

Amend CSSB 1227 (House committee printing) as follows:

(1) Add the following appropriately numbered SECTIONS to the bill:

SECTION __. Section 56.301, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 56.301. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Coordinating board" means the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

(2) "Eligible institution" means ~~[+]~~
~~[(A)]~~ an institution of higher education that offers one or more undergraduate degree or certification programs ~~[+]~~
~~or~~

~~[(B) a private or independent institution of higher education].~~

(3) "Public junior college" ~~["Private or independent institution of higher education," "public junior college,"]~~ and "public technical institute" have the meanings assigned by Section 61.003.

SECTION __. Subsection (b), Section 56.302, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The purpose of this subchapter is to provide a grant of money to enable eligible students to attend public ~~[and private]~~ institutions of higher education in this state.

SECTION __. Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 56.3021 to read as follows:

Sec. 56.3021. STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PRIVATE OR INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS: LIMITED ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANT. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, a student who was initially awarded a TEXAS grant under this subchapter to pay the costs of enrollment in a private or independent institution of higher education for the 2005 fall semester or an earlier academic period may continue to receive grants under this subchapter while enrolled in a private or independent institution of higher education if the student is otherwise eligible to receive a grant under this subchapter.

(b) For purposes of determining the eligibility of a student to continue to receive a grant under this section, a reference in

this subchapter to an eligible institution includes a private or independent institution of higher education.

(c) The amount of a TEXAS grant under this section for a student enrolled full-time at a private or independent institution of higher education is the amount determined by the coordinating board as the average statewide amount of tuition and required fees that a resident student enrolled full-time in a baccalaureate degree program would be charged for that semester or term at general academic teaching institutions.

(d) Notwithstanding Subsection (c) or other law, the total amount of financial aid that a student enrolled in a private or independent institution of higher education is eligible to receive in a state fiscal year from TEXAS grants awarded under this section may not exceed the maximum amount the student may receive in tuition equalization grants in that fiscal year as determined under Subchapter F, Chapter 61.

(e) Notwithstanding Subsection (c) or other law, a student enrolled in a private or independent institution of higher education may not receive a TEXAS grant under this section and a tuition equalization grant under Subchapter F, Chapter 61, for the same semester or other term, regardless of whether the student is otherwise eligible for both grants during that semester or term. A student who but for this subsection would be awarded both a TEXAS grant and a tuition equalization grant for the same semester or other term is entitled to receive only the grant of the greater amount.

(f) This section expires September 1, 2015.

(2) In SECTION 25 of the bill (page 19, lines 6-8), strike the recital and substitute "Section 56.304, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (e) and adding Subsections (e-1) and (e-2) to read as follows:".

(3) In SECTION 25 of the bill, between the recital and amended Subsection (e), Section 56.304, Education Code (page 19, between lines 8 and 9), insert the following:

(a) To be eligible initially for a TEXAS grant, a person must:

(1) be a resident of this state as determined by

coordinating board rules;

(2) meet either of the following academic requirements:

(A) be a graduate of a public or accredited private high school in this state who graduated not earlier than the 1998-1999 school year and who completed the recommended or advanced high school curriculum established under Section 28.002 or 28.025 or its equivalent; or

(B) have received an associate degree from a public or private ~~[an-eligible]~~ institution of higher education not earlier than May 1, 2001;

(3) meet financial need requirements as defined by the coordinating board;

(4) be enrolled in an undergraduate degree or certificate program at an eligible institution;

(5) be enrolled as:

(A) an entering undergraduate student for at least three-fourths of a full course load for an entering undergraduate student, as determined by the coordinating board, not later than the 16th month after the date of the person's graduation from high school; or

(B) an entering student for at least three-fourths of a full course load for an undergraduate student as determined by the coordinating board, not later than the 12th month after the month the person receives an associate degree from a public or private ~~[an-eligible]~~ institution of higher education;

(6) have applied for any available financial aid or assistance; and

(7) comply with any additional nonacademic requirement adopted by the coordinating board under this subchapter.

(4) In SECTION 26 of the bill, in Paragraph (B), Subdivision (2), of amended Subsection (e), Section 56.305, Education Code (page 20, line 25), between "attempted at" and "institutions", insert "public or private".

(5) In SECTION 26 of the bill, in proposed Paragraph (B), Subdivision (2), Subsection (e-1), Section 56.305, Education Code

(page 21, line 11), between "attempted at" and "institutions", insert "public or private".

(6) In the recital to SECTION 27 of the bill (page 22, line 1), strike "Subsections (b)" and substitute "Subsections (a)".

(7) In SECTION 27 of the bill, strike amended Subsection (b), Section 56.307, Education Code (page 22, lines 3-9), and substitute the following:

(a) The amount of a TEXAS grant for a semester or term for a person enrolled full-time at an eligible institution other than an institution covered by Subsection [~~(b)~~] (c)[~~(c)~~] or (d) is the amount determined by the coordinating board as the average statewide amount of tuition and required fees that a resident student enrolled full-time in a baccalaureate degree program would be charged for that semester or term at general academic teaching institutions.

(8) Strike SECTION 28 of the bill (page 24, lines 5-24).

(9) In SECTION 43 of the bill, following proposed Subsection (e), Section 61.2251, Education Code (page 39, between lines 18 and 19), insert the following:

(f) If a person fails to meet any of the requirements of Subsection (c) after the completion of any semester or term, the person may not receive a tuition equalization grant during the next semester or term in which the person enrolls. A person may become eligible to receive a tuition equalization grant in a subsequent semester or term if the person:

(1) completes a semester or term during which the student is not eligible for a tuition equalization grant; and

(2) meets all the requirements of Subsection (c).

(10) In SECTION 44 of the bill, strike proposed Subsection (d), Section 61.227, Education Code (page 39, line 21, through page 40, line 2), and substitute the following:

(d) Notwithstanding any restrictions provided by Subsection (c) on the amount of a grant, a tuition equalization grant for an academic period for a student who establishes exceptional financial need in accordance with the procedures and rules of the coordinating board may be certified by the coordinating board in an amount not to exceed 150 percent of the amount of the grant that the

student would otherwise have been awarded for that period under the other provisions of this section.

(11) Add the following appropriately numbered SECTION to the bill:

SECTION __. Subsection (b), Section 56.307, Education Code, is repealed.

(12) Renumber other SECTIONS of the bill accordingly.