

## Special Consideration Requirements - Fall 2020:

Changes to the Special Consideration Category requirements will be implemented for the Fall 2020 Admission intake.

The Special Consideration category is for students who meet the minimum Track 1 requirements but whose academic record may not be competitive in the selection process.

Such applicants may apply for Special Consideration only if they meet the criteria for Special Consideration outlined below.

No more than 4 students will be admitted in this category each year. In the event more than 4 applicants could be chosen by the committee for admission, only those 4 with the highest re-calculated AGPA will be admitted. Meeting the eligibility requirements of this category does not guarantee admission.

Applicants would be eligible for Special Consideration if they:

- 1) are Canadian Citizens, Permanent Residents, or international students currently enrolled at the University of Manitoba, and
- 2) meet the minimum eligibility requirements for Admission to Track 1.

These applicants will be permitted to exclude one or more terms for a recalculation of the AGPA. The recalculated AGPA must meet the minimum cut-off AGPA that is established for Regular Track 1 applicants the year of application.

Students who appeal for certain terms to be excluded from the AGPA recalculation may do so only for terms dating back no further than 3 years from the time of application. The excluded term(s) must include all courses (no selectivity) from the term, and the AGPA will be re-calculated on the most recent 60 credit hours.

The courses and grades from any excluded term(s) will not be eligible for transfer credit to the Asper program (this is not appealable). If any excluded courses are required in the Asper program, the student is responsible for retaking the course and is subject to all relevant registration and other university policies when repeating the course(s), and have documented medical and/or compassionate reasons to support certain terms being excluded from the AGPA recalculation.

If excluding any given term will result in the student no longer meeting the Track 1 course eligibility requirements, the student will not be eligible for admission.

The required documentation for students applying under the Special Consideration category include:

a) Personal Statement.

A typed personal statement not to exceed 800 words which includes the specific reasons why the applicant merits consideration within the Special Consideration category. The student's statement must clearly state the basis of their application and focus on outlining the reasons, rationale and details of their application. In particular, the statement must indicate the circumstance that caused the student to have lower academic achievement, the dates over which this circumstance affected the student's academic achievement, the terms in the academic terms covered by the above dates the student wishes to be excluded from the AGPA calculation, and how/why the circumstance has been alleviated/managed so as to lessen the adverse impact on future academic performance. Personal statements must be concise and clear; statements exceeding the above specified word limit will not meet the criteria for Special Consideration and will not be given further consideration.

b) Supporting Documentation.

Supporting documentation must be presented for every Special Consideration application and must support the claims outlined in the personal statement.

Documentation must be from a physician or other professional recognized for dealing with the circumstance(s) that caused the student's lower academic achievement. Documentation must refer to first-hand knowledge of the circumstance at the time it occurred and be directly related to the causality and the time frame the circumstance affected the student's academic performance. Documentation must include a statement of how the circumstance directly affected the academic term(s) under review, how the circumstance has been managed or continues to be managed and what support services the student is actively using. Documentation must clearly assert that because of the management or termination of the circumstance, the student's future performance should not be negatively affected by the circumstance as it was in the past.

A holistic review of all required documentation is used for consideration of applications in the Special Consideration category, with no particular weight to any one requirement. Decisions have a subjective and objective components and applicants are reminded that seats are limited and meeting the eligibility requirements of this category is not a guarantee of admission.

Additional details regarding the Special Consideration Category for Asper will be in the Applicant Information Bulletin once posted on the Admissions website in Fall 2019.

July 22, 2019