

**STUDENT SENATE BILL 2020-1065**

**TITLE: Resolution Addressing the Need for the UF Office of the University Registrar to Adopt an Electronic Transcript Service**

**AUTHORS: Senator Aren Singh Saini, Vice-Chair of Engagement for Bridges Minority Outreach Program Sulaiman Anwar, Senator Emma Sanchez, Senator Thomas Driscoll**

**SPONSORS: Student Body President Trevor Pope, Student Body Vice President Lauredan Official, Minority Party Leader Brianne Seaberg, Senator Ethan Jetter, Senator Olivia Potthast, Senator Jewelia Bradley, Senator Anna Bernstein, Senator Aaron Arriaga, Senator Drew Pancione, Senator Jamison McAdams, Senator Daniel Baez, Senator Nagarajan Rajagopal, Senator Alejandra Chaparro, Senator Monica Lea, Senator Angelo Sciabarassi, UF Pre-Professional Service Organization, UF Health Educated Asian Leaders**

**WHEREAS**, many graduate and professional school admissions, such as law schools [1] and medical schools are based on rolling admissions [2]; and,

**WHEREAS**, the University of Florida had the 3rd highest number of medical school applicants in the United States this year [3]; and,

**WHEREAS**, the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) took a significantly longer time to process paper applications compared to electronic transcripts in the summer of 2020 [4]; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) does accept paper transcripts, but they strongly encourage all institutions to send electronic transcripts [5]; and,

**WHEREAS**, all of the Top 5 public universities, including the University of California, Los Angeles [6], the University of California, Berkeley [7], the University of Michigan [8], the University of Virginia [9], and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill [10] provide electronic transcript services; and,

**WHEREAS**, within our own state, Florida State University, [11] and the University of Central Florida [12] both provide official electronic transcript services for their students; and,

**WHEREAS**, 3,600 colleges and universities already use the National Student Clearinghouse electronic transcript service [13]; and,

**WHEREAS**, UF is striving to become a top 5 public university yet still only sends transcripts via conventional postal mail well into the 21st century; and,

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 highlights the antiquated nature of our current transcript system; and,

**WHEREAS**, there is a possibility that mail may not arrive at the correct destination; and,

**WHEREAS**, the implementation of electronic transcripts has the potential to reduce the registrar office costs in labor, printing, and mailing [14]; then,

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the need for a more affordable, faster, and efficient transcript process so that students can have the highest chances of admissions into a graduate/professional school.

**THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate urges the UF Office of the University Registrar to provide an electronic transcript service option for students.

**THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate supports the Office of the University Registrar's efforts to join an online national student data reporting and exchange organization that most graduate/professional schools recognize, such as National Student Clearinghouse, Parchment, or Credential Solutions.

*Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to President W. Kent Fuchs, Provost Joseph Glover, Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management and University Registrar Stephen J. Pritz, Senior Associate University Registrar Diana Hull*

1. <https://www.usnews.com/education/blogs/law-admissions-lowdown/2013/06/03/what-rolling-admission-means-for-law-school-hopefuls>
2. <https://www.usnews.com/education/blogs/medical-school-admissions-doctor/2015/07/28/what-late-medical-school-applicants-need-to-know>
3. [https://www.aamc.org/system/files/2020-10/2020\\_FACTS\\_Table\\_A-2.pdf](https://www.aamc.org/system/files/2020-10/2020_FACTS_Table_A-2.pdf)
4. <https://twitter.com/AMCASinfo/status/1271527316808765440?s=20>
5. <https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/article/coronavirus-covid-19-and-amcas/>
6. <https://www.registrar.ucla.edu/Student-Records/Academic-Transcript/Order-an-Academic-Transcript>
7. <https://registrar.berkeley.edu/academic-records/transcripts-diplomas>
8. <https://ro.umich.edu/records-registration/transcripts>
9. <https://www2.virginia.edu/registrar/transcript.html>
10. <https://registrar.unc.edu/academic-services/academic-services-faqs/#tran>
11. <https://www.sc.my.fsu.edu/staff/how/request-electronic-transcript>
12. <https://registrar.ucf.edu/transcript-request/>
13. <https://www.studentclearinghouse.org/about/>
14. <https://studentclearinghouse.info/onestop/wp-content/uploads/TS-EMUeTranscriptsCaseStudy.pdf>