

By: Branch, Howard of Travis, Hunter, Aycock,
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H.B. No. 10

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 10:

By: Howard of Travis

C.S.H.B. No. 10

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to eligibility for a TEXAS grant and to administration of
the TEXAS grant program.

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the TEXAS Grant
College Readiness Reform Act.

SECTION 2. Section 56.303, Education Code, is amended by
amending Subsection (d) and adding Subsections (d-1), (e), and (f)
to read as follows:

(d) From money appropriated by the legislature for the
purposes of this subchapter, the coordinating board annually shall
determine the allocation of money available for TEXAS grants among
general academic teaching institutions and other eligible
institutions and shall distribute the money accordingly.

(d-1) In allocating among general academic teaching
institutions money available for initial TEXAS grants for an
academic year, the coordinating board shall ensure that each of
those institutions' percentage share of the total amount of money
for initial grants that is allocated to general academic teaching
institutions under this subsection for that year does not, as a
result of the number of students who establish eligibility at the
institution for an initial grant under Section 56.3041(2)(A),
change from the institution's percentage share of the total amount
of money for initial grants that is allocated to those institutions

1 under this subsection for the preceding academic year.

2 (e) In determining who should receive a TEXAS grant, the
3 coordinating board and the eligible institutions shall give
4 ~~[highest]~~ priority to awarding TEXAS grants to students who
5 demonstrate the greatest financial need.

6 (f) Beginning with TEXAS grants awarded for the 2013-2014
7 academic year, in determining who should receive an initial TEXAS
8 grant, each general academic teaching institution, in addition to
9 giving priority as provided by Subsection (e), shall give highest
10 priority to students who meet the eligibility criteria described by
11 Section 56.3041(2)(A). If there is money available in excess of the
12 amount required to award an initial TEXAS grant to all students
13 meeting those criteria, a general academic teaching institution
14 shall make awards to other students who meet the eligibility
15 criteria described by Section 56.304(a)(2)(A), provided that the
16 institution continues to give priority to students as provided by
17 Subsection (e).

18 SECTION 3. Section 56.304(h), Education Code, is amended to
19 read as follows:

20 (h) The coordinating board shall adopt rules to allow a
21 person who is otherwise eligible to receive a TEXAS grant, in the
22 event of a hardship or for other good cause shown, including a
23 showing of a severe illness or other debilitating condition that
24 may affect the person's academic performance or that the person is
25 responsible for the care of a sick, injured, or needy person and
26 that the person's provision of care may affect the person's academic
27 performance, to receive a TEXAS grant while enrolled in a number of

1 semester credit hours that is less than the number of semester
2 credit hours required under Subsection (a)(5) or Section
3 56.3041(5), as applicable. The coordinating board may not allow a
4 person to receive a TEXAS grant while enrolled in fewer than six
5 semester credit hours.

6 SECTION 4. Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education Code, is
7 amended by amending Section 56.3041 and adding Section 56.3042 to
8 read as follows:

9 Sec. 56.3041. INITIAL ELIGIBILITY OF PERSON GRADUATING FROM
10 HIGH SCHOOL ON OR AFTER MAY 1, 2013, AND ENROLLING IN A GENERAL
11 ACADEMIC TEACHING INSTITUTION. Notwithstanding Section 56.304(a),
12 to be eligible initially for a TEXAS grant, a person graduating from
13 high school on or after May 1, 2013, and enrolling in a general
14 academic teaching institution must:

15 (1) be a resident of this state as determined by
16 coordinating board rules;

17 (2) meet the academic requirements prescribed by
18 Paragraph (A), (B), or (C) as follows:

19 (A) be a graduate of a public or accredited
20 private high school in this state who completed the recommended
21 high school program established under Section 28.025 or its
22 equivalent and have accomplished any two or more of the following:

23 (i) graduation under the advanced high
24 school program established under Section 28.025 or its equivalent,
25 successful completion of the course requirements of the
26 international baccalaureate diploma program, or earning of 12 or
27 more credits in high school through courses described in Sections

1 28.009(a)(1), (2), and (3);

2 (ii) satisfaction of the Texas Success
3 Initiative (TSI) college readiness benchmarks prescribed by the
4 coordinating board under Section 51.3062(f) on any assessment
5 instrument designated by the coordinating board under Section
6 51.3062(c) or (e), or qualification for an exemption as described
7 by Section 51.3062(p), (q), or (q-1);

8 (iii) graduation in the top one-third of
9 the person's high school graduating class or graduation from high
10 school with a grade point average of at least 3.0 on a four-point
11 scale or the equivalent; or

12 (iv) completion for high school credit of
13 at least one advanced mathematics course following the successful
14 completion of an Algebra II course, as permitted by Section
15 28.025(b-3), or at least one advanced career and technical course,
16 as permitted by Section 28.025(b-2);

