

By: Taylor, et al.
(Davis of Harris)

S.B. No. 1323

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requiring certain students awarded dual credit by a public institution of higher education to complete and submit a financial aid application for higher education costs.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 51.9681 to read as follows:

Sec. 51.9681. FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION REQUIRED FOR DUAL CREDIT STUDENTS. (a) In this section, "institution of higher education" has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003.

(b) Each student who earns a cumulative total of 15 or more semester credit hours at an institution of higher education for dual credit coursework successfully completed by the student before the student's last semester or term in 12th grade must complete and submit a free application for federal student aid (FAFSA) or, if applicable, a Texas application for state financial aid (TASFA) not later than the later of:

(1) six months after the last day of the semester or term in which the student earns that cumulative total; or

(2) January 15 of the school year in which the student is enrolled in 12th grade.

(c) A student is not required to comply with Subsection (b) if:

(1) the student's parent or other person standing in

1 parental relation submits a signed form indicating that the parent
2 or other person authorizes the student to decline to complete and
3 submit the financial aid application; or

4 (2) the student signs and submits the form described
5 by Subdivision (1) on the student's own behalf if the student is 18
6 years of age or older or the student's disabilities of minority have
7 been removed for general purposes under Chapter 31, Family Code.

8 (d) Each institution of higher education shall ensure that
9 each student to whom the institution awards the cumulative total of
10 semester credit hours described by Subsection (b) completes and
11 submits the financial aid application as required by that
12 subsection or submits a signed form to the institution under
13 Subsection (c).

14 (e) Each institution of higher education shall adopt a form
15 to be used for purposes of Subsection (c).

16 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2019-2020
17 academic year.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
19 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
20 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
21 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
22 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.