

Online Appendix

Academic Undermatching of High-Achieving Minority Students: Evidence from “Race-Neutral” and Holistic Admissions Policies

By SANDRA E. BLACK, KALENA E. CORTES and JANE ARNOLD LINCOVE *

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* Black: Department of Economics, 1 University Station #C3100, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX 78712; Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA); and Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research (e-mail: sblack@austin.utexas.edu). Cortes: The Bush School of Government and Public Service, 4220 TAMU, 1049 Allen Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843; Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA); and Faculty Research Fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research (e-mail: kcortes@tamu.edu). Lincove: Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, Sid Richardson Hall 3.240, 2315 Red River, Mailcode E2700, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78713 (e-mail: janelincove@austin.utexas.edu). We are grateful to the Texas Workforce Data Quality Initiative at the University of Texas at Austin’s Ray Marshall Center, funded by the U.S. Department of Labor. This research uses confidential data from the State of Texas supplied by the Texas Education Research Center (ERC) at the University of Texas at Austin. We gratefully acknowledge the use of these data. The views expressed are those of the authors and not the ERC or any of the funders or supporting organizations mentioned herein, including the University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M University, the State of Texas, or the study’s sponsor. Any errors are attributable to the authors. We thank Jenna Cullinane, Matt Farber, Chester Polson, Emily Weisburst, and Alan Blanch who provided outstanding research assistance. Institutional support from the University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University are also gratefully acknowledged.

APPENDIX TABLE: OLS REGRESSION RESULTS –
 PROBABILITY OF APPLYING TO ANY TOP-TIER FLAGSHIP UNIVERSITY BY CLASS RANK

	Panel A: Guaranteed Admissions, Top 10% Students			Panel B: Holistic Admissions, Top 11-25% Students		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
<i>Race/ethnicity (white is omitted)</i>						
Black	-0.043*** (0.015)	-0.051*** (0.014)	-0.073*** (0.020)	0.023*** (0.007)	0.021*** (0.007)	0.020*** (0.007)
Hispanic	0.010 (0.011)	-0.022** (0.011)	-0.023 (0.017)	0.054*** (0.006)	0.038*** (0.006)	0.042*** (0.005)
Asian	0.148*** (0.011)	0.098*** (0.011)	0.051 (0.037)	0.242*** (0.022)	0.212*** (0.021)	0.143*** (0.021)
<i>SAT scores¹</i>						
Better than flagships	0.155*** (0.010)			0.148*** (0.013)		
Near flagship average	0.096*** (0.009)			0.070*** (0.007)		
<i>College qualification²</i>						
Better than a top-tier		0.308*** (0.011)	0.303*** (0.014)		0.374*** (0.026)	0.375*** (0.032)
Better than a middle-tier		0.192*** (0.009)	0.185*** (0.012)		0.133*** (0.008)	0.137*** (0.011)
Better than a bottom-tier		0.071*** (0.010)	0.068*** (0.014)		0.033*** (0.005)	0.024*** (0.006)
<i>Interactions</i>						
Black x Better than a top-tier			0.109*** (0.035)			0.101 (0.104)
Black x Better than a middle-tier			0.037 (0.024)			-0.019 (0.019)
Black x Better than a bottom-tier			-0.005 (0.032)			0.021 (0.016)
Hispanic x Better than a top-tier			0.012 (0.023)			-0.113** (0.049)
Hispanic x Better than a middle-tier			-0.003 (0.018)			-0.029** (0.013)
Hispanic x Better than a bottom-tier			0.004 (0.021)			0.018* (0.010)
Asian x Better than a top-tier			0.032 (0.038)			0.144*** (0.042)
Asian x Better than a middle-tier			0.071** (0.036)			0.115*** (0.032)
Asian x Better than a bottom-tier			0.049 (0.053)			0.021 (0.037)
<i>Other demographics</i>						
Female	-0.058*** (0.005)	-0.056*** (0.005)	-0.056*** (0.005)	-0.015*** (0.004)	-0.015*** (0.004)	-0.015*** (0.004)
Age	0.023*** (0.008)	0.018** (0.008)	0.018** (0.008)	-0.004 (0.006)	-0.004 (0.006)	-0.004 (0.005)
Mom went to college	0.073*** (0.007)	0.067*** (0.007)	0.067*** (0.007)	0.074*** (0.006)	0.065*** (0.006)	0.065*** (0.006)
Foreign language	-0.001 (0.012)	-0.015 (0.012)	-0.015 (0.012)	0.038*** (0.007)	0.023*** (0.006)	0.024*** (0.006)

Family income (>\$80k is omitted)

<\$40k	-0.242*** (0.009)	-0.228*** (0.009)	-0.227*** (0.009)	-0.106*** (0.007)	-0.094*** (0.007)	-0.093*** (0.007)
\$40-80k	-0.166*** (0.008)	-0.155*** (0.007)	-0.156*** (0.007)	-0.079*** (0.007)	-0.072*** (0.007)	-0.071*** (0.006)
Observations	35,079	35,079	35,079	31,623	31,623	31,623
R ²	0.144	0.171	0.171	0.105	0.128	0.131

Notes: Robust standard errors (shown in parentheses) are clustered at the high school level. See text for description of each column.

¹SATs are compared to the average for students who enter one of the top-tier flagship campuses of the Texas higher education system. Specifically, “Better than flagships” is a SAT score >+0.5 SD’s above the mean, “Near flagship average” is a SAT score within 0.5 SD’s of the mean, and “Below the flagship average” (omitted group) is a SAT score <0.5 SD’s below the mean. ²Student who is “Better than a top-tier” if Advanced Placement (AP) semesters and high school exit exam scores (composite z-score of reading and mathematics) are above average for a top-tier’s entering freshmen class; student who is “Better than a middle-tier” if AP semesters and exit exam are above average for entering freshman class at a middle-tier but not a top-tier university; student who is “Better than a bottom-tier” if AP semesters and exit exam are above average for entering freshman class at a bottom-tier but not a middle-tier university; and the omitted comparison group is a student who is “Worse than a bottom-tier” if AP semesters and exit exam are below average for a bottom-tier’s entering freshman class. All regressions control for student’s gender, age, foreign language ability, parental education, and family income. Mean flagship application rate for top 10% and top 11-25% students are 0.63 and 0.26, respectively. ***, **, * indicates statistical significance at the 1%, 5%, and 10% level, respectively.

Source: Texas Workforce Data Quality Initiative Database, 2008 and 2009 student cohorts.