

# UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN • CHICAGO • SPRINGFIELD

October 29, 2013

Richard Sander

UCLA

██████████  
████████████████████  
sander@law.ucla.edu

Re: FOIA 13-489

Dear Mr. Sander:

I am responding to your request dated October 8, under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act in which you request:

“data, in either printed or electronic form--electronic data would be preferred--on the background and demographic characteristics of applicants to your undergraduate program for the 2011-12 and 2012-13 admission cycles. (By 2012-13, for example, I am referring to the admissions cycle that began last fall and led to the admission of freshmen entering in the fall of 2013). I am generally interested in the objective data your school systematically collects for use in admissions decisions. These include, if you collect this information: SAT I (or Reasoning Test), including Math, Critical Reading, and Writing scores; SAT II subject tests, reporting score and subject; ACT scores; Advanced Placement Scores, reporting score by subject; High school GPA (as reported by the applicant's high school); Adjusted high school GPA (if your college uses an adjusted measure); Race; Ethnicity or Hispanic origin; Gender; High school class rank; Parent's income (in any reported categories); Parent's occupation; Highest level of education achieved by a parent, or father's educational attainment and mother's educational attainment' Whether the student lives in a single parent household; State residency status; College program for which applicant is considered, if applicable; Whether the student was offered an athletic scholarship or admitted through an athletic preference; Whether the student has parents who are alumni/ae of your school; Any numerical admissions index used in making admissions decisions; Was the applicant accepted; Did the applicant enroll. In addition to the specific data, I would like copies of admissions policies or background materials on how this information is used in admissions decisions. For example, I am interested in how your institution handles applicants with multiple scores on the SAT or ACT; the adjusted method you use (if any) for high school grades; whether the strength of an applicant's high school is a factor in admissions, and so on.”

Information responsive to your request is available and attached. These are public documents numbering 1,293 pages. There are some data elements that we do not collect or use

Office for University Relations

Urbana • 108 Henry Administration Building • MC 370 • 506 South Wright Street • Urbana, IL 61801 • (217) 333-6400 • Fax (217) 333-5733  
Chicago • 414 Administrative Office Building • MC 971 • 1737 West Polk Street • Chicago, IL 60612-7228 • (312) 996-3772 • Fax (312) 996-1836

in the selection process: SAT II, AP scores, High School GPA (as reported on transcript), Parent income, Parent occupation, Parent's highest level of education, Single family home, Legacy status (parents are alums).

Everything on our admissions process can be found at this website:  
[http://admissions.illinois.edu/apply/requirements\\_freshman.html](http://admissions.illinois.edu/apply/requirements_freshman.html)

Portions of these documents have been redacted pursuant to the following section(s) of the Act:

- Certain information has been redacted as exempt from production under section 7(a) of the Freedom of Information Act. Specifically, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. §1232g) protects the privacy of student education records and prohibits the release of any information from a student's education record without the consent of the eligible student or parent of the student. In this case, certain data was not displayed when it could result in the identification of a student or applicant (i.e., if only one student of a certain race registered in a program).
- 140/7(1)(c) that exempts from disclosure "Personal information contained within public records, the disclosure of which, if disclosed, would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, unless the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information." This includes personally identifiable student and applicant information.

Should you wish to inspect or receive a physical copy of these documents, please call Melanie Kuehn at the phone number below and she will provide you with all necessary details.

You have a right, under the law, to seek a review of this response by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) in the Office of the Attorney General. The PAC may be reached by phone at 217-782-1396, by email to [publicaccess@atg.state.il.us](mailto:publicaccess@atg.state.il.us), or by postal mail at the Public Access Bureau, 500 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706. You also have the right to seek judicial review under section 11 of this Act.

If you have questions for our office, please contact 217-333-6400.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Hardy  
Executive Director  
and Chief Records Officer