

By: Wilson

H.B. No. 4909

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of an electronic platform and submission portal, known as My Texas Future, to facilitate the awareness and application of public high school students into institutions of higher education using the electronic common admission application form.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 28.025(c), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) A person may receive a diploma if the person is eligible for a diploma under Section 28.0251. In other cases, a student may graduate and receive a diploma only if:

(1) the student successfully completes the curriculum requirements identified by the State Board of Education under Subsection (a) and complies with Sections 28.0256, 28.0257, and 39.025; or

(2) the student successfully completes an individualized education program developed under Section 29.005.

SECTION 2. Chapter 28.0257, Education Code, is added to read as follows:

Sec.28.0257. DIRECT ADMISSIONS DATA SHARING OPT-IN ELECTION FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION. (a) In this section:

(1) "Coordinating board" means the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

1 (2) "Institution of higher education" has the meaning
2 assigned by Section 61.003.

3 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), before graduating
4 from high school, each student must elect whether to opt-in to
5 allowing the coordinating board to share the student's data and
6 education records, as necessary, with institutions of higher
7 education to allow the student to participate in the direct
8 admissions program established by the Coordinating Board pursuant
9 to Education Code 61.0511(b)(2).

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

12 (1) The student's parent or other person standing in
13 parental relation submits a signed form indicating that the parent
14 or other person authorizes the student to decline to complete and
15 submit information necessary to participate in a program offered
16 under subsection (b);

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

21 (3) A school counselor authorizes in writing the
22 student to decline to complete and submit the information necessary
23 to participate in a program offered under subsection (b).

24 (d) Each school district or open-enrollment charter school
25 shall use a form adopted by the Coordinating Board, in consultation
26 with the Texas Education Agency, to allow a student to opt-out
27 pursuant to subsection (c). The form shall:

1 (1) Provide the student or the student's parent or
2 other person standing in parental relation, as applicable, the
3 opportunity to elect whether to share the student's data or
4 education records, as necessary, with institutions of higher
5 education to facilitate the student's participation in a program
6 offered under subsection (b); and

7 (2) Be made available in English, Spanish, and any
8 other language spoken by a majority of the students enrolled in a
9 bilingual education or special language program under Subchapter B,
10 Chapter 29, in the district or school.

11 SECTION 3. Subchapter C, Chapter 51, Education Code, is
12 amended by adding subsection 51.763(d) to read as follows:

13 (d) Each institution of higher education shall publish
14 prominently on its admission application website a link to
15 MyTexasFuture.Org or its successor electronic platform and provide
16 notice to students that they may apply to the institution using the
17 electronic common admission application form found in
18 ApplyTexas.Org or via MyTexasFuture.Org.

19 SECTION 4. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
20 amended by adding Section 61.0511 to read as follows:

21 Sec. 61.0511. Direct Admissions and Financial Aid Portal at
22 MyTexasFuture.Org.

23 (a) The board shall create, maintain, and administer an
24 electronic platform and submission portal, known as My Texas Future
25 (MyTexasFuture.Org), to facilitate the awareness and application
26 of students into institutions of higher education.

27 (b) My Texas Future, or any successor electronic platform

established pursuant to this section, shall include:

(1) A link or direct submission portal to the electronic common admission application form adopted and established pursuant to Section 51, Subchapter S;

(2) A Direct Admission's program that lists institution of higher education to which a student may be directly admitted based on the student's profile and information;

(3) To the greatest extent possible, a list of financial aid awards that a student may be eligible to receive based on the student's profile and information; and

(4) The data required by Section [61.09022](#) to assist students in assessing the value of post-secondary credentials by program.

(c) A Texas school district or an open-enrollment charter school shall as part of the high school registration process annually notify, in a manner prescribed by coordinating board rule, each parent or guardian of a student who has earned at least three high school course credits or not later than the end of a student's first semester of ninth grade:

(1) Of the option to create or update annually a profile and account in My Texas Future;

(2) That a student or their parent is permitted to update or revise their own profile in My Texas Future;

(3) That a student or parent of a student who creates a profile and account under this section, may opt-out of one or more programs offered under Subsection (b); and

(4) Of the graduation requirement under Section

1 28.0257 for a student or parent to indicate whether the student
2 wishes to opt-in to allowing the board to share the student's data
3 and educational records with institutions of higher education for
4 the purpose of participating in the Direct Admissions Program
5 established under Subsection (b)(2).

6 (d) The Texas Education Agency and the Coordinating Board
7 shall jointly prepare and post on their respective Internet
8 websites a publication that includes the information required to be
9 provided under subsection (c) in a form that enables a school
10 district or open-enrollment charter school to reproduce the
11 publication for distribution under that subsection.

12 (e) The Texas Education Agency and each Texas public school
13 district or open -enrollment charter school shall make the data
14 available to the Coordinating Board necessary to administer this
15 Section.

16 (f) The board may adopt rules necessary to implement this
17 section.

18 (g) The board may share a student's contact information in
19 MyTexasFuture.Org with an institution of higher education unless
20 the student opts-out of sharing the student's contact information.
21 Any student information shared with an institution of higher
22 education is confidential pursuant to subsection (1). The board
23 shall ensure that a student may opt-out of sharing the student's
24 contact information with an institution of higher education.

25 (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, except
26 as provided by this section, information that relates to a current,
27 former, or prospective applicant or student of an educational

1 institution and that is obtained, received, or held by the board for
2 the purpose of administering this section or otherwise providing
3 assistance with access to postsecondary education is confidential
4 and excepted from disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code,
5 and may only be released in conformity with the Family Educational
6 Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. Section 1232g). The
7 Coordinating Board may withhold information prohibited from being
8 disclosed under this subsection without requesting a decision from
9 the attorney general under Subchapter G, Chapter 552, Government
10 Code.

11 SECTION 5. Section 61.0511, Education Code, as added by
12 this Act, applies beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year.

13 SECTION 6. Subsections 28.025 and 28.0257, Education Code,
14 as added by this Act, applies beginning with the 2026-2027 academic
15 year.

16 SECTION 7. 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, 2025.