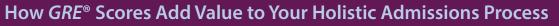
## Weighing the **BENEFITS**

**'qre** 



*GRE*<sup>®</sup> scores are valued as common, objective measures of an applicant's readiness for graduate study — and their value only increases within a holistic admissions process. Explore the benefits of including GRE scores compared to the drawbacks of making them optional.

## **Admissions Holistic admissions** without GRE scores inclusive of GRE scores The GRE® General Test's three distinct scores Holistic admissions means including <u>all</u> relevant provide evidence of verbal reasoning, information about an applicant. So making quantitative reasoning and analytical writing decisions with less information — in this case, skills — valuable data to be reviewed holistically three fewer data points — isn't holistic. with other applicant information. Removing GRE scores inflates the value of The GRE test is the only part of the application with evidence backing its validity, reliability and subjective information that is not proven to fairness. By thoughtfully evaluating applications be valid, reliable or fair. For example, even holistically, the benefits and limitations of each GPAs are influenced by grade inflation and component are balanced. socioeconomic status. As a standard measure, GRE scores put those Unconscious bias is likely to creep into the from lesser-known undergraduate schools and admissions process as reviewers will be lower socioeconomic backgrounds on more restricted to information highly influenced equal footing with their more advantaged peers, by applicants' socioeconomic background, e.g., the status of the undergraduate school which can help increase diversity. and recommenders. Undergraduate grades and test scores There is little research about the ability of are better predictors of graduate grades any other components of the application to when used in tandem than either is alone. predict graduate grades or other measures of student success. The GRE Program makes all validity and reliability data available on its website. Recorded in a secure, proctored environment, Programs are unable to ascertain an applicants' GRE Analytical Writing responses are applicant's actual writing ability, as personal reliable and trustworthy, and often the best or statements and other writing samples are second-best predictor of graduate grades. Essays often coached and edited by others. are available through ETS® Data Manager.

Learn more about the value GRE scores add to a holistic admissions process at holisticadmissions.org.

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