

The HONORS Program

Profile of the University of Delaware Honors Program Class of 2013

July 2009

Honors received 3,371 applications for a Fall 2009 entering class of 468 freshmen and 4 transfer students:

Number of New Honors Freshmen**468**

Men 193 (41%) Women275 (59%)

26 high school valedictorians, 15 salutatorians

47 students of color (10%) 7 African-Americans, 26 Asian-Americans, 14 Latino-Americans

High school grade point average (4-point scale): middle 50% of class falls

between..... 3.77 – 4.00

SAT Reasoning scores: middle 50% of class falls between 1980 – 2130

Distribution of GPAs (Four-Point Scale)			Distribution of SATs	
4.0	..... 236	3.5	..... 15	2250-2400..... 38
3.9	..... 62	3.4	..... 14	2100-2240..... 127
3.8	..... 63	3.3	..... 7	1950-2090..... 235
3.7	..... 36	3.2	..... 2	1800-1940..... 67
3.6	..... 24	3.1	..... 3	1800..... 0

Percent of Applicants at These SAT Levels Who Were Admitted into Honors:

2250-2400	..... 97% Admitted	1800-1940	..... 28% Admitted
2100-2240	..... 96% Admitted	1650-1790	..... < 1% Admitted
1950-2090	..... 80% Admitted	Below 1650	..... 0% Admitted

Percentages of Freshmen Who Participated in These Activities in High School:

Student Government	..... 22%	Lit Mag, Newspaper, or Yearbook	..... 13%
Volunteer and Community Service	..... 73%	High School Athletics	..... 69%
Theatre	..... 18%	Vocal or Instrumental Music	..... 45%

Religious Preference (among those who chose to report their preference)

Roman Catholic	..... 42%	Other Religions (Buddhist, Islam, Hindu)	..... 6%
Protestant	..... 25%	No Preference	..... 12%
Jewish	..... 14%		

Home State

Delaware	..... 119	California	..... 3	Georgia	..... 1
New York	..... 100	Illinois	..... 2	Minnesota	..... 1
Pennsylvania	..... 92	Maine	..... 2	North Carolina	..... 1
New Jersey	..... 54	New Hampshire	..... 2	Texas	..... 1
Maryland	..... 50	Ohio	..... 2	Wisconsin	..... 1
Connecticut	..... 11	Tennessee	..... 2	International	..... 2
Massachusetts	..... 11	Colorado	..... 1		
Virginia	..... 9	Florida	..... 1		

Distribution by College

Agriculture & Natural Resources	..... 22	Education & Public Policy	..... 16
Arts & Sciences	..... 202	Engineering	..... 113
Business & Economics (Lerner) 45	Health Sciences 22
Earth, Ocean, & Environment 4	University Studies-Undeclared 44

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Who Gets Admitted into Delaware's Honors Program?

Here is what the Admissions Committee considers, in order of importance, when it reviews your application for admission to the University Honors Program at the University of Delaware:

1. Have you been taking tough courses in high school?

We look first at your course selection: Have you taken a generous selection of your school's most demanding courses? How much of your work is designated as honors, Advanced Placement, or International Baccalaureate? Are you continuing to take a heavy academic course load during your senior year? *Please note: If we must choose, we prefer students who have taken rigorous programs, **even at the cost of slightly lower grades**, over those who have gotten higher marks in easier, undemanding classes.*

2. How strong is your grade point average (GPA)? And what is the trend in your grades?

We recompute your GPA to include *only* the academic majors (English, math, lab science, history/social studies, and foreign languages). We expect that you will be taking the majority of your courses in the *highest* level of accelerated courses (Honors, AP, IB, etc.) available in your school. We also examine the *trend* in your grades. Some students with lower cumulative GPAs are admitted because their most recent semesters show a significant improvement in grades. (And some students with very high overall GPAs are denied admission because their most *recent* marking periods show a significant decline in their grades). We also consider special circumstances that might have affected your performance, such as a serious illness or family problems.

3. How good are your SATs?

SAT scores are important, but they are not as important as your course selection and your grades. (The University has turned down students with perfect SAT scores – 800 on each part of the examination – when their high school grades were dreadful.) Here is a table that shows how last year's applicants fared:

Fall 2009 Honors Program Freshman Applicants							
With cumulative h.s. GPAs of:	The percent admitted with SATs between						
	2250 - 2400	2100 - 2240	1950 - 2090	1800 - 1940	1650 - 1790	1500 - 1640	Overall
A (3.9-4.0)	100%	99%	94%	53%	2%	0%	81%
A- (3.5-3.8)	98%	98%	79%	16%	1%	0%	51%
B+ (3.2-3.4)	25%	75%	32%	4%	0%	0%	20%
B (3.0-3.1)	n.a.	n.a.	17%	0%	0%	0%	8%
< B (< 2.9)	n.a.	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Overall:	97%	96%	80%	28%	< 1%	0%	60%

4. How compelling are your recommendations, your admission essays, and school activities?

While they can never overcome a weak high school record, strong recommendations, well-written admission essays, and outstanding school activities can improve your chances of admission. They will also help you compete for academic scholarships at the University of Delaware.