

# **A STUDY OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF THE FIRST YEAR STUDENTS OF THE FACULTY OF EDUCATION OF SUAN SUNANDHA RAJABHAT UNIVERSITY SELECTED BY THE TCAS SYSTEM.**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The objective of this research was to study the opinions of the first-year students towards the selection of higher education through TCAS system and to compare learning achievement of the first-year students, Mathematics field, through TCAS system. The sample group of this research was the 224 the first-year students, semester 1, academic year 2018, Faculty of Education, Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University. The instruments used in this research was questionnaire. The data was analyzed by using percentage, mean, standard deviation and t-test.

The findings showed that the agreement of sample group of the students selected by TCAS system was in the level of mostly agreement that TCAS system is appropriate to the higher education selection system. The students strongly agreed that the TCAS system is the selection system met the potential of the students. The students can explain TCAS system to the next generation. The TCAS system give the opportunity to the students to study in the desire filed accordingly. The learning achievement of the students, mathematics field, who passed through portfolio selection system and ordinary admission system was not different .05 of significant level.

**Keyword:** leaning achievement, TCAS system examination, opinions

## **INTRODUCTION**

There are screening test each year for students who graduated Mattayom sukka 6 in further study at university education. Students must have academic readiness, skills and qualifications according to each major or faculty is defined to be able to study at required university.

The entrance examination for students to further study at university education has changed the selection system from the entrance examination or Admission system to the TCAS (Thai University Center Admission System) in the academic year 2018. The new system prescribes five rounds of recruitment simultaneously overall the country as follows:

First round: portfolio

Second round: quota system

Third round: direct admission system

Fourth round: joint admission system

Fifth round: independent direct admission of each university

By each round of the selection, if application has already been accepted and then successful applicants will be clearing. The new systems allow 1 applicant has 1 right to confirm passing admission to the field of examination. The system will eliminate the name from being eligible to apply for the next exam when applicants have already been confirmed. If they want to apply for the next round, the applicants must waive the rights. If students

apply for the next time without wavering, the selection will be considered invalid. Therefore, students must collect basic information and readiness prior to decision to apply for selection.

Faculty of Education, Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University is a faculty that selects students who graduated Mattayomsuksa 6 to further study through TCAS system. There are a lot of students applying for each round in every major including Thai language, primary age, mathematics, English, social studies and educational technology. The Faculty of Education has a very high competition rate regarding a lot of students enrolling in the top ranking in the country while the faculty can accept the number of students to study according to the specified enrollment plan.

TCAS is a new selection system prescribes five rounds of different recruitment which students can apply for 5 rounds. The researcher as a mathematics instructor in the Faculty of Education, Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University Interested in studying the opinions of the first-year students towards the selection of higher education through TCAS system and compare learning achievement of the first-year students, Mathematics field, through TCAS system in different rounds. This finding may be used as information in learning and teaching, and make a plan for the selection of students to further study in the Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Education, Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

This study aims to study the opinions of the first-year students towards the selection of higher education through TCAS system and compare learning achievement of the first-year students, Mathematics field, through TCAS system

The target sampling were 224 first-year students enrolled in the first semester of the academic year 2018, receiving form simple random sampling. The tool for data collection was a questionnaire with the reliability coefficient (Alpha) found that is equal 0.853 and the statistical methods are the average ( $\bar{x}$ ), standard deviation (S.D.) and t-test.

## RESULTS

The purpose of this research was to study opinions towards the selection through TCAS system and compare learning achievement of the first-year students. The research findings can be summarized as follows;

### 1. Analysis results of opinions of the first-year students towards the selection through TCAS system

According to the analysis of information from questionnaires opinions of students in sample group through TCAS system were as follows;

**Table 1** The opinion of students in sample groups towards the university selection through TCAS system

Text	$\bar{X}$	S.D.	Meaning
1. The TCAS system is a systematic and appropriate system for selection to study in the university education.	4.50	2.86	Most
2. The selection criteria are determined honestly and clearly	3.98	0.81	Most
3. System selection TCAS is an easy system to understand and suitable for this era	4.04	0.96	Most
4. System selection TCAS is better than the previous system	3.81	0.86	Most

