

House Bill 4476
Senate Amendments
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

SECTION 1. Sections 61.2251(b), (c), and (e), Education Code, as added by Chapter 1230 (H.B. 1172), Acts of the 79th Legislature, Regular Session, 2005, are amended to read as follows:

(b) To be eligible for a tuition equalization grant in the first academic year in which the person receives the grant, a person must:

(1) be a Texas resident as defined by the coordinating board and meet, at a minimum, the resident requirements defined by law for Texas resident tuition in fully state-supported institutions of higher education;

(2) be enrolled in at least three-fourths of ~~[for]~~ a full course load conforming to an individual degree plan in an approved college or university;

(3) be required to pay more tuition than is required at a public college or university and be charged no less than the regular tuition required of all students enrolled at the institution;

(4) establish financial need in accordance with procedures and regulations of the coordinating board;

(5) not be a recipient of any form of athletic scholarship;
~~[and]~~

(6) make satisfactory academic progress toward a degree or certificate as determined by the institution at which the person is enrolled; and

(7) have complied with other requirements adopted by the coordinating board under this subchapter.

(c) After qualifying for a tuition equalization grant under Subsection (b), a person may receive a tuition

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Same as House version.

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equalization grant in a subsequent academic year in which the person is enrolled at an approved institution only if the person:

(1) meets the requirements of Subsection (b);

(2) completed at least:

(A) 24 semester credit hours in the person's most recent full academic year, if the person is enrolled in an undergraduate degree or certificate program; or

(B) 18 semester credit hours in the person's most recent full academic year, if the person is enrolled in a graduate or professional degree program; and

(3) has earned an overall grade point average of at least 2.5 on a four-point scale or the equivalent on coursework previously attempted at public or private institutions of higher education.

(e) The coordinating board shall adopt rules to allow a person who is otherwise eligible to receive a tuition equalization grant, in the event of a hardship or for other good cause shown, to receive a tuition equalization grant if the person does not:

(1) make satisfactory academic progress as required under Subsection (b)(6);

(2) complete the semester credit hours required by Subsection (c)(2);

(3) [~~2~~] maintain the grade point average required by Subsection (c)(3); or

(4) [~~3~~] complete the person's certificate or degree program within the period prescribed by Subsection (d).

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HOUSE VERSION

SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act to Section 61.2251, Education Code, apply beginning with tuition equalization grants awarded for the 2010-2011 academic year.

A tuition equalization grant awarded for an academic year before that academic year is covered by the law in effect when the grant was awarded, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

SENATE VERSION

SECTION 2. (a) The changes in law made by this Act to Section 61.2251, Education Code, apply beginning with tuition equalization grants awarded for the 2009-2010 academic year. For that purpose, a person's eligibility for a grant under Section 61.2251(c), Education Code, as amended by this Act, for the 2009-2010 academic year shall be based on the person's satisfaction of the requirements of Section 61.2251(c), as amended, in the 2008-2009 academic year, without regard to whether the person satisfied the former requirements of Section 61.2251(c) or received a grant under Subchapter F, Chapter 61, Education Code, in that academic year.

(b) A tuition equalization grant awarded for an academic year before the 2009-2010 academic year is covered by the law in effect when the grant was awarded, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

Same as House version.

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