

By: Clardy

H.B. No. 1054

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to developmental education programs under the Texas Success Initiative for public institutions of higher education.

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

SECTION 1. Section 51.3062, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a-1), (i), (i-4), (l), (t), and (t-1) and adding Subsection (f-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) In this section:

(1) "Basic academic skills education" means non-course competency-based developmental education programs and interventions designed for students whose performance falls significantly below college readiness standards.

(2) "Program[~~, —~~"program] evaluation" means a systematic method of collecting, analyzing, and using information to answer questions about developmental education courses, interventions, and policies, particularly about their effectiveness and cost-efficiency.

(f-1) For each assessment instrument designated by the board for use under this section, the board shall prescribe a score below which a student is eligible for basic academic skills education.

(i) The institution of higher education may refer a student to developmental coursework, including basic academic skills education, as considered necessary by the institution to address a

1 student's deficiencies in the student's readiness to perform
2 freshman-level academic coursework, except that the institution
3 may not require enrollment in developmental coursework with respect
4 to a student previously determined under Subsection (q-1) or
5 determined by any institution of higher education to have met
6 college-readiness standards. An institution that requires a
7 student to enroll in developmental coursework must offer a range of
8 developmental coursework, including online coursework, or
9 instructional support that includes the integration of technology
10 to efficiently address the particular developmental needs of the
11 student.

12 (i-4) The board, in consultation with institutions of
13 higher education, shall develop and provide professional
14 development programs, including instruction in differentiated
15 instruction methods designed to address students' diverse learning
16 needs, to faculty and staff who provide developmental coursework,
17 including basic academic skills education, to students.

18 (1) The legislature shall appropriate money for approved
19 non-degree-credit developmental courses, including basic academic
20 skills education, except that legislative appropriations may not be
21 used for developmental coursework taken by a student in excess of:

22 (1) 18 semester credit hours, for a general academic
23 teaching institution; and

24 (2) 27 semester credit hours, for a public junior
25 college, public technical institute, or public state college.

26 (t) To allow a student to complete any necessary
27 developmental coursework in the most efficient and cost-effective

1 manner, the board shall encourage institutions of higher education
2 to offer various types of developmental coursework that address
3 various levels of deficiency in readiness to perform college
4 coursework for which course credit may be earned, as determined on
5 the basis of assessments as described by Subsection (f). The types
6 of developmental coursework may include:

- 7 (1) course-based programs;
- 8 (2) non-course-based programs, such as advising
9 programs;
- 10 (3) module format programs;
- 11 (4) competency-based education programs; ~~and~~
- 12 (5) basic academic skills education, if applicable to
13 the student; and

14 (6) programs under which the student is pairing or
15 taking concurrently a developmental education course and another
16 course in the same subject area for which course credit may be
17 earned.

18 (t-1) The board may adopt rules as necessary to implement
19 this section [~~Subsection (t)~~].

20 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies
21 beginning with the 2016-2017 academic year.

22 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
23 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
24 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
25 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
26 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.