



Southwestern Michigan College

Board Policy – Students – Admission

Last Reviewed	Last Updated	Effective Date
08/17/2020	08/17/2020	08/17/2020

DIVISION IV – STUDENTS

IV.1 ADMISSION

A. Requirements

1. All first semester freshman students must provide a final high school transcript or appropriate equivalency for admission and may be referred to Testing Services for formal academic assessment. If available, third-party testing such as ACT or SAT scores may be used to fulfill the assessment requirement. Advisors will use the assessment results when advising students on an appropriate course of study.
2. Transfer students must provide an official transcript from previous colleges attended if they wish to demonstrate completion of prerequisite coursework or to receive transcribed credit. Students also must provide a final high school transcript per above. An appeals process is available to account for special circumstances.
3. Applicants who self-report prior charges or convictions must pass a criminal background check before being admitted to the College.
4. Students applying to programs in the School of Nursing and Health Services must pass a health examination and criminal background check to be admitted.

B. Eligibility

1. To be eligible for admission students must have a high school diploma or its equivalent, as determined by Southwestern Michigan College officials. Tentative admission will be granted in advance of graduation from high school contingent upon the successful completion of the high school curriculum.
2. To the extent allowed by federal law, non-graduates of high school, 18 years of age or older may also apply. If scholastic records and other information indicate to the satisfaction of the College officials that the student is able to do the caliber of work required by the College, the student may be admitted. Satisfactory General Education Development test scores may be accepted in lieu of high school graduation.

3. Upon the recommendation of a high school counselor or principal, Southwestern Michigan College will accept a current high school student into selected college-level classes, providing the student has demonstrated readiness for college-level coursework through academic achievement or test assessment. This includes students participating in direct credit, dual-enrolled or career and technical education academy programs.
4. Upon meeting requirements established by a local school district and/or an Intermediate School District, College officials will accept a current high school student into a formal Early Middle College program (or "5th year program") approved by the State of Michigan to pursue a high-school diploma and associate degree simultaneously.