

# POSITION YOURSELF FOR SUCCESS

A Prospective Student's Guide for Admission to CALS

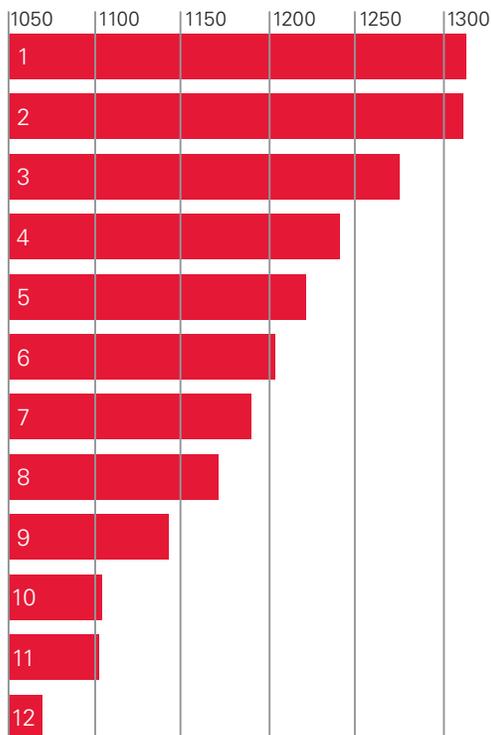
NC STATE  
UNIVERSITY

College of Agriculture  
and Life Sciences

**4.41** Average high school GPA of students admitted to CALS.

Average SAT score for incoming freshmen **1203**

Average SAT scores for students interested in specific majors



1. Plant Biology
2. Bioprocessing Science
3. Biochemistry
4. Nutrition
5. Food Science
6. Animal Science
7. Crop Science
8. Horticulture
9. Agricultural Business
10. Soil Science
11. Poultry Science
12. Turfgrass

## Start Preparing Early

When we tell prospective students that their freshman year is more important than their senior year, most look puzzled. When you apply for admission to NC State, your freshman grades will be factored into your high school GPA; it is likely your senior grades will not. Developing good study habits early in high school will pay dividends for years to come.

## Challenge yourself

The average high school grade point average (HSGPA) for students admitted to CALS is 4.41. Consider honors or AP courses.

## Take Standardized Tests Multiple Times

Whether it's the SAT or ACT, take the test more than once. A majority (55%) of students who took the SAT as a junior scored higher as a senior. On average the increase was modest, about 40 points for the combined critical reading, mathematics, and writing.

## Consider ASPIRE or Standardized Test Prep

ACT Supplemental Preparation in Rural Education (ASPIRE) is a low cost initiative offered by CALS to rural students in more than 30 North Carolina counties. ASPIRE students have routinely seen an improvement of 100 points on SAT scores.

## Know Your Competition

For the past four years, NC State received more than 20,000 applications — twice the number we received just 20 years ago.



**ADMITTED AS FRESHMAN**

Application accepted based on strong academic record and test scores



**ASPIRE PROGRAM IN HIGH SCHOOL**

**ADMITTED AS FRESHMAN**

Strong potential, but needs support to excel on entrance exams



**STEAM PROGRAM PLUS 1 YEAR COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**ADMITTED AS SOPHMORE**

Strong potential, but needs support to build academic capacity



**2 YEARS COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**ADMITTED AS JUNIOR**

Admitted through articulation agreements with community colleges

**Explore Alternatives**

Because interest in NC State programs has grown dramatically, there simply isn't enough space to accommodate all students hoping to attend. If you are not admitted as an incoming freshman, what are your options?

**55.8%**

of admitted students are in the top 10% of their high school class

**Transfer Students**

Between 2011 and 2020, new transfers admissions will increase by 38%. Many CALS programs will require a transfer GPA of 3.0 and at least 30 transferable hours.

**Student Transfer Enrollment Advising and Mentoring (STEAM) Program.**

STEAM is an invitation-only program designed to make higher education more accessible to well-qualified rural North Carolina students who were not admitted as freshman.

Interested students must apply to a CALS agriculturally-related major as an incoming freshmen. STEAM students attend Summer Session II at NC State immediately following high school graduation. Upon completion of program requirements they receive guaranteed admission to an agriculturally related major in CALS.

**The Agricultural Institute**

The Agricultural Institute (AGI) grants a two-year Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree. In the Agricultural Institute students receive practical training while focusing on six possible majors and hundreds of career opportunities. Upon completion of their AAS degree students can apply to the four year program as a transfer student.

**We're your CALS Academic Advisors and are here to help. Please contact us today.**

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