

By: Taylor

S.B. No. 1323

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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

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

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

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

11 (b) Each student who earns a cumulative total of 15 or more  
12 semester credit hours at an institution of higher education for  
13 dual credit coursework successfully completed by the student must  
14 complete and submit a free application for federal student aid  
15 (FAFSA) or, if applicable, a Texas application for state financial  
16 aid (TASFA) not later than six months after the last day of the  
17 semester or term in which the student earns that cumulative total.

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

20 (1) the student's parent or other person standing in  
21 parental relation submits a signed form indicating that the parent  
22 or other person authorizes the student to decline to complete and  
23 submit the financial aid application; or

24 (2) the student signs and submits the form described

1 by Subdivision (1) on the student's own behalf if the student is 18  
2 years of age or older or the student's disabilities of minority have  
3 been removed for general purposes under Chapter 31, Family Code.

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

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

12 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2019-2020  
13 academic year.

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