

By: Shapiro, et al.

S.B. No. 1313

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the quality and accessibility of public school career  
3 and technical education programs and to assistance to students  
4 concerning postsecondary education and training.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 7.009, Education Code, is amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 7.009. BEST PRACTICES; CLEARINGHOUSE. (a) In  
9 coordination with the Legislative Budget Board, the agency shall  
10 establish an online clearinghouse of information relating to best  
11 practices of campuses, ~~[and] school districts,~~ and open-enrollment  
12 charter schools. In addition to information required under  
13 Subsection (e), the agency shall determine the appropriate topic  
14 categories for which a campus, district, or charter school may  
15 submit best ~~[regarding instruction, dropout prevention, public~~  
16 ~~school finance, resource allocation, and business]~~ practices. To  
17 the extent practicable, the agency shall ensure that information  
18 provided through the online clearinghouse is specific, actionable  
19 information relating to the best practices of high-performing and  
20 highly efficient campuses, ~~[and school]~~ districts, and  
21 open-enrollment charter schools and of academically acceptable  
22 campuses, districts, and open-enrollment charter schools that have  
23 demonstrated significant improvement in student achievement rather  
24 than general guidelines relating to campus, ~~[and school]~~ district,

1 and open-enrollment charter school operation. The information must  
2 be accessible by campuses, school districts, open-enrollment  
3 charter schools, and interested members of the public.

4 (b) The agency shall solicit and collect from the  
5 Legislative Budget Board, centers for education research  
6 established under Section 1.005, and [~~exemplary or recognized~~]  
7 school districts, campuses, and open-enrollment charter schools[~~7~~  
8 ~~as rated under Section 39.072,~~] examples of best practices as  
9 determined by the agency under Subsection (a) and as required under  
10 Subsection (e) [~~relating to instruction, dropout prevention,~~  
11 ~~public school finance, resource allocation, and business~~  
12 ~~practices, including best practices relating to curriculum, scope~~  
13 ~~and sequence, compensation and incentive systems, bilingual~~  
14 ~~education and special language programs, compensatory education~~  
15 ~~programs, and the effective use of instructional technology,~~  
16 ~~including online courses~~].

17 (c) The agency may [~~shall~~] contract for the services of one  
18 or more third-party contractors to [~~develop, implement, and~~]  
19 maintain a system of collecting and evaluating the best practices  
20 of campuses, [~~and~~] school districts, and open-enrollment charter  
21 schools as provided by this section. In addition to any other  
22 considerations required by law, the agency must consider an  
23 applicant's demonstrated competence and qualifications in  
24 analyzing campus, [~~and~~] school district, and open-enrollment  
25 charter school practices in awarding a contract under this  
26 subsection.

27 (d) The commissioner may purchase from available funds

1 curriculum and other instructional tools identified under this  
2 section to provide for use by school districts and open-enrollment  
3 charter schools.

4 (e) The clearinghouse shall collect and provide information  
5 relating to best practices in career and technology education,  
6 including:

7 (1) model programs that connect kindergarten through  
8 grade 12 to postsecondary employment or higher education in a  
9 seamless system that includes the use of quality internship  
10 programs;

11 (2) courses that teach, in an applied manner, the  
12 required curriculum under Section 28.002;

13 (3) models of course scheduling that allow students to  
14 participate in a coherent sequence of career and technology courses  
15 while meeting the requirement adopted under Section 28.025 that  
16 students complete four courses in each subject of the foundation  
17 curriculum under Section 28.002(a)(1);

18 (4) counseling that:

19 (A) assists students in identifying current or  
20 emerging high-demand, high-wage occupations appropriate for the  
21 student or other occupations appropriate for and of interest to the  
22 student;

23 (B) assists students in determining the skills  
24 needed for the occupations identified under Paragraph (A);

25 (C) assists students in planning courses and  
26 schedules to acquire the needed skills;

27 (D) connects students to employment

1 opportunities and to institutions of higher education;

2 (E) provides a method to assess students'  
3 aptitudes or interests; and

4 (F) informs students about career options and  
5 levels of education and training needed to obtain entry and  
6 advanced levels of employment in current and emerging occupations  
7 regionally and statewide; and

8 (5) the integration into and use for the career and  
9 technology education course sequences of:

10 (A) Internet courses;

11 (B) interactive television; and

12 (C) other innovative methods of providing  
13 instruction.

