

1-1 By: Metcalf, Lalani (Senate Sponsor - Schwertner) H.B. No. 3204  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 23, 2025;  
1-3 April 24, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on  
1-4 Education K-16; May 7, 2025, reported favorably by the following  
1-5 vote: Yeas 11, Nays 0; May 7, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Creighton	X			
1-8 Campbell	X			
1-9 Bettencourt	X			
1-10 Hagenbuch	X			
1-11 Hinojosa of Nueces	X			
1-12 King	X			
1-13 Menéndez	X			
1-14 Middleton	X			
1-15 Parker	X			
1-16 Paxton	X			
1-17 West	X			
1-18				

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the Polytechnic College at Sam Houston State  
1-22 University, including the college's eligibility to participate in  
1-23 certain programs.

1-24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-25 SECTION 1. Section 96.63, Education Code, is amended to  
1-26 read as follows:

1-27 Sec. 96.63. POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE [JOSEY SCHOOL OF VOCATIONAL  
1-28 EDUCATION]. (a) The Polytechnic College [Josey School of  
1-29 Vocational Education] is a division of Sam Houston State University  
1-30 and is under the direction and control of the board of regents of  
1-31 the Texas State University System [Board of Regents, State Senior  
1-32 Colleges].

1-33 (b) The administration of the college [school] is under the  
1-34 direction of the president of Sam Houston State University.

1-35 (c) The college [school] shall provide career and technical  
1-36 education [vocational training] for individuals [over the age of 18  
1-37 who cannot qualify scholastically for college entrance and for  
1-38 other persons] who desire to avail themselves of short intensive  
1-39 courses in career and technical education [vocational education in  
1-40 the following fields: agriculture, home management, distributive  
1-41 education, photography, plumbing, sheet metal work, machine shop,  
1-42 auto mechanics, furniture, electrical appliances, air conditioning,  
1-43 and refrigeration, printing, radio, garment making, interior  
1-44 decorating, light construction contracting, photoengraving,  
1-45 watchmaking, and other trades of like nature]. The education  
1-46 [training in these subjects] shall be designed to lead to career and  
1-47 technical education certificates, as defined by the Texas Higher  
1-48 Education Coordinating Board [organized so that the courses may be  
1-49 completed in from 9 to 24 months. Courses may also be offered in  
1-50 English and mathematics and other subjects which will contribute to  
1-51 the vocational training of the student. Vocational courses in  
1-52 government, designed to prepare workers in various county, city,  
1-53 and state offices, may also be offered].

1-54 (d) Notwithstanding any other law, the college shall be  
1-55 funded in the same manner as a public state college, as defined by  
1-56 Section 61.003 [The rate of tuition charged students shall be the  
1-57 actual cost of teaching service, not to exceed \$500 per scholastic  
1-58 year of nine months. Scholarships may be awarded by the board to  
1-59 worthy indigent students who might greatly benefit from the  
1-60 training offered. The amount of the scholarships may vary  
1-61 according to the needs of the individuals, but in no case may it

2-1 ~~reduce the tuition payment by the student to a point less than the~~  
2-2 ~~tuition fee regularly charged students at the state senior~~  
2-3 ~~colleges].~~

2-4 SECTION 2. Section 56.401(2), Education Code, is amended to  
2-5 read as follows:

2-6 (2) "Eligible institution" means:

2-7 (A) a public junior college;

2-8 (B) a public technical institute; ~~[or]~~

2-9 (C) a public state college; or

2-10 (D) the Polytechnic College at Sam Houston State

2-11 University.

2-12 SECTION 3. Section 61.09092(a), Education Code, is amended  
2-13 to read as follows:

2-14 (a) In this section, "lower-division institution of higher  
2-15 education" means a public junior college, public state college, or  
2-16 public technical institute and the Polytechnic College at Sam  
2-17 Houston State University.

2-18 SECTION 4. Section 61.881(2), Education Code, is amended to  
2-19 read as follows:

2-20 (2) "Lower-division institution of higher education" means a public junior college, public state college, or public  
2-21 technical institute and the Polytechnic College at Sam Houston  
2-22 State University.

2-23 SECTION 5. The change in law made by this Act to Section  
2-24 56.401(2), Education Code, applies beginning with grants awarded  
2-25 under the Texas Educational Opportunity Grant Program for the 2026  
2-26 fall semester. Grants awarded under the Texas Educational  
2-27 Opportunity Grant Program for an academic term before that semester  
2-28 are governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective  
2-29 date of this Act, and the former law is continued in effect for that  
2-30 purpose.

2-31 SECTION 6. The change in law made by this Act to Section  
2-32 61.881(2), Education Code, applies beginning with grants awarded  
2-33 under the Texas Reskilling and Upskilling through Education (TRUE)  
2-34 Program for the 2025 fall semester.

2-35 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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