

By: Morrison

H.B. No. 2507

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the eligibility of a high school graduate for automatic admission to an institution of higher education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Sections 51.803 and 51.807, Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 51.803. AUTOMATIC ADMISSION: ALL INSTITUTIONS.

(a) Each general academic teaching institution shall admit an applicant for admission to the institution as an undergraduate student if the applicant graduated with a grade point average in the top 10 percent of the student's high school graduating class in one of the two school years preceding the academic year for which the applicant is applying for admission and the applicant:

(1) graduated from a public or private high school in this state accredited by a generally recognized accrediting organization or from a high school operated by the United States Department of Defense;

(2) completed the recommended or advanced high school curriculum established under Sections 28.002 and 28.025 or an equivalent curriculum at a high school to which those sections do not apply; and

(3) [~~To qualify for admission under this section, an applicant must submit an application before the expiration of any application filing deadline established by the institution and,~~] if

1 the applicant graduated from a high school operated by the United
2 States Department of Defense, is [~~must be~~] a Texas resident under
3 Section 54.052 or is [~~be~~] entitled to pay tuition fees at the rate
4 provided for Texas residents under Section 54.058(d) for the term
5 or semester to which admitted.

6 (b) To qualify for admission under this section, an
7 applicant must submit an application before the expiration of any
8 application filing deadline established by the institution.

9 (c) After admitting an applicant under this section, the
10 institution shall review the applicant's record and any other
11 factor the institution considers appropriate to determine whether
12 the applicant may require additional preparation for college-level
13 work or would benefit from inclusion in a retention program. The
14 institution may require a student so identified to enroll during
15 the summer immediately after the student is admitted under this
16 section to participate in appropriate enrichment courses and
17 orientation programs. This section does not prohibit a student who
18 is not determined to need additional preparation for college-level
19 work from enrolling, if the student chooses, during the summer
20 immediately after the student is admitted under this section.

21 Sec. 51.807. RULEMAKING. (a) The Texas Higher Education
22 Coordinating Board may adopt rules relating to the operation of
23 admissions programs under this subchapter, including rules
24 relating to the identification of eligible students and the
25 reporting requirements of Section 51.806.

26 (b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board after
27 consulting with the Texas Education Agency by rule shall establish

1 standards for determining:

2 (1) whether a private high school is accredited by a
3 generally accepted accrediting organization; and

4 (2) whether a person completed a high school
5 curriculum that is equivalent to the recommended or advanced high
6 school curriculum established under Sections 28.002 and 28.025.

7 SECTION 2. (a) This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

8 (b) The change in law made by this Act applies beginning
9 with admissions for the 2006-2007 academic year.