

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 21, 2015

TO: Honorable John Zerwas, Chair, House Committee on Higher Education

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3348 by Clardy (Relating to authorization by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for certain public junior colleges to offer baccalaureate degree programs.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would allow the Higher Education Coordinating Board to authorize certain public junior colleges to offer baccalaureate degree programs in dental hygiene.

It is assumed that there would be a cost to General Revenue from increased formula funding to any public junior college that offered a baccalaureate degree program under the provisions of the bill due to additional students enrolling in the program generating additional contact hours. This cost would not be seen until at least fiscal year 2018, as formula funding is provided to institutions based on student data prior to the biennium to be funded. The amount of additional formula funding would depend on the number of programs offered and the level of enrollment in those programs. This analysis assumes the increase in formula funding would not be significant.

Based on information provided by institutions of higher education, there could be a decrease in formula funding and tuition and fee revenue at certain institutions resulting from students who choose to enroll in dental hygiene programs at public junior colleges instead of at general academic or health related institutions. However, this decrease is not assumed to be significant.

Local Government Impact

Based on information provided by a sample of community colleges, the establishment of additional baccalaureate degree programs for eligible community colleges under the provisions of the bill could result in a significant fiscal impact for those community colleges to cover start-up and operating costs. Such costs include, but are not limited to, securing proper regional accreditation, upgrading facilities and libraries to accommodate upper division coursework, and costs associated with faculty salary and workload. This analysis assumes these costs would be paid for out of institutional funds, partially offset by any state appropriations from formula funding.

Source Agencies: 710 Texas A&M University System Administrative and General Offices, 720 The University of Texas System Administration, 758 Texas State University System, 768 Texas Tech University System Administration,

769 University of North Texas System Administration, 781 Higher
Education Coordinating Board, 783 University of Houston System
Administration

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