

Amend SB 333 (Senate committee printing) by striking all below the enacting clause and substituting the following:

SECTION 1. Sections 28.025(e) and (g), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(e) Each school district shall report the academic achievement record of a student in an electronic format [~~students who have completed a minimum, recommended, or advanced high school program~~] on a uniform transcript form [~~forms~~] adopted by the State Board of Education. The transcript form [~~forms~~] adopted by the board must be designed to:

(1) clearly differentiate between [each of] the minimum, recommended, and advanced high school programs and identify the program completed by a student;

(2) provide information in a standard format regarding:

(A) any honors, advanced placement, or international baccalaureate courses available at a student's high school and which, if any, of those courses the student completed; and

(B) any college-level courses available to a student under a dual credit program provided under an agreement between the student's high school and an institution of higher education and which, if any, of those courses the student completed; and

(3) identify whether a student received a diploma or a certificate of coursework completion.

(g) If a student, other than a student permitted to take courses under the minimum high school program as provided by Subsection (b), is unable to complete the recommended or advanced high school program solely because necessary courses were unavailable to the student at the appropriate times in the student's high school career as a result of course scheduling, lack of enrollment capacity, or another cause not within the student's control, the school district, [shall indicate that fact] on the student's transcript form described by Subsection (e), shall:

(1) indicate whether the student completed those courses necessary to complete the program that were available to

the student; and

(2) identify those courses necessary to complete the program that were unavailable to the student as a result of course scheduling, lack of enrollment capacity, or another cause not within the student's control.

SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 28, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 28.0252 to read as follows:

Sec. 28.0252. COMPUTATION OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADE POINT AVERAGE. (a) The commissioner shall develop a standard method of computing a student's high school grade point average that provides for additional weight to be given to each honors course, advanced placement course, international baccalaureate course, or dual credit course described by Section 28.025(e)(2)(B) completed by a student.

(b) A school district shall use the standard method developed under this section to compute a student's high school grade point average, and the student's grade point average computed in that manner shall be used in determining the student's eligibility for automatic college admission under Section 51.803.

(b-1) Subsection (b) applies only to students entering grade nine during or after the 2007-2008 school year. This subsection expires September 1, 2010.

(c) The commissioner may adopt rules necessary to implement this section.

SECTION 3. Section 28.026, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 28.026. NOTICE OF AUTOMATIC COLLEGE ADMISSION. (a) The board of trustees of a school district shall require each high school in the district to post appropriate signs in each counselor's office, in each principal's office, and in each administrative building indicating the substance of Section 51.803 regarding automatic college admission. To assist in the dissemination of this information, the school district shall:

(1) require that each high school counselor and class advisor be provided a detailed explanation of the substance of Section 51.803;

(2) provide each district student, at the time the

student first registers for one or more classes required for high school graduation, with a written notification of the substance of Section 51.803;

(3) require that each high school counselor and senior class advisor explain to eligible students the substance of Section 51.803; and

(4) [~~(3)~~] provide each eligible senior student under Section 51.803, at the commencement of a class's senior year, with a written notification of the student's eligibility with a detailed explanation of the substance of Section 51.803.

(b) The commissioner shall adopt forms to use in providing notice under Subsections (a)(2) and (4). In providing notice under Subsection (a)(2) or (4), a school district shall use the appropriate form adopted by the commissioner.

(c) The commissioner shall adopt procedures to ensure that, as soon as practicable after this subsection becomes law, each school district provides written notification of the substance of Section 51.803, as amended by the 79th Legislature, Regular Session, 2005, to each district student who, for the 2005-2006 school year, registers for the first time for one or more courses required for high school graduation. The commissioner may adopt rules under this subsection in the manner provided by law for emergency rules. Each district shall comply with the procedures adopted by the commissioner under this subsection. This subsection expires September 1, 2006.

SECTION 4. 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:

(1) the applicant 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) the applicant completed the curriculum requirements established under Section 28.025 for the recommended or advanced high school program, or an equivalent curriculum at a high school to which that section does 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 the applicant graduated from a high school operated by the United States Department of Defense, the applicant is [~~must be~~] a Texas resident under Section 54.052 or is [~~be~~] entitled to pay tuition fees at the rate provided for Texas residents under Section 54.058(d) for the term or semester to which admitted.

(b) 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.

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

(d) Subsection (a)(2) applies beginning with admissions for the 2008-2009 academic year. Subsection (a)(2) does not apply to an applicant who graduated from a public high school that does not offer the curriculum established under Section 28.025 for the recommended or advanced high school program.

(e) An applicant who does not satisfy the curriculum requirements of Subsection (a)(2) is considered to have satisfied those requirements if the high school from which the student graduated indicates on the student's transcript that the student

completed the portion of the curriculum that was available to the student but was unable to complete the curriculum solely because courses necessary to complete the curriculum were unavailable to the student at the appropriate times in the student's high school career as a result of course scheduling, lack of enrollment capacity, or another cause not within the student's control.

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

(b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board after consulting with the Texas Education Agency by rule shall establish standards for determining for purposes of this subchapter:

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

(2) whether a person completed a high school curriculum that is equivalent to the curriculum established under Section 28.025 for the recommended or advanced high school program.

SECTION 5. (a) The Texas Education Agency shall conduct a study to determine the feasibility of requiring school districts to provide high school seniors with an elective class period during the school day to enable the student to:

(1) research colleges and major areas of study;

(2) work with guidance counselors in preparing college applications, admission essays, and financial aid applications; and

(3) search for scholarships and financial aid options.

(b) In conducting the study required by this section, the Texas Education Agency shall survey the current practices of school districts in this state and determine the best practices relating to college application assistance for high school seniors.

(c) Not later than December 1, 2006, the Texas Education Agency shall submit a report on the results of the study required by this section to the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the legislature.

SECTION 6. The State Board of Education shall adopt the

uniform transcript form required by Section 28.025(e), Education Code, as amended by this Act, as soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, and not later than January 1, 2006. A school district shall use the form beginning with the 2006-2007 school year.

SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.