

Admission

While Grove City College has expanded its facilities during the past several decades to accommodate a larger number of students, it continues to believe that its objectives can be best realized by maintaining its character as a Christian college of liberal arts and sciences. The requirements for admission are designed to enable the College to select those students who will both contribute to and benefit from this type of college community. If you are seeking an education that will prepare you to take your rightful place in a free society, and if you are willing to accept the responsibilities as well as the rights of campus citizenship, Grove City College welcomes you regardless of age, race, color, creed, sex, marital status, disability, or national or ethnic origin.

Prospective students are invited to seek any additional information they may desire from the Director of Admissions or the Director of Financial Aid.

ADMISSION APPLICATION PROCESS

Grove City College continues to be highly committed to an individualized and fair acceptance process. The holistic evaluation process is designed to take into consideration the total person. The Admissions Committee carefully considers many elements in the reading of applications. This process includes consideration of the content and rigor of the student's academic course work, grades, class rank (if applicable) standardized test scores, personal interview, leadership qualities, involvements, counselor/teacher/pastor recommendations, and essays. There are no absolute minimums for grades, class rank, or test scores, and the student's personal accomplishments and potential for success are considered in a highly selective admission process.

Applications

To obtain a Grove City College application, call 724-458-2100, or access it on-line at www.gcc.edu. Applications may either be submitted on-line or by postal mail to the College. The application fee is \$50. When applying on-line, the application must be paid by credit card to enable the electronic submission of the application. All supporting documents must be mailed to the Admissions Office by the appropriate deadlines. Please note that once the application has been submitted, it becomes the property of the College. Letters of recommendation, transcripts, photographs, etc. will not be returned or photocopied.

Recommended Coursework:

Graduation from and recommendation by an approved secondary school is required. An academic, college preparatory curriculum is highly recommended, including:

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of social science
- 3 years of science
- 3 years of math (The study of mathematics through trigonometry is required for entrance into the programs of mathematics, science, and engineering.)
- 3 years of a modern, widely-spoken foreign language, such as French, German, or Spanish. Students are expected to complete three years of the same foreign language, with an average grade of "B" or higher, during high school. **Students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts major or a non-science Bachelor of Science major and**

have not met this criteria will be required to complete the intermediate level of a foreign language at Grove City College. Classical written languages such as Latin, New Testament Greek, and Biblical Hebrew do not fulfill this requirement.

Grade Point Average

When assessing grade point average, consideration is also given to class rank and to the strength and frequency of Honors, Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate coursework in a student's curriculum. Consistently strong academic performance throughout a candidate's four-year high school record is an important component of the evaluation process.

Standardized Test Scores

Scores from SAT or ACT (plus optional writing exam) are required and may be sent directly to Grove City College from the testing centers at the student's request. Grove City College will also accept scores that are a part of the official high school transcript. For students who take the SAT or ACT more than once, the College records the highest sub-scores achieved and will continue to consider each applicant's best SAT sub-scores, even if from different sittings; therefore, it is to your advantage to send all test scores from each test date.

Grove City College combines only the Critical Reading and the Math sub-scores for a total score, with the highest possible score being 1600.

Scores are required from all freshman and transfer applicants (including international students) who are attending high school in the United States, all freshman and transfer applicants who attend overseas American or international schools, and international freshman and transfer applicants who are able to take the SAT in their country.

Personal Interview

Serious applicants who live within a day's drive of campus should call the Admissions Office at 724-458-2100 to schedule a personal interview. Applications do not need to be submitted prior to an interview. Early Decision applicants are expected to interview prior to December 1, and Regular Decision applicants should interview prior to March 1. This interview is also used as part of the criteria for accepted students who are eligible for the Trustee Academic Scholarship. Furthermore, this interview plays a central role in our selective admissions process.

Counselor/Teacher and Pastor Recommendations

All freshman applicants should submit one academic letter of recommendation (teacher or counselor) and a spiritual/character letter of recommendation (pastor or youth pastor). Additional letters may be submitted; however, the number of recommendations received does not factor into the decision-making process. The College does not provide specific forms for the recommendation letters.

Auditions

All applicants for the Bachelor of Music degree must fulfill the audition requirement prior to the November 15 Early Decision or February 1 Regular Decision application submission deadline. The applicant must contact a Department of Music representative at 724-458-2084 to arrange for the audition in person or via audiotape. Information about audition dates is available on the Admissions webpage at www.gcc.edu.

