Best Practices for Admissions with GRE Scores

**Do weigh all criteria, including GRE® scores**
Ensure fairness by looking at a student overall. Consider the limitations of any single measure of knowledge, skills or abilities.

**Don’t use cut scores**
Using a cut score might cause you to lose out on an applicant who would otherwise be a great asset to your program.

**Do consider the 3 GRE® General Test scores independently**
Verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning and analytical writing requirements vary per field. Focusing on a total score may mask critical insight into a student’s specific skills.

**Don’t accept score reports from any source other than ETS**
To ensure the authenticity of scores, only accept reports directly from ETS. Verify applicant scores and photos through ETS Data Manager.

**Do use percentile ranks to compare applicants**
When you’re comparing applicants who took the GRE test, use the most recent percentile ranks. Don’t use percentile ranks to compare applicants across different tests (e.g., GRE with GMAT® or LSAT® scores).

Visit ets.org/gre for more information about using and interpreting GRE scores, test validity and holistic admissions.

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