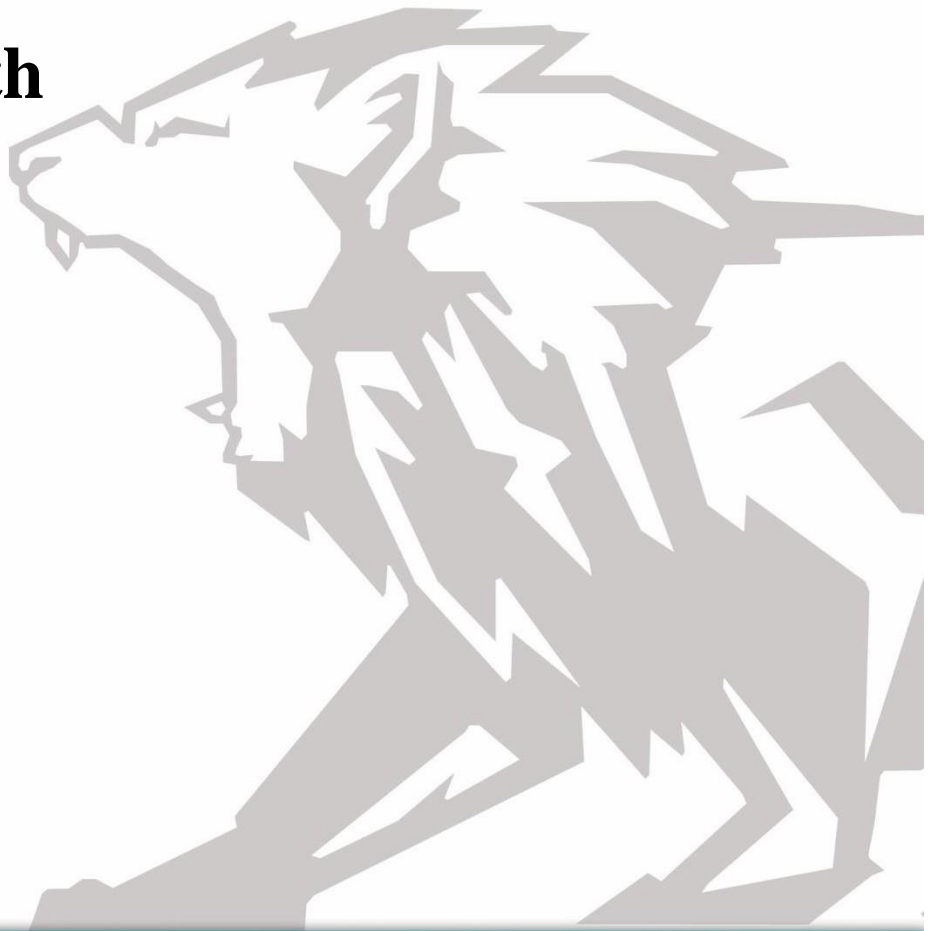


Ponce Health Sciences University

ADMISSIONS ENTRANCE EXAMS WAIVER COVID-19 TEMPORARY POLICY

**For Public Health
Program (PHP)**



PHSU

PONCE HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

Tamdiu Discendum Est. Quamdiu Vivas

Policy Number:
PHP-2020FA-
2021FA-
2022FA-01-22

Date Issued:
01/28/2022

Next Review Date:
Temporary Policy until July 30th, 2022

Applies to: New Entrance Candidates with no Entrance Exam Available for AY 2020-2021 for PHP- Rev AY2021-2022 Rev AY2022-2023	Owner: PHP Admissions Committee Admissions Office Vice President of Student Affairs	Primary Contact: Admissions Office
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Related Policies: Academic Programs Admissions Committee Policies and Procedures

Supporting Forms: Sample Notification of Exam Waiver & Recommendation Letters requirement adjustment



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ADMISSIONS ENTRANCE EXAMS WAIVER- A COVID-19 TEMPORARY POLICY

Introduction:

On June 25, 2020, the Public Health Program (PHP) Admissions Committee received the PHSU Temporary Policy for Conditional Admissions COVID-19, approved by the Board of Directors on May 7, 2020. In view of this announcement, the PHP Admissions Committee recognizes that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some candidates might not be able to fulfill with all the criteria for admissions into the program.

