

By: Blanco

S.B. No. 169

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to eligibility for the Texas Armed Services Scholarship Program.

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

SECTION 1. Section 61.9773(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) To receive a scholarship under this subchapter, a student must enter into an agreement with the board as provided by this section. The agreement must require the student to:

(1) complete four years of ROTC training or complete another undergraduate officer commissioning program such as the United States Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Class;

(2) graduate not later than six years after the date the student first enrolls in a public or private institution of higher education in this state;

(3) after graduation, enter into:

(A) a four-year commitment to be a member of the Texas Army National Guard, Texas Air National Guard, Texas State Guard, United States Coast Guard, ~~or~~ United States Merchant Marine, or Ready Reserve Corps of the United States Public Health Service; or

(B) a contract to serve as a commissioned officer in any branch of the armed services of the United States or in the Commissioned Corps of the United States Public Health Service;

1 (4) meet the physical examination requirements and all
2 other prescreening requirements of the applicable entity described
3 by Subdivision (3) [~~Texas Army National Guard, Texas Air National~~
4 ~~Guard, Texas State Guard, United States Coast Guard, or United~~
5 ~~States Merchant Marine or the branch of the armed services with~~
6 ~~which the student enters into a contract~~]; and

7 (5) agree to repay the scholarship if the student:

8 (A) fails to maintain satisfactory academic
9 progress;

10 (B) withdraws from the scholarship program; or

11 (C) fails to fulfill a commitment or contract
12 described by Subdivision (3).

13 SECTION 2. Section [61.9773\(a\)](#), Education Code, as amended
14 by this Act, applies beginning with a Texas Armed Services
15 Scholarship awarded for the 2021-2022 academic year.

16 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
18 provided by Section [39](#), Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.