14 (f) This subsection expires January 31, 2011. Not later  
15 than January 1, 2011, the agency shall report to the governor,  
16 lieutenant governor, speaker of the house of representatives, and  
17 chair of each standing committee of the legislature with primary  
18 jurisdiction over public education recommendations regarding how  
19 to use the clearinghouse established under this section as a  
20 dynamic technical assistance and support tool. The recommendations  
21 must include recommendations regarding:

22 (1) using the clearinghouse to provide classroom  
23 teachers, school districts, and open-enrollment charter schools  
24 with statewide access to high-quality curricula;

25 (2) consolidating access to similar state Internet web  
26 portals from a single Internet website; and

27 (3) providing students access to Internet-based

1 academic and career counseling that includes cooperation among the  
2 relevant state agencies for the purpose of transitioning students,  
3 including students enrolled in a special education program under  
4 Subchapter A, Chapter 29, from kindergarten through grade 12 to  
5 higher education and postsecondary employment.

6 SECTION 2. Section 28.002, Education Code, is amended by  
7 adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

8 (d) Each time the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
9 revises the Internet database of the coordinating board's official  
10 statewide inventory of workforce education courses, the State Board  
11 of Education shall by rule revise the essential knowledge and  
12 skills of any corresponding career and technology education  
13 curriculum as provided by Subsection (c).

14 SECTION 3. Subchapter F, Chapter 29, Education Code, is  
15 amended by adding Section 29.186 to read as follows:

16 Sec. 29.186. HIGH-DEMAND OCCUPATIONS LIST. (a) The Texas  
17 Workforce Commission shall develop, in consultation with the Texas  
18 Workforce Investment Council, a list of current or emerging  
19 high-demand, high-wage, high-skill occupations in this state that  
20 require licensure, certification, an associate degree, or a  
21 bachelor's degree. The Texas Workforce Commission shall provide  
22 the research and technical support for developing the list under  
23 this subsection.

24 (b) The Texas Workforce Investment Council shall consider  
25 the list developed under Subsection (a) and approve a list for  
26 submission to the commissioner. On approval of the list, the Texas  
27 Workforce Investment Council shall deliver the list to the

1 commissioner.

2 (c) The commissioner of education, after consultation with  
3 the commissioner of higher education, shall consider the list  
4 delivered under Subsection (b) and approve a final list of current  
5 or emerging high-demand, high-wage, high-skill occupations in this  
6 state that require licensure, certification, an associate degree,  
7 or a bachelor's degree.

8 (d) The list of current or emerging high-demand, high-wage,  
9 high-skill occupations in this state that require licensure,  
10 certification, an associate degree, or a bachelor's degree shall be  
11 reviewed and approved under the process provided by this section  
12 every four years.

13 SECTION 4. Subsections (a) and (c), Section 29.190,  
14 Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

15 (a) A student is entitled to a subsidy under this section  
16 if:

17 (1) the student:

18 (A) [~~(1)~~] successfully completes the career and  
19 technology program of a school district in which the student  
20 receives training and instruction for employment in a current or  
21 emerging high-demand, high-wage, high-skill [~~certain trade or~~]  
22 occupation, as determined under Section 29.186; or

23 (B) is enrolled in a special education program  
24 under Subchapter A;

25 (2) the student passes a certification examination to  
26 qualify for a license or certificate for the [~~trade or~~] occupation;  
27 and

1           (3) the student submits to the district a written  
2 application in the form, time, and manner required by the district  
3 for the district to subsidize the cost of an examination described  
4 by Subdivision (2) [~~demonstrates financial need~~].

