates may be approved via e-mail. A prospective student-athlete is a Tier 1 Special Talent candidate if:
 - i. The prospective student-athlete has a Freshman Index of 2100 or greater;
 - ii. The prospective student-athlete has a core-course GPA of 2.500 or higher.; and
 - iii. The prospective student-athlete meets the minimum test score requirements (or passes the ACT Compass in deficient areas).
 - b. Alternatively, Tier 1 Special Talent candidates may be approved via a meeting of the Special Talent Committee if the prospective student-athlete meets the minimum test score requirements (or passes the ACT Compass in deficient areas), but has a GPA of 2.500 or lower and a Freshman Index of 2099 or lesser.
5. **Tier 2 Special Talent Standards.**
- a. Tier 2 Special Talent candidates may be approved only via a meeting of the Special Talent Committee.
 - b. If a prospective student-athlete has passed the ACT Compass examination, he or she is a Tier 2 Special Talent candidate but is considered a Presidential Exception.
 - c. If a PSA has a deficiency in English, the PSA **must** pass the COMPASS in English (60) and Reading (74).
 - d. If a PSA has a deficiency in Math, the PSA **must** pass the COMPASS in Algebra (37)

Procedure

A prospective student-athlete’s application for admission is presented before the Special Talent Committee only if the following requirements are met:

- a. The prospective student-athlete has submitted a completed application to Georgia State;
- b. The prospective student-athlete’s official test scores and transcripts are on file with the University Admissions Office;



- c. The Athletics Compliance Office has approved the Special Talent Request Form submitted by the sport program's Head Coach.
- d. The Compliance Office has received a letter from the sport program's Head Coach explaining why the prospective student-athlete should be admitted by the Special Talent Committee; and
- e. All of the above tasks are completed one (1) week prior to the scheduled meeting of the Special Talent Committee.