

Amend SB 34 (house committee printing) by adding the following appropriately numbered section to the bill and renumbering the remaining sections appropriately:

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. (a) Subchapter D, Chapter 54, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 54.220 to read as follows:

Sec. 54.220. EXEMPTION FOR RESIDENT LOWER-DIVISION STUDENTS AT GENERAL ACADEMIC TEACHING INSTITUTIONS FOR MAINTAINING HIGH ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE. (a) In this section, "general academic teaching institution" has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003.

(b) An entering freshman student enrolled in a general academic teaching institution is entitled to a refund of tuition and required fees paid by the student under this chapter for the first semester or term for which the student enrolls at that institution if the student:

(1) graduated from a private high school, including a home school, or a public high school in this state;

(2) is classified as a Texas resident under Subchapter B; and

(3) for all courses attempted that initial semester or term earns a grade point average of at least 3.0 on a four-point scale or the equivalent.

(c) To receive a refund under Subsection (b), the student must apply to the institution in the manner required by the institution not later than the first anniversary of the last class day of the semester or term.

(d) A student enrolled in a general academic teaching institution is exempt from the payment of tuition and required fees authorized by this chapter for a semester or term of the student's first two academic years, other than a semester or term covered by Subsection (b), at that institution if the student:

(1) graduated from a private high school, including a home school, or a public high school in this state;

(2) is classified as a Texas resident under Subchapter B; and

(3) maintains an overall grade-point average of at least 3.0 on a four-point scale or the equivalent for all prior coursework attempted at the institution.

(e) A student receiving an exemption under this section for one or more semesters or terms may not enroll for the student's third academic year at the institution until the student passes an examination to be selected and administered by the institution.

(f) An institution to which this section applies may fund tuition and fee refunds and exemptions under this section from local funds or from funds appropriated to the institution. The institution may provide tuition and fee refunds or exemptions beyond those funded through state appropriations specifically designated for this purpose.

(g) A person may not receive a refund or exemption under this section for a semester or term that begins after the 2024-2025 academic year. This section expires September 1, 2026.

(b) This section applies beginning with tuition and fees charged for the 2005 fall semester.