17 (B) have received an associate degree from a
18 public or private institution of higher education; or

19 (C) if sufficient money is available, meet the
20 eligibility criteria described by Section 56.304(a)(2)(A);

21 (3) meet financial need requirements established by
22 the coordinating board;

23 (4) be enrolled in an undergraduate degree or
24 certificate program at the general academic teaching institution;

25 (5) except as provided under rules adopted under
26 Section 56.304(h), be enrolled as:

27 (A) an entering undergraduate student for at

1 least three-fourths of a full course load, as determined by the
2 coordinating board, not later than the 16th month after the
3 calendar month in which the person graduated from high school;

4 (B) an entering undergraduate student who
5 entered military service not later than the first anniversary of
6 the date the person graduated from high school and who enrolled for
7 at least three-fourths of a full course load, as determined by the
8 coordinating board, at the general academic teaching institution
9 not later than 12 months after being honorably discharged from
10 military service; or

11 (C) a continuing undergraduate student for at
12 least three-fourths of a full course load, as determined by the
13 coordinating board, not later than the 12th month after the
14 calendar month in which the person received an associate degree
15 from a public or private institution of higher education;

16 (6) have applied for any available financial aid or
17 assistance; and

18 (7) comply with any additional nonacademic
19 requirements adopted by the coordinating board under this
20 subchapter.

21 Sec. 56.3042. INITIAL QUALIFICATION [~~ELIGIBILITY~~] OF
22 PERSON ON TRACK TO MEET ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS [~~COMPLETE~~
23 ~~RECOMMENDED OR ADVANCED CURRICULUM~~]. (a) If at the time an

24 eligible institution awards TEXAS grants to initial recipients for
25 an academic year an applicant has not completed high school or the
26 applicant's final high school transcript is not yet available to
27 the institution, the student is considered to have satisfied the

1 eligibility requirements of Section 56.304(a)(2)(A) or
2 56.3041(2)(A) if the student's available high school transcript
3 indicates that at the time the transcript was prepared the student
4 was on schedule to graduate from high school and to meet the
5 eligibility requirements [~~complete the recommended or advanced~~
6 ~~high school curriculum or its equivalent~~], as applicable to the
7 student, in time to be eligible for a TEXAS grant for the academic
8 year.

9 (a-1) If at the time an eligible institution awards TEXAS
10 grants to initial recipients for an academic year an applicant who
11 is an associate degree candidate has not completed that degree or
12 the applicant's final college transcript is not yet available to
13 the institution, the student is considered to have satisfied the
14 associate degree requirement of Section 56.304(a)(2)(B) or
15 56.3041(2)(B) if the student's available college transcript
16 indicates that at the time the transcript was prepared the student
17 was on schedule to complete the associate degree in time to be
18 eligible for a TEXAS grant for the academic year.

19 (b) The coordinating board or the eligible institution may
20 require the student to forgo or repay the amount of an initial TEXAS
21 grant awarded to the student as described by Subsection (a) or (a-1)
22 if the student fails to meet the eligibility requirements of
23 Section 56.304(a)(2)(A), 56.3041(2)(A), 56.304(a)(2)(B), or
24 56.3041(2)(B), as applicable to the student, [~~complete the~~
25 ~~recommended or advanced high school curriculum or its equivalent~~]
26 after the issuance of the available high school or college
27 transcript.

1 (c) A person who is required to forgo or repay the amount of
2 an initial TEXAS grant under Subsection (b) may subsequently become
3 eligible to receive an initial TEXAS grant under Section 56.304 or
4 56.3041 by satisfying the associate degree requirement prescribed
5 by Section 56.304(a)(2)(B) or 56.3041(2)(B) and the other
6 ~~[applicable]~~ requirements of those sections applicable to the
7 person ~~[that section]~~ at the time the person reapplies for the
8 grant.

9 (d) A person who receives an initial TEXAS grant under
10 Subsection (a) or (a-1) and is not required to forgo or repay the
11 amount of the grant under Subsection (b) may become eligible to
12 receive a subsequent TEXAS grant under Section 56.305 only by
13 satisfying the associate degree requirement prescribed by Section
14 56.304(a)(2)(B) or 56.3041(2)(B), as applicable to the person, in
15 addition to the requirements of Section 56.305 at the time the
16 person applies for the subsequent grant.

17 SECTION 5. The change in law made to Subchapter M, Chapter
18 56, Education Code, by this Act applies beginning with TEXAS grants
19 awarded for the 2013 fall semester. Grants awarded for a semester
20 or term before the 2013 fall semester are governed by the applicable
21 law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and
22 the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

23 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.