

1-1 By: Wilson (Senate Sponsor - Kolthorst) H.B. No. 5154  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 14, 2025;  
 1-3 May 14, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on  
 1-4 Education K-16; May 19, 2025, referred to Committee on Health &  
 1-5 Human Services; May 23, 2025, reported favorably by the following  
 1-6 vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 23, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16			X	
1-17	X			

1-18 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-19 AN ACT

1-20 relating to the Joint Admission Medical Program Council.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Section 51.822, Education Code, is amended to  
 1-23 read as follows:

1-24 Sec. 51.822. JOINT ADMISSION MEDICAL PROGRAM. The Joint  
 1-25 Admission Medical Program is a program administered by the Joint  
 1-26 Admission Medical Program Council to:

1-27 (1) provide services, including mentoring, academic  
 1-28 support, and counseling and relief, to support and encourage highly  
 1-29 qualified, economically disadvantaged students pursuing a medical  
 1-30 education to complete a medical degree and meet state workforce  
 1-31 needs;

1-32 (2) award undergraduate and graduate scholarships and  
 1-33 summer stipends to those students; ~~and~~

1-34 (3) guarantee and facilitate the admission of those  
 1-35 students to at least one participating medical school, subject to  
 1-36 the conditions under Section 51.827 and under other provisions of  
 1-37 this subchapter;

1-38 (4) align statewide educational and workforce goals to  
 1-39 increase medical jobs and stop workforce shortages; and

1-40 (5) promote the accessibility and equality of medical  
 1-41 education by addressing statewide barriers to entry and  
 1-42 participation for economically disadvantaged communities.

1-43 SECTION 2. Section 51.823, Education Code, is amended to  
 1-44 read as follows:

1-45 Sec. 51.823. COMPOSITION OF COUNCIL. (a) The  
 1-46 participating medical schools shall jointly establish the Joint  
 1-47 Admission Medical Program Council. The council shall consist  
 1-48 [consisting] of one faculty member employed by and representing  
 1-49 each of the participating medical schools.

1-50 (c) The council shall select one of its members to serve as  
 1-51 council chair for a term of two years. The chair shall:

1-52 (1) facilitate council meetings;

1-53 (2) ensure compliance with program goals; and

1-54 (3) represent the council in interactions with  
 1-55 relevant stakeholders, including the Texas Medical and Dental  
 1-56 Schools Application Service and legislative committees.

1-57 (d) The council shall establish clear policies to ensure  
 1-58 effective communication among council members, including:

1-59 (1) procedures for convening regular meetings to  
 1-60 review program implementation and evaluate outcomes;

1-61 (2) protocols for disseminating an agenda or report  
 1-62 before a meeting;

1-63 (3) mechanisms for soliciting feedback from council

2-1 members to promote transparency and collaboration; and  
 2-2 (4) procedures for promoting public meetings to  
 2-3 students.

2-4 SECTION 3. Subchapter V, Chapter 51, Education Code, is  
 2-5 amended by adding Section 51.8235 to read as follows:

2-6 Sec. 51.8235. COUNCIL MEETINGS. The council shall provide  
 2-7 notice of each council meeting, which must:

2-8 (1) be posted in a place readily accessible and  
 2-9 available to the general public at all times for at least 72 hours  
 2-10 before the scheduled time of the meeting; and

2-11 (2) include sufficient detail regarding the meeting's  
 2-12 agenda to inform participants and the general public of the topics  
 2-13 to be discussed or decided.

2-14 SECTION 4. Section 51.824(a), Education Code, is amended to  
 2-15 read as follows:

2-16 (a) The council shall:

2-17 (1) recruit eligible undergraduate students for  
 2-18 admission to the program;

2-19 (2) establish an application process for admitting  
 2-20 eligible undergraduate students to the program;

2-21 (3) evaluate applications for admission to the program  
 2-22 according to the procedures for selecting participating students  
 2-23 under Subsection (b) and for selecting program alternates under  
 2-24 Section 51.8245;

2-25 (4) monitor the implementation of the program;

2-26 (5) assist in developing services to support and  
 2-27 encourage the pursuit of a medical education by participating  
 2-28 students and program alternates;

2-29 (6) establish a process for participating students to:

2-30 (A) be matched to an internship program as  
 2-31 described by Subsection (c);

