

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 6, 2025

TO: Honorable Terry M. Wilson, Chair, House Committee on Higher Education

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB4909 by Wilson (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.), **As Introduced**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB4909, As Introduced: a negative impact of (\$5,520,520) through the biennium ending August 31, 2027.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five- Year Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds</i>
2026	(\$3,432,760)
2027	(\$2,087,760)
2028	(\$2,087,760)
2029	(\$2,087,760)
2030	(\$2,087,760)

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Probable Savings/(Cost) from General Revenue Fund 1</i>	<i>Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2025</i>
2026	(\$3,432,760)	4.0
2027	(\$2,087,760)	4.0
2028	(\$2,087,760)	4.0
2029	(\$2,087,760)	4.0
2030	(\$2,087,760)	4.0

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would require the Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to create, maintain, and administer an electronic platform and submission portal, known as My Texas Future, to facilitate the awareness and application of students into institutions of higher education. The bill would require each high school student prior to graduation to elect whether to opt-in to allowing the THECB to share the student's data and education records with institutions of higher education to allow the student to participate in the direct admissions program portal.

Methodology

It is assumed that any costs associated with the Texas Education Agency (TEA) providing data to THECB could be absorbed within TEA's existing resources.

The Higher Education Coordinating Board indicates that there would be one-time costs in fiscal year 2026 and recurring costs to implement the bill. For purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that the THECB will continue to use self-reported data and any costs to integrate with TEA or school districts' data are not considered.

The one-time costs include \$625,000 related to application development for user experience enhancements and development of field validations to ensure and improve functionality for all students. Additional one-time technology costs total \$700,000 and include funding for user management, security, cloud-based tool to handle traffic, and load testing to ensure application security and functionality for the increased number of students visiting the platform.

Beginning in fiscal 2026, the THECB estimates \$1,650,000 in ongoing infrastructure costs for the platform tied to an increase in monthly billing through the data center from \$75,000 to \$212,500 per month due to the increased usage. The agency would also hire 4.0 FTEs to increase outreach for their ApplyTexas Help Desk at a cost of \$457,760 in fiscal year 2026 and \$437,760 for subsequent fiscal years.

Local Government Impact

School districts would be required to make data available to THECB necessary to administer the bill's provisions for which there may be indeterminate costs to the districts.

Source Agencies: 701 Texas Education Agency, 710 Texas A&M University System Administrative and General Offices, 717 Texas Southern University, 719 Texas State Technical College System Administration, 720 The University of Texas System Administration, 758 Texas State University System, 768 Texas Tech University System Administration, 769 University of North Texas System Administration, 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board, 783 University of Houston System Administration, 966 Howard College, 978 San Jacinto College

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