

5-7-2004

SR-03-04-38R BAPC

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Recommended Citation

Marshall University, "SR-03-04-38R BAPC" (2004). *Recommendations*. 506.
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BUDGET AND ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

SR-03-04-38R BAPC

Recommends that students who plan to graduate in University Honors be allowed to register during the special registration period after applying through The John R. Hall Center for Academic Excellence.

RATIONALE:

There are many Honors level students (defined as a 3.30 or above) who are not John Marshall, Yeager, Byrd or Hedrick scholarship students but are interested in an Honors education. Currently only Freshman and Sophomore students in the above scholarship programs are allowed to register early.

To graduate in University Honors students need to take 24 credit-hours of Honors courses, 12 of which must be Honors Seminars. The other 12 hours would be earned by taking departmental honors classes, H-option classes, or Honors independent study. Currently it is difficult for students to register for the classes they need in order to graduate in University Honors. Over the last 5 years only 94 students have graduated with University Honors, no more than 27 in any one year. Last year only 2 students graduated in University Honors without being eligible scholarship students. In the future the Honors program hopes that 25-40 additional students will graduate with University Honors. Allowing these students to register early would be an incentive to doing so.

So students can meet University requirements, College requirements, and department requirements in order to graduate we recommend allowing students who plan to graduate in University Honors to be able to register during the special registration period. Students will fill out an application that is available in the John R. Hall Center for Academic Excellence. Entering first year students with an ACT composite of 26 (or SAT equivalent) or any student with a minimum 3.3 GPA will be eligible to apply.

Students would have to demonstrate progress toward an honors degree each semester in order to be allowed to register early. This would be shown by completing an application to graduate in University Honors and by completing 6 hours in honors by the end of the freshman year, 12 hours by the end of sophomore year and 17 hours by the end of junior year. If satisfactory progress is not demonstrated to the advisors at the Center for Academic Excellence, early registration privilege would be revoked.

The Registrar had 709 students register during Early Registration this spring (for Fall).

The current groups eligible to register early are:

Student-Athletes (Freshman and Sophomore)	= 140
Nursing majors at Marshall and St. Mary's (year one and two)	= 334
Disabled and H.E.L.P. Program students (lower figure more likely)	= 250-400
Honors Scholarship students (Freshman and Sophomore) (Only John Marshall, Byrd, Hedrick and Yeager are eligible)	= 150
Total number eligible to register early	= 900-1050 students

The B.A.P.C. found justifications for each group were compelling enough to warrant early registration.

FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT:

APPROVED BY SENATE: Larry Stiebler DATE: 5/9/2004

DISAPPROVED BY SENATE: _____ DATE: _____

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:

APPROVED: Don Boyd DATE: 5/11/09

DISAPPROVED: _____ DATE: _____

COMMENTS: _____