2-32 (B) be matched to any required undergraduate  
 2-33 mentoring program as described by Subsection (d);

2-34 (C) apply for admission to participating medical  
 2-35 schools;

2-36 (D) be matched to a participating medical school  
 2-37 as described by Subsection (e); and

2-38 (E) enroll in that school;

2-39 (7) award to participating students undergraduate  
 2-40 scholarships and summer stipends, including a summer stipend for a  
 2-41 student who is required to participate in an internship program in  
 2-42 the summer immediately following the student's senior year;

2-43 (8) award graduate scholarships to participating  
 2-44 students;

2-45 (9) enter into an agreement with each student admitted  
 2-46 to the program, each program alternate, each participating medical  
 2-47 school, and each general academic teaching institution or private  
 2-48 or independent institution of higher education as required by this  
 2-49 subchapter; ~~and~~

2-50 (10) pursue opportunities to increase scholarship  
 2-51 money allocated to participating students to at least 30 percent of  
 2-52 the total amount appropriated for purposes of the program without  
 2-53 impeding the implementation of other program functions and goals,  
 2-54 including:

2-55 (A) coordinating efforts with the Texas Higher  
 2-56 Education Coordinating Board to request additional legislative  
 2-57 appropriations;

2-58 (B) soliciting gifts, grants, and donations  
 2-59 under Section 51.833; and

2-60 (C) collaborating with private foundations,  
 2-61 corporations, and entities to secure supplemental funding; and

2-62 (11) take any other action necessary to implement the  
 2-63 program.

2-64 SECTION 5. Section 51.834, Education Code, is amended by  
 2-65 amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c) to read as  
 2-66 follows:

2-67 (b) The report must contain detailed information regarding:

2-68 (1) any problems the council identifies in  
 2-69 implementing the program, including external or internal  
 2-70 challenges, deficiencies, or obstacles, with recommended solutions  
 2-71 for those problems, including recommendations for legislative

3-1 action to streamline and enhance the implementation of the program;  
 3-2 (2) an accounting of all ~~[the expenditure of any]~~  
 3-3 money received under this subchapter, including:  
 3-4 (A) legislative appropriations and private  
 3-5 funding sources;  
 3-6 (B) breakdowns of disbursements;  
 3-7 (C) the specific purposes for which money was  
 3-8 used; and  
 3-9 (D) a statement of the ending balance and any  
 3-10 unobligated and unexpended money remaining for the state fiscal  
 3-11 year; ~~and~~  
 3-12 (3) the total number of students who are admitted to  
 3-13 the program;  
 3-14 (4) the number of students who are admitted to the  
 3-15 program and who are enrolled in each year of a baccalaureate,  
 3-16 graduate, or professional degree program offered by:  
 3-17 (A) a general academic teaching institution;  
 3-18 (B) ~~[r]~~ a private or independent institution of  
 3-19 higher education; ~~[r]~~ or  
 3-20 (C) a participating medical school, as  
 3-21 applicable;  
 3-22 (5) the number of students, disaggregated by year of  
 3-23 enrollment, who, while enrolled in a baccalaureate, graduate, or  
 3-24 professional degree program at a general academic teaching, or  
 3-25 institution, private or independent institution of higher  
 3-26 education, or participating medical school, as applicable:  
 3-27 (A) were dismissed or withdrawn from the program  
 3-28 by the council;  
 3-29 (B) were placed on probation by the council; or  
 3-30 (C) voluntarily withdrew from the program;  
 3-31 (6) enrollment, withdrawal, and disciplinary data for  
 3-32 students described by Subdivision (5) for each academic year of a  
 3-33 baccalaureate, graduate, or professional degree program at a  
 3-34 general academic teaching institution, private or independent  
 3-35 institution of higher education, or participating medical school;  
 3-36 (7) expenditures for graduate scholarships awarded to  
 3-37 participating medical students, including:  
 3-38 (A) the amount awarded and disbursed to each  
 3-39 participating medical student;  
 3-40 (B) if there is unobligated and unexpended money  
 3-41 that may be spent on graduate scholarships at the end of a state  
 3-42 fiscal year, the reason why that money was not spent;  
 3-43 (C) any constraints delaying the reallocation of  
 3-44 unobligated money to medical school scholarship recipients,  
 3-45 including institutional policies; and  
 3-46 (D) a plan for applying or reallocating  
 3-47 unobligated money in a manner that ensures accountability and  
 3-48 sustainability;  
 3-49 (8) an estimate of the total amount of program funding  
 3-50 required for the next state fiscal biennium to maintain enrollment  
 3-51 and operations and increase the graduate scholarship amount for  
 3-52 medical school scholarship recipients, including requirements  
 3-53 under Section 51.824, including:  
 3-54 (A) projections based on current and anticipated  
 3-55 scholarship demands;  
 3-56 (B) recommendations for appropriations  
 3-57 specifying the additional money needed; and  
 3-58 (C) a formal request or petition for supplemental  
 3-59 funding to ensure the program's financial stability and capacity to  
 3-60 meet future demands;  
 3-61 (9) the amount of gifts, grants, and donations  
 3-62 received under Section 51.833; and  
 3-63 (10) any notes, agendas, minutes, and reports made in  
 3-64 regard to council meetings, including:  
 3-65 (A) the dates, times, and locations of all  
 3-66 council meetings;  
 3-67 (B) measures to ensure that students  
 3-68 participating in the program are informed of upcoming council  
 3-69 meetings in a timely and accessible manner, including through  
 3-70 direct communication;  
 3-71 (C) provisions to allow student participation in

