



DRAFT

To: Council on Graduate Studies

FROM: David Boggs, Graduate Coordinator Business Administration
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Ryan C. Hendrickson, Dean of the Graduate School
Nikki Hillier, Graduate Faculty and CGS Vice Chair
Lee Patterson, Graduate Coordinator, History and CGS Chair

RE: Removal of Automatic Provisional Admittance Status by the Graduate School

DATE: March 29, 2021

Proposal: Removal of the Graduate School's automatic "provisionally admission" category for student applicants who have an undergraduate cumulative GPA lower than 2.75. Rather, graduate program coordinators and admission committees will determine whether to apply the current provisional admission category for their applicants. The provisional admission category will remain available for programs who wish to utilize this applicant category, rather than having an automatic initial admission classification in the Graduate School Admission process.

Rationale: A prospective graduate student to Eastern Illinois University whose undergraduate cumulative GPA falls below 2.75 is currently automatically categorized in the "provisionally admitted graduate student" by the Graduate School. Graduate programs, using their own admission standards, then determine if they wish to accept or deny this applicant as a provisionally admitted student. This admission category automatically makes this graduate student ineligible for federal financial loans to support graduate education.

Graduate Coordinators find that the prohibition of seeking federal financial aid is a significant barrier for provisionally admitted graduate students that serves little academic purpose and has a punitive financial impact on the student.

This proposed policy revision has no impact on initial eligibility for a graduate assistantship, which requires full admission status and an undergraduate GPA of 2.75 or higher, as measured by cumulative GPA or GPA over the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work.

Effective: Summer Semester 2021