Text	$\bar{X}$	S.D.	Meaning
5. The TCAS system give the opportunity to the students to study in the desire filed	4.05	0.90	Most
6. students are well prepared to select the TCAS system	3.96	0.86	Most
7. students are well understand the selection of the TCAS system	3.93	0.88	Most
8. There is publicity for the selection of the TCAS system thoroughly	3.88	1.00	Most
9. Selection of the TCAS system saves the cost of selection	3.74	0.99	Most
10. TCAS system is the selection system met the potential of the students	4.13	0.94	Most
11. System selection TCAS allows students to make a clear selection of the required program	3.92	0.82	Most
12. The students can explain TCAS system to the next generation	4.12	0.88	Most
13. System selection TCAS allows the opportunity to the students to study in their good at field	3.91	0.86	Most
14. System selection TCAS gives equal opportunities for all students	3.95	0.87	Most
15. The students are very anxious about selecting the TCAS system	3.55	0.85	Most

From Table 1, the students of sample group were in the level of mostly agreement that the TCAS system is suitable for the university selection system. The students strongly agreed that the TCAS system is the selection system met the potential of the students, followed by the students can explain TCAS system to the next generation and the TCAS system give the opportunity to the students to study in the desire filed, respectively.

## 2. Analysis results of learning achievement comparison of the students, mathematics field in sample group that passed through portfolio selection system and ordinary admission system

According to the comparison of learning achievement of the students, mathematics field in sample group who passed through portfolio selection system and ordinary admission system were as follows;

**Table 2** comparison of learning achievement of the students, mathematics field in sample group who passed through portfolio selection system and ordinary admission system were as follows;

TCAS selection system	n	$\bar{X}$	S.D.	t	Sig.
portfolio selection round	16	2.91	0.44	-.427	.673
ordinary admission round	15	2.98	0.56		

According to Table 2 found that the learning achievement of the students, mathematics field, who passed through portfolio selection system and ordinary admission system was not different .05 of significant level.

## CONCLUSIONS

The research findings provided discussion as followed:

1. The students of sample group were in the level of mostly agreement that the TCAS system is suitable for the university selection system since TCAS system is clearly and easy to understand. This finding agree with [1] study the factors of choosing to study in university education of upper secondary school students in the lower northern region, it was found that selection system factors have the most effect on the decision making.

2. The students strongly agreed that the TCAS system is the selection system met the potential of the students followed by the students can explain TCAS system to the next generation and the TCAS system give the opportunity to the students to study in the desire filed, respectively. These finding regarded the TCAS system is clearly open for 5 rounds of application, allowing students to choose one of the application rounds met the potential of the students. The students have time to prepare for the selection examination to study in the desired filed, and can explain TCAS system to the next generation. This finding agrees with [2] study the factors that affect the decision to study at the bachelor degree, it was found that the most influential factors are seniors, followed by close friends.

3. The learning achievement of the students, mathematics field, who passed through portfolio selection system and ordinary admission system was not different .05 of significant level. This finding regarded in both the rounds of selection, students have equal knowledge and mathematical skills at the upper secondary school as well, so there are not difference in the mathematics learning background, resulting in the learning achievement is also not different. This finding agrees with [3] study the learning achievement of students who have been selected for the Sunantha scholarships, Quota, Direct Admission and Central Admissions, it found that the learning achievement was at a moderate level. Similarity, [4] compared the learning achievement of students enrolled by quota and examination methods, it was found that there are no different learning achievement of students in each branch of the faculty of Management. This finding also agrees with [5] study the factors that affect the learning achievement of the bachelor degree students found that the factors that affect the learning achievement were attitude towards learning and learning behavior , [6] found that the factors were in relationship in a positive way with quality of graduates of Faculty of Education of Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University with statistically significant at 0.1 at a relatively high level in students factor , instructor factor, experience- enhancement activities factor , building factor environment and atmosphere in university factor , and environment and atmosphere in study factor.

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