

Abstract Submitted
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Diversity in Physics: Impact of Using Minimum Acceptable GRE Scores for Graduate Admissions¹ CASEY W. MILLER, University of South Florida, Department of Physics — About 180 graduate programs in physics are listed in the AIP Graduate Programs book. $\sim 96\%$ require the general GRE test; a quarter of these have an explicitly stated minimum score for admission, with the median stated cut-off being 700 (64th percentile) on GRE Quantitative; $\sim 48\%$ require the physics GRE; about half of these have an explicitly stated minimum score for admission, with the median being 600 (32nd percentile). It does not seem unreasonable to expect students to be among the top test scorers, until you dissect the test results by race and gender. In this talk, I will present data showing that the use of minimum acceptable scores on the GRE exam will have (have had?) a negative impact on diversity in Physics. I will remind the community that this practice is in opposition to ETS's Guide to the Use of Scores. I will make some suggestions for admissions committees, based in part on analyses I have performed. I will then pose challenges related to reducing the influence of GRE scores to the community, ranging from the department and university administration, to ranking bodies and professional societies.

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