The Admissions Committee of the PHP Program establishes that the GRE or an alternate standardized test result is submitted as part of the admissions criteria. In view of the cancellations and lack of availability for administration of these standardized test required in the admissions process, an amendment to the admissions requisites is recommended.

I Legal basis:

This provision is established for faithful compliance with the regulations and information provided to any State/Local Licensing Agency, any applicable Regional Accrediting Agency and the Federal Department of Education.

This policy is approved by the PHP Admissions Committee and is effective as of **Fall 2020 and extended until the Fall 2021 period cohorts**. This revision extends the effectiveness of the policy to the **Fall 2022 cohort**.

II Scope:

The Admissions Committee of the Public Health Program establishes that the GRE of no more than five years old should be submitted as part of the admissions criteria. In view of the lack of availability for administration of the GRE and alternative standardized tests required in the admissions process, an amendment to the admissions requisites is recommended.

The Admissions Committee of the PHP supports the recommendation to waive the standardized test component of the GRE in the admissions process for Fall 2020. This would be temporary and effective for admissions to the Fall 2020, Fall 2021 and Fall 2022 cohorts completed on or before until July 30, 2022.

This policy aims to allow a student to be admitted as a regular student to the university with a waiver for the Admissions Entrance Exam. A student with all other admissions requirements completed and missing an Entrance Exam will be categorized as compliant and will be admitted as a regular student to the University.

For clarification, this provision is not applicable for all prospective students, only for those who, applied for the Fall 2020, Fall 2021 and Fall 2022 Cohort and which admission is processed on or before July 30th, 2022.

Also, the Admissions Committee of the Public Health Program establishes an admission's requirement of letters of recommendation. The Covid-19 Pandemic has created certain access limitations for students to acquire letters of recommendation, taking this in consideration the Committee approved a temporary adjustment to the requirement from three (3) to two (2) letters required for committee evaluation and compliance with the student academic file.

III Justification:

The institution recognizes that it receives candidates for admission with the potential to pursue one of PHP's degree offerings; but these students have difficulty presenting the documentation for the Admissions Entrances Exams (GRE or alternative standardized exam) to meet all admission requirements at the beginning of the semester. It is for this reason, and by exception, that the candidate is recommended to receive a Waiver for the Entrance Exam, as long as the admission is processed on or before July 30th, 2022.

PHSU also recognizes the limitations in access that prospect students may have experienced due to the Covid-19 pandemic. For this reason, an adjustment of the amount of letters of recommendation required was approved, changing the requirement to two recommendation letters, as long as the admission is processed on or before July 30th, 2022.

IV Policy:

The Public Health Program of PHSU supports the recommendation of the PHP Admissions Committee to waive the standardized test component in the admissions process and adjusted the requirement for two (2) recommendation letters for Fall 2020, Fall 2021 and Fall 2022's application and admission periods. For the next admission process 2023, once the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency is over and standardized testing resumes, all students admitted for Fall 2023 will be required to take the standardized test.

This policy is temporary and effective until July 30, 2022.

V Amendments:

This policy may be amended by the PHP Admissions Committee.

VI Repeal and Validity:

This policy does not repeal the provisions established by the University admissions policy, but rather offers specific provisions for candidates who qualify as regular admission once the waiver and adjustments in requirements are conceded.

This policy will be effective for the Fall 2020, Fall 2021, and Fall 2022 terms.

VII Approval:



Brenda Soto, PHD
Chair of the PHP Admissions Committee

1/31/22

Date