5           (c) On approval by the commissioner, the agency shall pay  
6 each school district [~~eligible student~~] an amount equal to the cost  
7 paid by the district or student for the certification examination.  
8 To obtain reimbursement for a subsidy paid under this section, a  
9 district [~~student~~] must:

10           (1) pay the fee for the examination or pay the student  
11 the amount of the fee paid by the student for the examination; and

12           (2) submit to the commissioner a written application  
13 on a form prescribed by the commissioner stating [~~demonstrating~~  
14 ~~financial need and~~] the amount of the fee paid under Subdivision (1)  
15 [~~by the student~~] for the certification examination.

16           SECTION 5. Subchapter A, Chapter 33, Education Code, is  
17 amended by adding Section 33.008 to read as follows:

18           Sec. 33.008. COUNSELING REGARDING COLLEGE AND CAREER  
19 READINESS AND POSTSECONDARY SUCCESS. (a) Each counselor at an  
20 elementary or middle or junior high school, including an  
21 open-enrollment charter school offering those grades, shall advise  
22 students and their parents or guardians regarding:

23           (1) the importance of higher education;

24           (2) coursework designed to prepare students for  
25 postsecondary education and training, including career and  
26 technology education;

27           (3) the opportunity while in high school to earn

1 college credit and industry certification; and

2 (4) financial aid availability and requirements.

3 (b) The information under Subsection (a) shall be provided  
4 in a manner that assists a student in establishing a personal  
5 graduation plan that leads to licensure, certification, an  
6 associate degree, or a bachelor's degree.

7 (c) During the first school year a student is enrolled in a  
8 high school or at the high school level in an open-enrollment  
9 charter school, a counselor shall provide to students and their  
10 parents or guardians information regarding higher education and  
11 coursework designed to prepare students for postsecondary  
12 education and training, including career and technology education,  
13 as part of any information provided to assist a student in  
14 establishing a personal graduation plan that leads to licensure,  
15 certification, an associate degree, or a bachelor's degree.

16 (d) The career and technology education information  
17 provided under this section must include information regarding:

18 (1) available course and career options, including  
19 projected future demand for particular careers;

20 (2) current or emerging high-demand, high-wage,  
21 high-skill occupations;

22 (3) information concerning career options and levels  
23 of education and training needed to obtain entry and advanced  
24 levels of employment;

25 (4) certification requirements, licensing  
26 requirements, and higher education and training requirements,  
27 including skills needed and coursework required to meet those



1 requirements;

2 (5) the opportunity while in high school to earn  
3 college credit and industry certification;

4 (6) obtaining an aptitude or interest assessment; and

5 (7) the advantages of completing the recommended or  
6 advanced high school program adopted under Section 28.025(a).

7 SECTION 6. Subsection (a), Section 42.154, Education Code,  
8 is amended to read as follows:

9 (a) For each full-time equivalent student in average daily  
10 attendance in an approved career and technology education program  
11 in grades nine through 12 or in career and technology education  
12 programs for students with disabilities in grades seven through 12,  
13 a district is entitled to:

14 (1) an annual allotment equal to the adjusted basic  
15 allotment multiplied by a weight of 1.35; and

16 (2) \$50, if the student is enrolled in:

17 (A) two or more advanced career and technology  
18 education classes for a total of three or more credits; or

19 (B) an advanced course as part of a tech-prep  
20 program under Subchapter T, Chapter 61.

21 SECTION 7. Subsection (a), Section 54.0065, Education Code,  
22 is amended to read as follows:

23 (a) A qualified student is eligible for a rebate of a  
24 portion of the undergraduate tuition the student has paid if the  
25 student:

26 (1) is awarded a baccalaureate degree from a general  
27 academic teaching institution within the period prescribed by

1 Section 56.462(1)(A) or (B), as applicable, to qualify for  
2 forgiveness of a Texas B-On-time loan; and

3 (2) has attempted no more than three hours in excess of  
4 the minimum number of semester credit hours required to complete  
5 the degree program:

6 (A) including:

7 (i) transfer credits; and

8 (ii) course credit earned exclusively by  
9 examination, except that, for purposes of this subsection, only the  
10 number of semester credit hours earned exclusively by examination  
11 in excess of nine semester credit hours is treated as hours  
12 attempted; and

13 (B) excluding course credit that is earned to  
14 satisfy requirements for a Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC)  
15 program or from an articulated or dual credit course for which the  
16 student received credit toward a high school diploma but that is not  
17 required to complete the degree program.

