

By: Hickland

H.B. No. 3148

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the automatic admission of students to general academic teaching institutions.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 51.803(a-1), (a-2), and (a-6), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a-1) Beginning with admissions for the 2029-2030 ~~[2011-2012]~~ academic year, a general academic teaching institution ~~[The University of Texas at Austin]~~ is not required to offer admission to applicants who qualify for automatic admission under Subsection (a) in excess of the number required to fill 50 ~~[75]~~ percent of the institution's ~~[university's]~~ enrollment capacity designated for first-time resident undergraduate students in an academic year. If the number of applicants who qualify for automatic admission to the institution ~~[The University of Texas at Austin]~~ under Subsection (a) for an academic year exceeds 50 ~~[75]~~ percent of the institution's ~~[university's]~~ enrollment capacity designated for first-time resident undergraduate students for that academic year, the institution ~~[university]~~ may elect to offer admission to those applicants as provided by this subsection and not as otherwise required by Subsection (a). If the institution ~~[university]~~ elects to offer admission under this subsection, the institution ~~[university]~~ shall offer admission to those applicants by percentile rank according to high school graduating class

1 standing based on grade point average, beginning with the top
2 percentile rank, until the applicants qualified under Subsection
3 (a) have been offered admission in the number estimated in good
4 faith by the institution [~~university~~] as sufficient to fill 50 [~~75~~]
5 percent of the institution's [~~university's~~] enrollment capacity
6 designated for first-time resident undergraduate students, except
7 that the institution [~~university~~] must offer admission to all
8 applicants with the same percentile rank. After the applicants
9 qualified for automatic admission under Subsection (a) have been
10 offered admission under this subsection in the number estimated in
11 good faith as sufficient to fill at least 50 [~~75~~] percent of the
12 designated enrollment capacity described by this subsection, the
13 institution [~~university~~] shall consider any remaining applicants
14 qualified for automatic admission under Subsection (a) in the same
15 manner as other applicants for admission as first-time
16 undergraduate students in accordance with Section [51.805](#).

17 (a-2) If the number of applicants who apply to a general
18 academic teaching institution during the current academic year for
19 admission in the next academic year and who qualify for automatic
20 admission to a general academic teaching institution under
21 Subsection (a) exceeds 50 [~~75~~] percent of the institution's
22 enrollment capacity designated for first-time resident
23 undergraduate students for that next academic year and the
24 institution plans to offer admission under Subsection (a-1) during
25 the next school year, the institution shall, in the manner
26 prescribed by the Texas Education Agency and not later than
27 September 15, provide to each school district, for dissemination of

1 the information to high school junior-level students and their
2 parents, notice of which percentile ranks of high school
3 senior-level students who qualify for automatic admission under
4 Subsection (a) are anticipated by the institution to be offered
5 admission under Subsection (a-1) during the next school year.

6 (a-6) Not later than December 31 of each academic year in
7 which a general academic teaching institution [~~The University of~~
8 ~~Texas at Austin~~] offers admission under Subsection (a-1), the
9 institution [~~university~~] shall deliver a written report to the
10 governor, the lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of
11 representatives regarding the institution's [~~university's~~]
12 progress in each of the following matters:

13 (1) increasing geographic diversity of the entering
14 freshman class;

15 (2) counseling and outreach efforts aimed at students
16 qualified for automatic admission under this section;

17 (3) recruiting Texas residents who graduate from other
18 institutions of higher education to the institution's
19 [~~university's~~] graduate and professional degree programs;

20 (4) recruiting students who are members of
21 underrepresented demographic segments of the state's population;
22 and

23 (5) assessing and improving the institution's
24 [~~university's~~] regional recruitment efforts [~~centers~~].

25 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply
26 beginning with admissions to a general academic teaching
27 institution for the 2029-2030 academic year. Admissions to a

1 general academic teaching institution for an academic period before
2 that academic year are governed by the law in effect immediately
3 before the effective date of this Act, and the former law is
4 continued in effect for that purpose.

5 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.