

March 5-6, 2009

ITEM 142-1601-R0309

**Authorization to raise the ACT/SAT admissions requirement to 22 ACT/1540 SAT; The University of Montana - Western**

**THAT:**

The ACT/SAT admissions requirement for The University of Montana Western shall be raised to the same level (22 ACT/1540 SAT) as used at The University of Montana Missoula, Montana Tech of The University of Montana, Montana State University Bozeman, and Montana State University Billings, effective fall semester 2010.

**EXPLANATION:**

According to Policy 301.1, The University of Montana Western (Montana Western) may request permission from the Board of Regents to raise the enhanced (composite) American College Test (ACT) score or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) total mathematics/critical reading/writing exam score to those specified for The University of Montana-Missoula, Montana State University-Bozeman, Montana State University-Billings, and Montana Tech of The University of Montana. It is the belief of the faculty and administration of Montana Western that ACT/SAT admission requirement at Montana Western should be the same as those of the other campuses since students need the same knowledge and ability levels to successfully complete Montana Western four-year programs as they do on the other campuses. Having different ACT/SAT requirements indicates to some potential students that four-year degree programs at Montana Western are not as demanding as those at the other campuses, which is not true. Since most students are admitted to Montana Western on the basis of the Grade Point Average requirement, not the ACT/SAT requirement, this change will affect the admission status of less than one percent of the applicants. The intent of this change is not to limit student access but to help assure that student expectations are in line with the rigor of Montana Western four-year degree programs.

**ATTACHMENTS:**