EARLY DECISION

Students who are prepared to make a commitment to Grove City as their first choice should apply under the Early Decision program. This program requires the submission of the application postmarked by November 15. Supporting documents should accompany the application; however, they can be submitted shortly after the deadline. Decisions will be mailed on December 15. Students applying to Grove City College under the Early Decision program should not apply to any other institution through its early decision program, although they are welcome to submit applications to other schools under early action or regular decision programs. A student who has applied Early Decision agrees, upon acceptance, to withdraw applications to all other institutions and submit no additional applications. Students who require a financial aid estimate should contact the Financial Aid Office at (724)-458-3300 during the application process. A student should not apply for Early Decision unless the student fully expects to accept an admission offer from Grove City College.

Under the Early Decision program, three decisions may be issued: an acceptance, a denial, or a deferral. Those students who are deferred will be considered for admission with the Regular Decision applicants and will be notified of their admission status on March 15.

Prospective students who are offered admission must submit a matriculation payment of \$250 postmarked by January 15. The matriculation payment includes a \$150 matriculation deposit, which may be refunded after graduation or upon voluntary withdrawal from the College, and a non-refundable matriculation fee of \$100.

REGULAR DECISION

For those students who are considering several colleges and will choose their school after notifications have been received, or for students who are not prepared to make a commitment to Grove City College at Early Decision, the Regular Decision program is recommended.

All supporting documents for applicants seeking Regular Decision, including the completed application for admission, current academic transcript, and all results from SAT or ACT tests, must be postmarked by February 1 of the senior year.

Results of the Regular Decision process will be mailed from the College on March 15. At this time, three decisions may be issued: an acceptance, a denial, or, for a limited number of students, an offer to be placed on a waiting list. Prospective students who are offered admission must submit a payment of \$250 postmarked by May 1. The matriculation payment includes a \$150 matriculation deposit, which may be refunded after graduation or upon voluntary withdrawal from the College, and a non-refundable matriculation fee of \$100.

Applications postmarked after February 1 are late and will be considered for fall enrollment as space permits. If space is not available, students may reactivate their application for admission to the College during the following spring semester.

Once accepted, under the Early Decision or Regular Decision program, a student must remain in good academic and social standing during the senior year of high school. Grove City College retains the right to withdraw an acceptance if a significant change occurs in any area of a student's profile.

EARLY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION POLICY

Grove City College will accept applications from high school juniors who are seeking early high school graduation. Applicants should have utilized all available curricula at their high schools and should communicate their intentions to their guidance counselor prior to applying to the College. If the applicant has additional high school requirements to complete for graduation, the student will be solely responsible for appropriate course enrollment. This includes seeking high school approval of all needed courses, before the start of the first semester at Grove City College.

The Admissions Committee reviews high school junior applications using the same criteria as for students who are completing the traditional four-year high school experience. These criteria include curriculum, grades, class rank (if applicable), SAT and/or ACT scores, letters of recommendation, essays, and activities. In addition, a personal interview with an Admissions Counselor contributes substantially to the application process. High school junior applicants must additionally submit a letter from their guidance counselor supporting their early college enrollment.

SELECTING A MAJOR

Grove City College recommends that all applicants declare a major, since this is one of the many methods the College chooses to shape the freshman class. There are limited openings for each of the majors offered at the College, and each applicant may be considered for only one major.

Students who are undecided about choosing a major may select either “Undecided—Liberal Arts” or “Undecided—Science and Engineering” and must choose a major by the end of their sophomore year. After enrolling at the College, a student may change his/her originally declared major or add an additional major pending departmental approval.

HOMESCHOOLING REQUIREMENTS

The College welcomes the applications of homeschoolers and recognizes that each homeschooled family is unique. Therefore, homeschoolers must follow the application instructions, including the submission of a transcript and an outline of extracurricular activities. The transcript should include the student’s course of study and grades (assign a letter grade to each class using a 4.0 GPA system). Standardized test scores (SAT or ACT) should be requested and submitted directly from the College Board. Since many homeschooled students do not have grades, SAT and ACT scores may be weighed more heavily in determining a student’s ability to succeed academically at Grove City College. The required letters of recommendation should come from individuals outside the home. Small portfolios are welcome but not required. An interview is strongly recommended, and students should be prepared to elaborate on their coursework and activities, as well as their college search.