18 SECTION 8. Subsection (d), Section 61.0595, Education Code,  
19 is amended to read as follows:

20 (d) The following are not counted for purposes of  
21 determining whether the student has previously earned the number of  
22 semester credit hours specified by Subsection (a):

23 (1) semester credit hours earned by the student before  
24 receiving a baccalaureate degree that has previously been awarded  
25 to the student;

26 (2) semester credit hours earned by the student by  
27 examination or under any other procedure by which credit is earned

1 without registering for a course for which tuition is charged;

2 (3) credit for a remedial education course, a  
3 technical course, a workforce education course funded according to  
4 contact hours, an articulated or dual credit course for which the  
5 student received credit toward a high school diploma, or another  
6 course that does not count toward the student's specific [a] degree  
7 program [~~at the institution~~]; and

8 (4) semester credit hours earned by the student at a  
9 private institution or an out-of-state institution.

10 SECTION 9. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is  
11 amended by adding Section 61.0663 to read as follows:

12 Sec. 61.0663. ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY. (a) To assess the  
13 economic benefits and preparation for employment provided by public  
14 primary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education,  
15 the board shall identify students enrolled in the public education  
16 system and collect data on which postsecondary program, if any, the  
17 students enroll in and the type of employment the students obtain  
18 following completion of high school or the program, as applicable.

19 (b) The board, in consultation with the Texas Education  
20 Agency, the Texas Workforce Commission, and the comptroller, shall  
21 use the education and employment data collected under Subsection  
22 (a), and any additional relevant data, to assess the economic  
23 impact of secondary and postsecondary training and education. The  
24 information must be produced in a manner that:

25 (1) demonstrates patterns of postsecondary enrollment  
26 and employment placement;

27 (2) provides an assessment of the economic benefits of

1 institutions of higher education and programs at those institutions  
2 to students and the state; and

3 (3) provides an assessment of the economic benefit of  
4 public education programs that prepare students who transition  
5 directly to postsecondary employment.

6 (c) The information produced under this section must be  
7 capable of electronic dissemination and made available to the  
8 public in a format that assists students in making decisions  
9 regarding education and career choices.

10 (d) This section does not authorize the disclosure of  
11 student information that may not be disclosed under the Family  
12 Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. Section  
13 1232g). The board, in conjunction with the commissioner of  
14 education, the comptroller, and the Texas Workforce Commission,  
15 shall adopt rules to protect the confidentiality of student  
16 information.

17 SECTION 10. Section 61.0762, Education Code, is amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 Sec. 61.0762. PROGRAMS TO ENHANCE STUDENT SUCCESS. (a) To  
20 implement the college readiness and success strategic action plan  
21 adopted under Section 61.0761 and to enhance the success of  
22 students at institutions of higher education, the board by rule  
23 shall develop:

24 (1) summer higher education bridge programs in the  
25 subject areas of mathematics, science, and English language arts;

26 (2) incentive programs for institutions of higher  
27 education that implement research-based, innovative developmental

1 education initiatives;

2 (3) financial assistance programs for educationally  
3 disadvantaged students, as defined by Section 5.001, who take  
4 college entrance and college readiness assessment instruments;

5 (4) professional development programs for faculty of  
6 institutions of higher education on college readiness standards and  
7 the implications of such standards on instruction; and

8 (5) other programs as determined by the board that  
9 support the participation and success goals in "Closing the Gaps,"  
10 the state's master plan for higher education.

