ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO 
IOWA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE – CHAPTER 1

Action Requested: Adopt amendments to Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 681-1 as more fully described in the docket memo.

Executive Summary: During the June 5 – 7, 2018 meeting, the Board of Regents approved filing Notice of Intent to Amend Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 681-1. The notice was published in the July 4, 2018 issue of the Iowa Administrative Bulletin. The period for public comment closed on July 24, 2018, with the Board receiving no comments.

Adoption of the following amendments to the Board of Regents rules governing the regent admission index is requested.

ITEM 1. Amend rule 681—1.1(2)(262), Admission Criteria as follows:

1.1(2) Admission criteria.
   a. Effective for students who seek admission prior to fall 2009.
      Graduates of approved Iowa high schools who have the subject matter background required by each university and who rank in the upper one-half of their graduating class will be admitted to any regent university. Applicants who are not in the upper one-half of their graduating class may, after an individual review of their academic and test records, and at the discretion of the admissions officers:
         (1) Be admitted unconditionally,
         (2) Be admitted conditionally,
         (3) Be required to enroll for a tryout period during a preceding summer session, or
         (4) Be denied admission.

   ab. Effective for students who seek admission in fall 2009 and thereafter through spring 2020.
      (1) Decisions on admission to a regent university are based on the following four factors: performance on standardized tests (SAT Reasoning Test or ACT); high school grade point average (GPA); high school percentile rank in class (when available); and number of high school courses completed in the core subject areas. A primary regent admission index (RAI) will be calculated for each freshman applicant using the formula below when the high school has provided a class rank. For purposes of calculating the primary regent admission index, the ACT composite score has a top value of 36 (SAT scores will be converted to ACT composite equivalents); high school rank is expressed as a percentile with 99 percent as the top value; high school GPA is expressed in a four-point scale; and number of high school courses completed in the core subject areas is expressed in terms of years or fractions of years of study.

         \[ RAI = (2 \times \text{ACT composite score}) + (1 \times \text{high school rank expressed as a percentile}) + (20 \times \text{high school grade point average}) + (5 \times \text{number of high school courses completed in the core subject areas}) \]

      (2) An alternative RAI will be calculated for each freshman applicant using the equation identified in subsection 1.1(2)b when the high school has not provided a class rank.
NOTE: For purposes of calculating the primary regent admission index, the ACT composite score has a top value of 36 (SAT scores will be converted to ACT composite equivalents); high school rank is expressed as a percentile with 99 percent as the top value; high school GPA is expressed in a four-point scale; and number of high school courses completed in the core subject areas is expressed in terms of years or fractions of years of study.

(2) Graduates of approved Iowa high schools who have the subject matter background required by each university and who meet the regent admission index of 245 required for automatic admission will be admitted to any regent university. Applicants who do not meet the regent admission index of 245 for automatic admission or for whom a regent admission index cannot be calculated may, after an individual review of their academic and test records, and at the discretion of the admissions officers: 1. Be admitted unconditionally, 2. Be admitted conditionally, 3. Be required to enroll for a tryout period during a preceding summer session, or 4. Be denied admission.

The regent universities recognize that the traditional measures of academic performance do not adequately describe some students’ potential for success. Therefore, the regent universities strongly encourage all interested students to apply for admission. Applicants who feel their academic record is not an accurate reflection of their potential for success are encouraged to provide supplemental information explaining their circumstances, in addition to the application, academic transcripts, and test scores.

b Effective for students who seek admission for summer 2020 and thereafter. An alternative regent admission index (RAI) will be calculated for each freshman applicant using the equation below when the high school has not provided a class rank. For purposes of calculating the regent admission index, the ACT composite score has a top value of 36 (SAT scores will be converted to ACT composite equivalents); high school GPA is expressed on a four-point scale; and number of high school courses completed in the core subject areas is expressed in terms of years or fractions of years of study.

RAI = (3 × ACT composite score) + (30 × high school grade point average) + (5 × number of high school courses completed in the core subject areas)

NOTE: For purposes of calculating the alternative regent admission index, the ACT composite score has a top value of 36 (SAT scores will be converted to ACT composite equivalents); high school GPA is expressed on a four-point scale; and number of high school courses completed in the core subject areas is expressed in terms of years or fractions of years of study.

c. Freshman applicants from Iowa high schools who have an RAI of at least 245 and who meet the minimum number of high school courses required by requirements of the regent universities will qualify for automatic admission to any of the three regent universities. Freshman applicants who have an RAI below 245 may also be admitted to a specific regent university; however, each regent university will review these applications on an individual basis, and admission decisions will be specific to each institution."