

Abstract Submitted
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Im Uncomfortable Getting Rid of the Physics GRE MATTHEW BELLIS, Siena College — Traditionally the Physics GRE has been part of getting into a graduate Physics program. However, recent studies show that a student's GRE score is uncorrelated with their success in grad school and that students from underrepresented groups perform less well on the GRE on average, contributing to a less diverse community. Because of this, a number of Physics departments have not just de-weighted GRE performance but dropped it entirely. While I recognize the bias inherent in the GRE, particularly due to the financial cost, I believe the community is missing an opportunity to address why many otherwise strong students do not perform well on the assessment. I am also concerned that this sends a message to undergraduate students about the value of learning and internalizing the material. I am cognizant of my own immense privilege and biases as a white, cisgendered, heterosexual male in physics and understand that these biases affect my approach to education. I will elaborate on these thoughts while posing possible alternative approaches for assessing preparation for graduate school.

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