University of Houston DOWNTOWN

UHD Student Success Plan
Proposed Admission Standards
Fall 2013



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The Context

- UHD is one of the most diverse universities in the country. Our student population is 38%Hispanic and 29% African American

- UHD ranks 37th in the country for all colleges and universities in graduating both Hispanic and African American students

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Focus on Student Success
Intended Outcomes

1.) Increased Retention of FTIC Students

2.) Increased Graduation Rates

3.) Reducing Student Dropout Rates and Indebtedness

4.) UHD Becomes a "Preferred" University

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The Challenge

- THECB advised UHD to develop admission standards
- UHD has one of the lowest six-year graduation rates (15%) of all four-year universities in Texas
- 41% of our freshmen drop out by the end of the first year, especially the least prepared
- 80% of UHD freshmen must take developmental courses
- Freshmen drop-outs leave with significant debt

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Rationale for Automatic Admission Standards

- New Federal "Ability to Benefit" Guidelines are more stringent
- UHD is Liable for Unpaid Federal Loans
- State incentive funding may be based on graduation rates and other success measures in the future

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Proposed Admission Standards Fall 2013

Level 1:	**Top 25% HS Class**	**Automatic Admit**
Level 2:	**26 to 50% HS Class**	**Automatic Admit *if* ≥ 850 SAT/ ≥ 18 ACT 2.5 GPA**
Level 3:	**51% to 75% HS Class**	**Individual Review**
Others:	**GED or No HS Rank**	**Individual Review**

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UHD Student Success Initiatives



- A New Focus on High Impact Experiences (Service Learning, Internships, Research with Faculty)
- Peer Tutoring & Supplemental Instruction
- Expanded Freshman Success Programs
- Restructured Advising and Mentoring Programs
- Common Read Program Integrated with Freshman Courses
- Learning Communities
- Scholars' Academy (160 minority STEM students)


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