

Frequently Asked Questions

Updated August, 2007

General Questions

1. What are the requirements for admission to state universities for home schooled students?

see "[Kansas residents who have not graduated from an accredited high school](#)"

2. What are the requirements for admission to state universities for students who graduated from an accredited out-of-state high school?

see "[Nonresidents](#)"

3. Do I have to take the ACT to be admitted to a state university upon high school graduation?

Either the ACT or the SAT must be taken; an ACT composite of 21 or higher will guarantee admission for a Kansas resident. An SAT score of 980 (excluding the writing portion of the SAT) is considered equivalent to an ACT composite of 21.

4. If a student takes the ACT more than once, which score will be used to determine whether the student is guaranteed admission to a state university?

The highest composite score will be used.

5. I have a GED. Can I be admitted to a state university? Do I still have to take the ACT?

If your overall score is 2250 or above **AND** your minimum score on each subtest is 510 or above, and you are a Kansas resident, yes, you will be admitted to a state university. You may still be required to take the ACT for advisement purposes; check with the university admissions officer for more information.

6. What does "accredited high school" mean? How do I know if my high school is accredited?

A high school is considered to be "accredited" if it is so designated by the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) or a regional accrediting agency recognized the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) or an accrediting agency with standards equivalent to those of either KSDE or USDOE.

All Kansas public high schools and many Kansas private high schools are accredited by KSDE. For questions about private high schools, contact KSDE (Department of School Improvement and Accreditation) to determine whether the school is accredited by KSDE.

If the high school is accredited by an agency other than KSDE, contact the Kansas Board of Regents (Division of Academic Affairs) to determine whether the high school is considered “accredited” for the purpose of admission to state universities.

General Questions about the QA Precollege Curriculum

1. Who has to take the QA precollege curriculum?

All high school students are strongly encouraged to take the QA precollege curriculum. However, for purposes of admission to state universities, the QA precollege curriculum is only required of those students who have an ACT composite of less than 21 and who do not rank in the top one-third of their graduating class.

2. Which courses count toward the QA precollege curriculum?

Only courses that are listed on the school’s KBOR QA web page count toward the Qualified Admission precollege curriculum. The title of the course on the web page must exactly match the title that appears on the student’s high school transcript.

3. Do 8th grade courses count toward the QA precollege curriculum?

Mathematics courses taken in 8th grade do NOT count toward the QA precollege curriculum. Other courses count only if the course is listed on the school’s KBOR QA web page.

4. Can virtual courses count toward the QA precollege curriculum?

Yes, with the exception that a maximum of one-third of the labs in QA natural science courses may be virtual.

5. What if the QA course I took last year no longer appears on my high school’s most recent QA curriculum on the KBOR QA web page?

The important question is - was the course an approved QA course appearing on the school’s KBOR QA web page that was in effect at the time you took the course? If the answer is yes, then yes, the course counts toward QA.

6. I took course x last year when it was not an approved QA course. This year, the course has been added to the QA precollege curriculum for my high school. Can I count the course toward the QA precollege curriculum?

No. The course must be an approved QA course that appears on the school’s KBOR QA web page for the year in which the student completed the course.

7. Why doesn’t the KBOR QA web page for my high school show an approved QA precollege curriculum for each academic year?

Once approved, the curriculum stays in effect until it is replaced by an updated curriculum. A new curriculum is not posted until changes are made and approved.

8. I am a Kansas resident who graduated from an out-of-state accredited high school. How will I know which courses count toward the QA precollege curriculum?

The state university admissions officer will examine the high school transcript and decide which courses apply toward the QA precollege curriculum.

9. What if a student has an ACT composite of less than 21, and graduated in the lower two-thirds of their high school class, and did not fulfill the requirements of the QA precollege curriculum?

State universities are allowed to admit a small number of students who do not meet QA requirements. (This is referred to as the “10% exception window”). However, admission of such students is not guaranteed; each state university has its own policies and procedures for the exception window.

Questions about Grades and Calculating GPA In the QA Precollege Curriculum

1. If a student takes a QA course more than once, which grade is used to calculate the GPA in the QA precollege curriculum?

The highest grade is used to calculate the GPA.

2. What if a student fails a QA course?

A course does not count toward the QA precollege curriculum unless the student passes the course.

3. Can a QA course be taken pass/fail?

Yes, however, the pass/fail option will have implications for calculating the grade point average (GPA) in the QA precollege curriculum. If the high school transcript indicates that “pass” is equivalent to a grade of D or higher, the admission officer will use a grade of D in the GPA calculations. If the high school transcript indicates that “pass” is equivalent to a grade of C or higher, the admission officer will use a grade of C in the GPA calculations. If the high school transcript does not indicate the minimum letter grade corresponding to a “pass,” the admission officer will not include the course in the GPA calculations.

4. Who is responsible for calculating the student’s GPA in the QA precollege curriculum?

The state university admissions officer calculates the GPA in the QA precollege curriculum.

5. What is the procedure for calculating the GPA in the QA precollege curriculum?

If the high school transcript reports grades on a 4-point scale, the admissions officer assigns 4 points to a grade of A, 3 points to a grade of B, 2 points to a grade of C, and 1 point to a grade of D. Pluses and minuses are not used in the calculations; the calculations do not include any “weighting” factors. The total number of grade points is then divided by the total number of units. Functional equivalents are not included in the GPA calculations.

If the high school transcript reports grades on a scale other than a 4-point scale, the admission officer will mathematically convert the grades to a 4-point scale and assign points as described above.

6. Is the grade point average (GPA) in the QA precollege curriculum based on only 14 units or on all approved QA courses the student has taken?

The GPA is based upon a maximum of 14 units. If the student has completed more than 14 units of approved QA courses, the applicable courses with the highest grades will be used in the GPA calculations.