

By: Morrison

H.B. No. 2422

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the automatic admission of undergraduate students to
general academic teaching institutions.

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

SECTION 1. Section 51.803, Education Code, is amended by
amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (b-1) to read as
follows:

(a) Subject to Subsection (b-1), each ~~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:

(A) successfully completed:

(i) at a public high school, the curriculum
requirements established under Section 28.025 for the recommended
or advanced high school program; or

(ii) at a high school to which Section

1 28.025 does not apply, a curriculum that is equivalent in content
2 and rigor to the recommended or advanced high school program; or

3 (B) satisfied ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks
4 on the ACT assessment applicable to the applicant or earned on the
5 SAT assessment a score of at least 1,500 out of 2,400 or the
6 equivalent; and

7 (3) if the applicant graduated from a high school
8 operated by the United States Department of Defense, the applicant
9 is a Texas resident under Section 54.052 or is entitled to pay
10 tuition fees at the rate provided for Texas residents under Section
11 54.058(d) for the term or semester to which admitted.

12 (b-1) A general academic teaching institution is not
13 required to admit under Subsection (a) more than 50 percent of the
14 institution's first-time resident undergraduate students in an
15 academic year. If the number of applicants who qualify for
16 automatic admission to a general academic teaching institution
17 under Subsection (a) exceeds that percentage of the institution's
18 enrollment capacity designated for first-time resident
19 undergraduate students, the institution shall:

20 (1) offer admission to those applicants by percentile
21 rank according to graduating class standing based on grade point
22 average, beginning with the top percentile rank, until a sufficient
23 number of applicants have accepted admission offers to fill that
24 percentage of the institution's enrollment capacity designated for
25 first-time resident undergraduate students, except that the
26 institution must offer admission to all applicants with the same
27 percentile rank; and

1 (2) after offering admission to applicants under
2 Subdivision (1), consider any remaining applicants qualified for
3 automatic admission under Subsection (a) in the same manner as
4 other applicants for admission as first-time freshmen students in
5 accordance with Section 51.805.

6 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies
7 beginning with admissions to general academic teaching
8 institutions for the 2010-2011 academic year. Admissions to a
9 general academic teaching institution before that academic year are
10 covered by the law in effect before the effective date of this Act,
11 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

12 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.