11 (b) As one of the programs adopted under Subsection (a)(5),  
12 the board, in coordination with the commissioner of education,  
13 shall establish education resource centers to create within school  
14 communities interest in and information concerning attendance at  
15 institutions of higher education. Each center must attempt to  
16 coordinate among students, parents, school counselors, and  
17 institutions of higher education in providing access to resources  
18 helpful in preparation for attendance at and admission to  
19 institutions of higher education. One or more persons associated  
20 with each center shall be trained and able to assist the families of  
21 high school students to complete the Free Application for Federal  
22 Student Aid (FAFSA) form. Each center shall provide information  
23 concerning career and technical education, including certification  
24 and licensing requirements and available course and career options  
25 and degree programs. A center under this subsection may be located  
26 on a high school or middle school campus or at a site within a  
27 community that is conveniently located to many students, such as a

1 public library or local workforce or community center, or may be a  
2 mobile center that visits schools or other places where students  
3 are likely to gather.

4 (c) The board shall conduct ongoing evaluations of programs  
5 developed under Subsection (a) and any other programs developed to  
6 provide information concerning postsecondary educational or  
7 employment opportunities to determine the effectiveness of the  
8 programs in meeting the goals of "Closing the Gaps," the state's  
9 master plan for higher education.

10 (d) In conjunction with the comptroller and the Texas  
11 Workforce Commission, the board shall develop an Internet website  
12 for the purpose of providing information to the public about  
13 postsecondary educational and employment opportunities. The  
14 website shall provide information in English and Spanish  
15 concerning:

16 (1) career and technical education programs that  
17 integrate academic, technical, and career skills that lead to a  
18 license, certificate, or postsecondary degree;

19 (2) available employment opportunities and the  
20 educational requirements needed for employment at entry and  
21 advanced levels;

22 (3) which occupations are considered high-demand or  
23 emerging under Section 29.186;

24 (4) the skills needed and the available avenues for  
25 obtaining employment in a high-demand or emerging occupation; and

26 (5) how to obtain financial aid and what forms of  
27 financial aid are available to students entering certain

1 occupations.

2 (e) For the purpose of developing the Internet website under  
3 Subsection (d), the board may require the Texas Education Agency to  
4 provide information on educational programs and outcomes and the  
5 Texas Workforce Commission to provide information on workforce  
6 programs and outcomes.

7 (f) As one of the programs adopted under Subsection (a)(5),  
8 the board, in conjunction with the comptroller and the Texas  
9 Workforce Commission, shall establish mobile career centers that  
10 visit schools or other places where students are likely to gather.  
11 The mobile career centers shall provide students information on  
12 various occupations, including:

13 (1) the potential future employment demand for the  
14 occupation;

15 (2) the earning potential for a person employed in the  
16 occupation;

17 (3) the skills and training needed for employment in  
18 the occupation;

19 (4) a list of courses applicable to the occupation,  
20 including courses offered in high school, for dual credit, on the  
21 Internet, and at institutions of higher education, and the extent  
22 to which those courses are available to the student; and

23 (5) information concerning post-entry-level  
24 employment opportunities in the occupation and, to the extent  
25 feasible, information concerning the education required to access  
26 those future opportunities.

27 (g) The mobile career centers established under Subsection

1 (f):

2 (1) shall be operated, to the extent practicable, in  
3 coordination with one or more other governmental entities providing  
4 mobile programs; and

5 (2) may be funded only with private gifts, grants, or  
6 donations.

7 SECTION 11. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is  
8 amended by adding Section 61.0764 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 61.0764. ADULT BASIC EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAM. (a) In  
10 this section, "pilot program" means the adult basic education pilot  
11 program established under this section.

12 (b) Using funds appropriated for the purpose, the board by  
13 rule shall establish a pilot program under which participating  
14 junior college districts and public technical institutes receive  
15 funding to establish adult education programs that focus on:

16 (1) the provision of developmental education to  
17 support the transition from high school to college or a career; and

18 (2) dropout recovery.