4-1 the council meetings, including:  
 4-2 (i) opportunities for students to attend  
 4-3 meetings as observers, witnesses, and participants; and  
 4-4 (ii) procedures for soliciting student  
 4-5 feedback and input before the adoption of significant decisions  
 4-6 regarding the program; and  
 4-7 (D) policies to ensure the council does not  
 4-8 violate Chapter 551, Government Code.  
 4-9 (c) All data reported under this section must be:  
 4-10 (1) disaggregated by the type of institution and  
 4-11 academic year; and  
 4-12 (2) reported in a manner that ensures compliance with  
 4-13 the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C.  
 4-14 Section 1232g).  
 4-15 SECTION 6. Subchapter V, Chapter 51, Education Code, is  
 4-16 amended by adding Section 51.835 to read as follows:  
 4-17 Sec. 51.835. ONLINE FEEDBACK PORTAL. (a) The council shall  
 4-18 develop and maintain a secure online portal to allow students in the  
 4-19 program to submit anonymous or identified recommendations and  
 4-20 complaints regarding the program. The portal must:  
 4-21 (1) ensure anonymity for all submissions submitted  
 4-22 anonymously, using encryption and other privacy safeguards to  
 4-23 protect the identity of the student making the submission;  
 4-24 (2) be accessible through different platforms,  
 4-25 including mobile devices; and  
 4-26 (3) use an intuitive and user-friendly interface to  
 4-27 encourage participation and ease of use.  
 4-28 (b) The council shall review complaints or recommendations  
 4-29 submitted through the online portal on a regular basis to identify  
 4-30 potential areas for improvement.  
 4-31 (c) A complaint or recommendation submitted through the  
 4-32 online portal must be:  
 4-33 (1) shared with the Texas Medical and Dental Schools  
 4-34 Application Service and other relevant stakeholders, as authorized  
 4-35 by law; and  
 4-36 (2) compiled into a report to be:  
 4-37 (A) included in the council's report under  
 4-38 Section 51.834;  
 4-39 (B) posted on the council's Internet website; and  
 4-40 (C) submitted to participating students and the  
 4-41 standing legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over  
 4-42 higher education.  
 4-43 (d) The council shall establish procedures to ensure that  
 4-44 complaints and recommendations submitted through the online portal  
 4-45 are addressed in a timely and transparent manner, including by  
 4-46 developing:  
 4-47 (1) a tracking system to monitor the resolution of  
 4-48 complaints and recommendations;  
 4-49 (2) a mechanism to categorize submissions by topic and  
 4-50 urgency to prioritize responses effectively; and  
 4-51 (3) a process for notifying a student of actions taken  
 4-52 in response to the student's complaint or recommendation, excluding  
 4-53 information that would violate a student's expectation of privacy.  
 4-54 (e) The council shall promote the online portal to  
 4-55 participating students, including by providing information during  
 4-56 student orientation, via e-mail, and through the program's Internet  
 4-57 website.  
 4-58 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
 4-59 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
 4-60 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
 4-61 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
 4-62 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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