Using GRE® scores successfully
Guidelines for identifying the best applicants

1. Use multiple criteria, including GRE® scores, in admissions decisions. This helps ensure fairness and balances the limitations of any single measure of knowledge, skills or abilities.

2. Be more inclusive by avoiding the use of a cut score. GRE scores help you compare applicants, but if you use a cut score as a criterion, you could miss an applicant who would be a great asset to your program.

3. Consider scores on the three GRE® General Test measures independently. The level of verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning and analytical writing skills needed for success in your field may vary. Using a single score masks critical information about that individual’s specific skills.

4. Use percentile ranks to compare applicants who took the same admissions test. It is not appropriate to use percentile ranks to compare applicants across different admissions tests (e.g., GRE scores with GMAT® scores or LSAT® scores). Instead, use the appropriate GRE Comparison Tools to interpret GRE scores in the context of GMAT scores or LSAT scores: ets.org/gre/business/comparison or ets.org/gre/law/comparison.

5. To get information about using GRE scores, score interpretation resources, holistic admissions and best practices, fairness and validity information, and more, visit ets.org/gre/institutions.

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