Non-traditional Students

If you meet all of the criteria listed below, you will be considered a non-traditional student:

- Have been out of high school at least five years or whose high school class graduated at least five years ago.
- Hold a high school diploma from an accredited high school as specified under Section 1120.30 or have satisfactorily completed the GED.
- Have earned fewer than 30 transferable semester (45 transferable quarter) credit hours.

Step-By-Step Application Process

1. Submit a [Georgia State Undergraduate Application electronically](#).
2. Submit a $60.00 non-refundable application fee.
3. Submit official supporting documents (high school transcript, college transcript, GED scores, SAT/ACT scores if available). You can use our transcript request form to request transcripts from your previous schools.

Important: If an applicant is determined to be a non-traditional student after the review of the application, he or she will be contacted by the admissions office in regards to taking the [COMPASS](#) exam. Only those applicants who have been sent information about the COMPASS exam will be allowed to take the exam for Non-traditional Freshman admission.

Requirements

- Applicant must take and pass the COMPASS examination; must achieve satisfactory minimum scores in all 3 sections:
  - Algebra - 37
  - English - 60
  - Reading - 74
- Applicants who do not meet minimum scores in all 3 test sections will not be granted admission.
- There is a $28.00 fee for taking the COMPASS exam
- Upon receipt of the official COMPASS exam scores from Georgia State University Testing Center OR an accredited institution that offers the COMPASS, applicant will be contacted in writing regarding admission or denial.

Why is the COMPASS (Computer Adaptive Placement Assessment and Support System) examination used?

Georgia State University, like many other units of the University System of Georgia, uses COMPASS for an individualized evaluation to measure how prepared an applicant will be for college-level courses. Satisfactory scores in all 3 test sections is a good indication that an applicant should be successful at working toward a college degree.

What if I do not feel confident about starting college-level coursework just yet?

If an applicant is concerned that his or her high school preparation may not be adequate to enroll in college-level courses, he/she may consider enrolling at an accredited local two-year unit of the University System of Georgia and seek to transfer to Georgia State University upon completing the University’s [transfer requirements](#).