19 (c) To participate in the pilot program, a junior college  
20 district or public technical institute must apply to the board in  
21 the manner prescribed by the board. The application must include a  
22 detailed plan developed by the junior college district or public  
23 technical institute for the district's or institute's adult  
24 education program. The board may select for participation in the  
25 pilot program those junior college districts and public technical  
26 institutes whose plans serve the purposes of the pilot program as  
27 determined by the board.



1        (d) The board may adopt rules necessary to administer this  
2 section.

3        SECTION 12. Subtitle G, Title 3, Education Code, is amended  
4 by adding Chapter 134 to read as follows:

5        CHAPTER 134. JOBS AND EDUCATION FOR TEXANS (JET) GRANT PROGRAM

6        Sec. 134.001. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter, "public  
7 junior college" and "public technical institute" have the meanings  
8 assigned by Section 61.003.

9        Sec. 134.002. JOBS AND EDUCATION FOR TEXANS (JET) FUND.

10       (a) The comptroller shall establish and administer the Jobs and  
11 Education for Texans (JET) fund as a dedicated account in the  
12 general revenue fund.

13       (b) The following amounts shall be deposited in the fund:

14                (1) any amounts appropriated by the legislature for  
15 the fund for purposes of this subchapter;

16                (2) interest earned on the investment of money in the  
17 fund; and

18                (3) gifts, grants, and other donations received for  
19 the fund.

20        Sec. 134.003. ADVISORY BOARD. (a) An advisory board of  
21 education and workforce stakeholders is created to assist the  
22 comptroller in administering this chapter.

23        (b) The advisory board is composed of seven members who  
24 serve two-year terms and are appointed as follows:

25                (1) one member appointed by the governor;

26                (2) one member appointed by the lieutenant governor;

27                (3) one member appointed by the speaker of the house of

1 representatives;

2 (4) one member appointed by the Texas Higher Education  
3 Coordinating Board;

4 (5) one member appointed by the Texas Workforce  
5 Commission;

6 (6) one member of the public appointed by the  
7 comptroller; and

8 (7) the comptroller, who serves as the chairperson.

9 (c) The advisory board shall meet at least once each quarter  
10 to review received applications and recommend awarding grants under  
11 this subchapter.

12 Sec. 134.004. JOBS AND EDUCATION FOR TEXANS (JET) GRANT  
13 PROGRAM. The comptroller shall establish and administer the Jobs  
14 and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program to provide grants to  
15 public junior colleges, public technical institutes, and eligible  
16 nonprofit organizations that apply to the advisory board in the  
17 manner prescribed by the advisory board. The comptroller shall  
18 award the grants on the advice and recommendations of the advisory  
19 board. Grants may be awarded under this subchapter from the JET  
20 fund for the following purposes:

21 (1) to expand and support programs that meet the  
22 requirements of Section 134.005 and that prepare low-income  
23 students for careers in high-demand occupations;

24 (2) to defray the startup costs associated with the  
25 development of new career and technical education programs that  
26 meet the requirements of Section 134.006; and

27 (3) to provide scholarships for students in career and

1 technical education programs who meet the requirements of Section  
2 134.007.

3 Sec. 134.005. GRANTS TO NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS FOR  
4 INNOVATIVE AND SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMS. (a) The comptroller may award  
5 a grant to a nonprofit organization eligible under Subsection (b)  
6 for the development, support, or expansion of programs to prepare  
7 low-income students for careers in high-demand occupations.

8 (b) To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a  
9 nonprofit organization must:

10 (1) provide a program to offer assistance to  
11 low-income students in preparing for, applying to, and enrolling in  
12 a public junior college or public technical institute;

13 (2) be governed by a board or other governing  
14 structure that includes recognized leaders of broad-based  
15 community organizations and members of the local business  
16 community;

17 (3) demonstrate to the satisfaction of the advisory  
18 board that the organization's program has achieved or will achieve  
19 the following measures of success among program participants, to  
20 the extent applicable to the type of program the organization  
21 provides:

22 (A) above average completion of developmental  
23 education among participating public junior college or public  
24 technical institute students;

25 (B) above average persistence rates among  
26 participating public junior college or public technical institute  
27 students;

1           (C) above average certificate or degree  
2 completion rates by participating students within a three-year  
3 period compared to demographically comparable public junior  
4 college and public technical institute students; and

5           (D) employment of participating students at an  
6 average full-time starting wage that is equal to or greater than the  
7 prevailing wage for the occupation entered; and

8           (4) provide matching funds in accordance with rules  
9 adopted under Section 134.008.

