

By: Middleton

S.B. No. 1241

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to college entrance examinations considered for admission
3 to certain public institutions of higher education.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 51.803(a), Education Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (a) Subject to Subsection (a-1), each general academic
8 teaching institution shall admit an applicant for admission to the
9 institution as an undergraduate student if the applicant graduated
10 with a grade point average in the top 10 percent of the student's
11 high school graduating class in one of the two school years
12 preceding the academic year for which the applicant is applying for
13 admission and:

14 (1) the applicant:

15 (A) graduated from a public or private high
16 school in this state accredited by a generally recognized
17 accrediting organization or from a high school operated by the
18 United States Department of Defense; or

19 (B) completed a nontraditional secondary
20 education as defined by Section 51.9241;

21 (2) the applicant:

22 (A) successfully completed:

23 (i) at a public high school, the curriculum
24 requirements established under Section 28.025 for the

1 distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school
2 program; or

3 (ii) at a high school to which Section
4 28.025 does not apply, a curriculum that is equivalent in content
5 and rigor to the distinguished level of achievement under the
6 foundation high school program; or

7 (B) achieved a score set by the Texas Higher
8 Education Coordinating Board on a college entrance examination
9 designated by coordinating board rule [~~satisfied ACT's College~~
10 ~~Readiness Benchmarks on the ACT assessment applicable to the~~
11 ~~applicant or earned on the SAT assessment a score of at least 1,500~~
12 ~~out of 2,400 or the equivalent~~]; and

13 (3) if the applicant graduated from a high school
14 operated by the United States Department of Defense, the applicant
15 is a Texas resident under Section 54.052 or is entitled to pay
16 tuition fees at the rate provided for Texas residents under Section
17 54.241(d) for the term or semester to which admitted.

18 SECTION 2. Section 51.805(a), Education Code, is amended to
19 read as follows:

20 (a) A graduating student who does not qualify for admission
21 under Section 51.803 or 51.804 may apply to any general academic
22 teaching institution if the student:

23 (1) successfully completed:

24 (A) at a public high school, the curriculum
25 requirements established under Section 28.025 for the foundation
26 high school program; or

27 (B) at a high school to which Section 28.025 does

1 not apply, a curriculum that is equivalent in content and rigor to
2 the foundation high school program; or

3 (2) achieved a score set by the Texas Higher Education
4 Coordinating Board on a college entrance examination designated by
5 coordinating board rule [~~satisfied ACT's College Readiness~~
6 ~~Benchmarks on the ACT assessment applicable to the applicant or~~
7 ~~earned on the SAT assessment a score of at least 1,500 out of 2,400~~
8 ~~or the equivalent~~].

9 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply
10 beginning with admissions to a general academic teaching
11 institution for the 2026 fall semester. Admissions to a general
12 academic teaching institution for a term or semester before the
13 2026 fall semester are governed by the law in effect immediately
14 before the effective date of this Act, and the former law is
15 continued in effect for that purpose.

16 SECTION 4. 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.