The College defines a homeschooled student as one who is taught at home by his/her parents or by a group of individuals outside the traditional educational system. It is acceptable for homeschooled students to supplement their coursework with college-level courses. However, if a homeschooled student has been enrolled full-time (12 semester or quarter hour credits or more per term) at a college or university, Grove City College considers this as early enrollment at the college level. Therefore, the homeschooled student will not be considered as a first-time freshman, but instead, will be processed as a transfer applicant. Homeschooled students who have supplemented their homeschool education with college classes will be accepted as freshmen. They will remain at freshman status during their first year and will progress forward with their class each year.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Students from other regionally accredited colleges and universities may be admitted to advanced standing upon presentation of honorable dismissal and acceptable grades. Any applicant who has already completed high school and has enrolled at a regionally accredited institution for any college classes should apply as a transfer student. Transfer students may be accepted for either fall (September) or spring (January) term. Their classification will be determined by the transferable credits to which they are entitled. The Biology, Molecular Biology, and Biochemistry majors and the Pre-Medicine program are more limited for transfer students, and their availability is subject to departmental approval. Currently, we are unable to admit transfer applicants into the Mechanical Engineering major. The application postmark deadline for fall transfer is August 15, and the postmark deadline for spring transfer is December 15. Applications may be found online (www.gcc.edu), or you may contact the Admissions Office. Transfer students who are applying for financial aid should submit their applications for admission and financial aid at the same time.

A student who has attended another regionally accredited college or university, whether he/she is a candidate for freshman or upper-level class standing, must present any and all official college transcripts and high school credentials. The prospective student must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale in order to be considered for enrollment. Transfer credits do not enter into the computation of a student's quality point average at the College and may not exceed fifty percent of the total credits counted toward graduation. At a minimum, 64 credit hours of work are required to be completed at the College, as well as a minimum of one half of all hours for any major, minor, certification or concentration. College credit is awarded to those students who have earned a "C" or better in courses that have been completed at a regionally accredited institution and approved by Grove City College for transfer. Transfer students are required to take Humanities 101, 102, and 201 and enroll in one Humanities course during each semester attended at Grove City College. Equivalents may be granted for Humanities 202, 301 and/or 302 if a similar course has been taken at another college and approved for equivalency by the Humanities Coordinator.

Spring semester applicants may be notified before Christmas or shortly after January 1 and fall semester applicants will be notified mid-summer. Transfer students are accepted based upon available space in the residence halls. It is recommended that students apply to transfer in the spring semester.

TRANSFER CREDIT

The College will grant credit to incoming freshmen who have achieved the appropriate academic standards through Advanced Placement, College Level Examination Program (CLEP), or International Baccalaureate (IB). Individual college courses taken while in high school (typically through College in the High School programs) will be evaluated on an individual basis, depending on course equivalencies and expected learning outcomes. Students are encouraged to earn credit through the AP, CLEP and IB programs, not through College in the High School. See the Academic Policies section for detailed information.

A high school student who is enrolled in a regionally accredited college full-time (12 credits or more) must apply as a transfer student. A high school student who is enrolled part-time in a college should apply as a freshman. Students who apply and are accepted as freshmen will enter as freshmen and will progress to sophomore, junior, and senior class status along with their peers.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE AND TABLET COMPUTERS

The Grove City College Information Technology Initiative (ITI) began in the fall of 1994 when each entering freshman at Grove City College was issued a portable computer. This program continues in full operation today, serving as a building block to prepare the individual student for success in both his/her academic and professional careers.

The ITI recognizes that computer literacy is now a necessity in virtually all professions. As a result, the College is continually developing and upgrading campus-wide services that allow students to access both on-campus information sources via an Intranet and an ever-growing array of off-campus services.

Through this program, each incoming full-time freshman or transfer student is issued a lightweight tablet computer that will provide direct access to computing and information technology, all as part of Grove City College's plan of integrating information technology throughout the curriculum. Students are able to utilize their computer in the residence halls, the library, in classes, as well as at home during break periods and the summer months. Upon completion of a four-year degree (as a full-time student), the College will assign ownership of the computer system to the student.

Students are not expected to be computer-literate upon their arrival on campus. All incoming students receive instruction on the operation of their computer and the associated software; beginning almost immediately after the student is issued his/her computer. Additionally, during the academic year, a Help Desk operates 16 hours per day to assist in the resolution of any hardware or software problems. The Help Desk may be contacted via phone or by visiting the physical site of the Help Desk in the Technological Learning Center.

OPENING UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT			
Fall 2008	Men	Women	Total
Seniors	305	278	583
Juniors	303	317	620
Sophomores	322	323	645
Freshmen	323	307	630
Unclassified	6	15	21
Totals	1,264	1,240	2,499