10          (c) The matching funds required under Subsection (b)(4) may  
11 be obtained from any source available to the nonprofit  
12 organization, including in-kind contributions, community or  
13 foundation grants, individual contributions, and local  
14 governmental agency operating funds.

15          (d) Grants awarded under this section must be awarded in a  
16 manner that takes a balanced geographical distribution into  
17 consideration.

18          Sec. 134.006. GRANTS TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR CAREER  
19 AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS. (a) The comptroller may award a  
20 grant for the development of new career and technical education  
21 courses or programs at public junior colleges and public technical  
22 institutes.

23          (b) A grant received under this section may be used only:

24               (1) to support courses or programs that prepare  
25 students for career employment in occupations that are identified  
26 by local businesses as being in high demand;

27               (2) to finance initial costs of career and technical

1 education course or program development, including the costs of  
2 constructing or renovating facilities, purchasing equipment, and  
3 other expenses associated with the development of a new course; and

4 (3) to finance a career and technical education course  
5 or program that leads to a license, certificate, or postsecondary  
6 degree.

7 (c) In awarding a grant under this section, the comptroller  
8 shall primarily consider the potential economic returns to the  
9 state from the development of the career and technical education  
10 course or program, and may consider whether the course or program is  
11 part of a new, emerging industry or high-demand occupation.

12 (d) To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a  
13 public junior college or public technical institute must provide  
14 matching funds in accordance with rules adopted under Section  
15 134.008. The matching funds may be obtained from any source  
16 available to the college, including in-kind contributions,  
17 industry consortia, community or foundation grants, individual  
18 contributions, and local governmental agency operating funds.

19 Sec. 134.007. SCHOLARSHIPS. (a) The comptroller may award  
20 a scholarship to a public junior college or public technical  
21 institute student.

22 (b) To be eligible to receive a scholarship under this  
23 section, a student must:

24 (1) demonstrate financial need; and

25 (2) be enrolled in a training program for a  
26 high-demand occupation, as determined by the comptroller on the  
27 recommendation of the advisory board.

1        Sec. 134.008. RULES. The comptroller shall adopt rules as  
2 necessary for the administration of this chapter.

3        SECTION 13. Subsection (b), Section 29.190, Education Code,  
4 is repealed.

5        SECTION 14. The change in law made by this Act to Subsection  
6 (a), Section 54.0065, Education Code, applies to a tuition rebate  
7 regardless of the date a student enters a general academic teaching  
8 institution as a first-time freshman.

9        SECTION 15. The change in law made by this Act to Subsection  
10 (d), Section 61.0595, Education Code, applies beginning with the  
11 funding recommendations made under Section 61.059, Education Code,  
12 for the 2011-2012 academic year.

13        SECTION 16. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
14 shall adopt the rules required by Section 61.0764, Education Code,  
15 as added by this Act, as soon as practicable after this Act takes  
16 effect. For that purpose, the coordinating board may adopt the  
17 initial rules in the manner provided by law for emergency rules.

18        SECTION 17. Sections 4, 5, and 6 of this Act apply beginning  
19 with the 2009-2010 school year.

20        SECTION 18. This Act does not make an appropriation. This  
21 Act takes effect only if a specific appropriation for the  
22 implementation of the Act is provided in a general appropriations  
23 act of the 81st Legislature.

24        SECTION 19. Except as provided by Section 18 of this Act,  
25 this Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of  
26 two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by  
27 Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not

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1 receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes  
2 effect September 1, 2009, except as provided by Section 18 of this  
3 Act.