

1-1 By: Seliger S.B. No. 886  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 14, 2017;  
1-3 February 28, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on  
1-4 Higher Education; May 1, 2017, reported adversely, with favorable  
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0;  
1-6 May 1, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	<u>Seliger</u>	X		
1-10	<u>West</u>	X		
1-11	<u>Bettencourt</u>	X		
1-12	<u>Buckingham</u>	X		
1-13	<u>Menéndez</u>	X		
1-14	<u>Taylor of Galveston</u>	X		
1-15	<u>Watson</u>	X		

1-16 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 886 By: Seliger

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the Texas Educational Opportunity Grant Program.  
1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:  
1-21 SECTION 1. Section 56.402(b), Education Code, is amended to  
1-22 read as follows:  
1-23 (b) The purpose of this subchapter is to provide a grant of  
1-24 money to enable eligible students to attend eligible [~~two-year~~  
1-25 ~~public~~] institutions [~~of higher education~~] in this state.  
1-26 SECTION 2. Sections 56.404(a), (c), (d), and (f), Education  
1-27 Code, are amended to read as follows:  
1-28 (a) To be eligible initially for a grant under the grant  
1-29 program, a person must:  
1-30 (1) be a resident of this state as determined by  
1-31 coordinating board rules;  
1-32 (2) meet financial need requirements as defined by the  
1-33 coordinating board;  
1-34 (3) be enrolled in an associate or baccalaureate  
1-35 degree program or a certificate program at an eligible institution;  
1-36 (4) be enrolled as an entering student for at least  
1-37 one-half of a full course load for an entering student in the  
1-38 associate or baccalaureate degree program or a certificate program,  
1-39 as determined by the coordinating board;  
1-40 (5) have applied for any available financial aid or  
1-41 assistance; and  
1-42 (6) comply with any additional nonacademic  
1-43 requirement adopted by the coordinating board under this  
1-44 subchapter.  
1-45 (c) A person is not eligible to receive a grant under this  
1-46 subchapter if the person has been granted:  
1-47 (1) an associate degree, if the person is enrolled in  
1-48 an associate degree or certificate program; or  
1-49 (2) a baccalaureate degree.  
1-50 (d) A person may not receive a grant under this subchapter  
1-51 for more than:  
1-52 (1) for a person enrolled in an associate degree or  
1-53 certificate program, 75 semester credit hours or the equivalent; or  
1-54 (2) for a person enrolled in a baccalaureate degree  
1-55 program, the greater of:  
1-56 (A) 15 semester credit hours or the equivalent  
1-57 more than the total number of semester credit hours or the  
1-58 equivalent required by the institution for the degree program in  
1-59 which the person is enrolled; or  
1-60 (B) 135 semester credit hours or the equivalent.

2-1 (f) A person's eligibility for a grant under this subchapter  
2-2 ends on:

2-3 (1) the fourth anniversary of the initial award of a  
2-4 grant under this subchapter to the person and the person's  
2-5 enrollment in an eligible institution, if the person is enrolled in  
2-6 a degree or certificate program of two years or less; or

2-7 (2) the fifth anniversary of the initial award of a  
2-8 grant under this subchapter to the person and the person's  
2-9 enrollment in an eligible institution, if the person is enrolled in  
2-10 a degree program of more than two years.

2-11 SECTION 3. Sections 56.405(a), (d), and (f), Education  
2-12 Code, are amended to read as follows:

2-13 (a) After initially qualifying for a grant under this  
2-14 subchapter, a person may continue to receive a grant under this  
2-15 subchapter during each semester or term in which the person is  
2-16 enrolled at an eligible institution only if the person:

2-17 (1) meets financial need requirements as defined by  
2-18 the coordinating board;

2-19 (2) is enrolled in an associate or baccalaureate  
2-20 degree program or a certificate program at an eligible institution;

2-21 (3) is enrolled for at least one-half of a full course  
2-22 load for a student in an associate or baccalaureate degree program  
2-23 or a certificate program, as determined by the coordinating board;

2-24 (4) makes satisfactory academic progress toward an  
2-25 associate or baccalaureate degree or a certificate; and

2-26 (5) complies with any additional nonacademic  
2-27 requirement adopted by the coordinating board.

2-28 (d) For the purpose of this section, a person makes  
2-29 satisfactory academic progress toward an associate or  
2-30 baccalaureate degree or a certificate only if:

2-31 (1) in the person's first academic year the person  
2-32 meets the satisfactory academic progress requirements of the  
2-33 institution at which the person is enrolled; and

2-34 (2) in a subsequent academic year, the person:

2-35 (A) completes at least 75 percent of the semester  
2-36 credit hours attempted in the student's most recent academic year;  
2-37 and

2-38 (B) has earned an overall grade point average of  
2-39 at least 2.5 on a four-point scale or the equivalent on course work  
2-40 previously attempted at institutions of higher education.

2-41 (f) The coordinating board shall adopt rules to allow a  
2-42 person who is otherwise eligible to receive a grant under this  
2-43 subchapter, in the event of a hardship or for other good cause  
2-44 shown, including a showing of a severe illness or other  
2-45 debilitating condition that may affect the person's academic  
2-46 performance or that the person is responsible for the care of a  
2-47 sick, injured, or needy person and that the person's provision of  
2-48 care may affect the person's academic performance, to receive a  
2-49 grant under this subchapter:

2-50 (1) while enrolled in a number of semester credit  
2-51 hours that is less than the number of semester credit hours required  
2-52 under Subsection (a)(3); ~~or~~

2-53 (2) if the student's grade point average or completion  
2-54 rate falls below the satisfactory academic progress requirements of  
2-55 Subsection (d);

2-56 (3) for a number of semester credit hours that is  
2-57 greater than the number of semester credit hours permitted under  
2-58 Section 56.404(d); or

2-59 (4) for a number of years that is greater than the  
2-60 number of years for which the person is eligible to receive a grant  
2-61 under Section 56.404(f).

2-62 SECTION 4. Section 56.407(a), Education Code, is amended to  
2-63 read as follows:

2-64 (a) The amount of a grant under this subchapter for a  
2-65 student enrolled full-time at an eligible institution is the amount  
2-66 determined by the coordinating board as the average statewide  
2-67 amount of tuition and required fees that ~~[a resident student  
2-68 enrolled full-time in an associate degree or certificate program]~~  
2-69 would be charged for that semester or term at eligible institutions

3-1 to a resident student enrolled full-time in:

3-2 (1) an associate degree or certificate program, if the  
3-3 student receiving the grant is enrolled in an associate degree or  
3-4 certificate program; or

3-5 (2) a baccalaureate degree program, if the student  
3-6 receiving the grant is enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program.

3-7 SECTION 5. The changes in law made by this Act apply to  
3-8 participation in the Texas Educational Opportunity Grant Program  
3-9 beginning with the 2018-2019 academic year. Participation in the  
3-10 Texas Educational Opportunity Grant Program for an academic year  
3-11 before the 2018-2019 academic year is governed by the applicable  
3-12 law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and  
3-13 the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

3-14 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect January 1, 2018.

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