

1-1 By: West S.B. No. 3039
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed April 4, 2025; April 7, 2025, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Education K-16;
 1-4 April 30, 2025, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 11,
 1-5 Nays 0; April 30, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
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	X			

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

1-21 relating to the transfer of students in public higher education.
 1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
 1-23 SECTION 1. Sections 51.4033 and 51.4034, Education Code,
 1-24 are amended to read as follows:
 1-25 Sec. 51.4033. TRANSFER REPORT [OF NONTRANSFERABLE CREDIT].
 1-26 (a) Not later than May 1 of each year and in the form prescribed by
 1-27 the coordinating board, each general academic teaching institution
 1-28 shall provide to the coordinating board and the legislature a
 1-29 report that:
 1-30 (1) describes [describing] any courses in the
 1-31 Lower-Division Academic Course Guide Manual or its successor
 1-32 adopted by the coordinating board for which a student who transfers
 1-33 to the institution from another institution of higher education is
 1-34 not granted:
 1-35 (A) [~~(1)~~] academic credit at the receiving
 1-36 institution; or
 1-37 (B) [~~(2)~~] if the student has declared a major and
 1-38 has not changed majors, academic credit toward the student's major
 1-39 at the receiving institution;
 1-40 (2) details the institution's goals to increase the
 1-41 number, success, and persistence, as measured by the coordinating
 1-42 board, of students who transfer to the institution from a public
 1-43 junior college;
 1-44 (3) assesses the institution's academic and technical
 1-45 transfer pathways;
 1-46 (4) identifies:
 1-47 (A) any existing barriers to transferring to the
 1-48 institution; and
 1-49 (B) emerging issues affecting transfer students
 1-50 at the institution;
 1-51 (5) details the institution's actions to serve current
 1-52 and prospective transfer students through local and regional
 1-53 articulation agreements that include:
 1-54 (A) faculty collaboration;
 1-55 (B) public junior college program enhancements;
 1-56 (C) student outreach and advising services;
 1-57 (D) website information development;
 1-58 (E) targeted financial aid;
 1-59 (F) student success programs; and
 1-60 (G) degree program alignment; and
 1-61 (6) contains any other information relating to the

2-1 transfer of academic credit to the institution required by
 2-2 coordinating board rule.

2-3 (b) A report required by this section must indicate for each
 2-4 course described by Subsection (a)(1):

2-5 (1) the course name, ~~and~~ type, and common course
 2-6 number;

2-7 (2) the name of:

2-8 (A) the institution of higher education or other
 2-9 postsecondary educational institution at which the student
 2-10 completed the course; and

2-11 (B) the ~~which~~ institution of higher education
 2-12 that awarded or transcribed ~~provided~~ academic credit for the
 2-13 course; and

2-14 (3) the reason why the receiving institution did not
 2-15 grant academic credit for the course as described by Subsection
 2-16 (a), including whether the institution complied with the dispute
 2-17 resolution process under Section 61.826.

2-18 (c) Not later than September 1 of each even-numbered year,
 2-19 the coordinating board shall submit to the governor, the
 2-20 Legislative Budget Board, the house appropriations committee, and
 2-21 the senate finance committee a report that evaluates actions to
 2-22 increase the number, success, and persistence of students who
 2-23 transfer to a general academic teaching institution from a public
 2-24 junior college. The report must include:

2-25 (1) a comparative analysis of institution reports and
 2-26 performance data, including application and admission rates,
 2-27 financial aid awarded, time-to-degree, and baccalaureate
 2-28 graduation rates of students, including transfer students, by
 2-29 program completion at public junior colleges and general academic
 2-30 teaching institutions during the preceding academic year;

2-31 (2) a study of public junior college transfer
 2-32 practices; and

2-33 (3) recommendations for legislative or other action to
 2-34 meet the transfer student-related goals of the state's master plan
 2-35 for higher education developed under Section 61.051.

2-36 (d) The coordinating board may adopt rules necessary to
 2-37 implement this section.

2-38 Sec. 51.4034. REPORT OF COURSES TAKEN AT PUBLIC JUNIOR
 2-39 COLLEGES. (a) Not later than May 1 of each year and in the form
 2-40 prescribed by the coordinating board, each public junior college
 2-41 shall provide to the coordinating board and the legislature a
 2-42 report on courses taken by students who, during the preceding
 2-43 academic year, transferred to a general academic teaching
 2-44 institution, completed a field of study curriculum, or earned an
 2-45 associate degree at the college.

2-46 (b) A report required by this section must include:

2-47 (1) the total number of:

2-48 (A) ~~(1)~~ courses attempted and completed at the
 2-49 college, including the total number of semester credit hours for
 2-50 those courses, disaggregated by whether the course is in:

2-51 (i) ~~(A)~~ the Workforce Education Course
 2-52 Manual or its successor adopted by the coordinating board; or

2-53 (ii) ~~(B)~~ the Lower-Division Academic
 2-54 Course Guide Manual or its successor adopted by the coordinating
 2-55 board;

2-56 (B) ~~(2)~~ courses attempted and completed at the
 2-57 college that are not in the recommended core curriculum developed
 2-58 by the coordinating board under Section 61.822; and

2-59 (C) ~~(3)~~ dual credit courses, including courses
 2-60 for joint high school and junior college credit under Section
 2-61 130.008, attempted and completed at the college; and

2-62 (2) any other relevant information required by
 2-63 coordinating board rule.

2-64 (c) The coordinating board may adopt rules necessary to
 2-65 implement this section.

2-66 SECTION 2. Subchapter H, Chapter 51, Education Code, is
 2-67 amended by adding Section 51.4035 to read as follows:

2-68 Sec. 51.4035. PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION REGARDING DENIAL
 2-69 OF TRANSFER CREDIT. (a) Each institution of higher education shall

3-1 maintain on the admissions page of the institution's Internet
3-2 website a list of:

3-3 (1) the five majors or degree or certificate programs
3-4 offered by the institution with the highest number of courses for
3-5 which academic credit is denied or not applied toward the major or
3-6 program; and

3-7 (2) the five courses for each major or degree or
3-8 certificate program described by Subdivision (1) for which academic
3-9 credit is most frequently denied because the credit is not
3-10 applicable toward the major or program.

3-11 (b) The coordinating board annually shall provide to each
3-12 institution of higher education a list of the courses described by
3-13 Subsection (a)(2).

3-14 (c) The coordinating board may adopt rules necessary to
3-15 implement this section.

3-16 SECTION 3. Subchapter S, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
3-17 amended by adding Section 61.8231 to read as follows:

3-18 Sec. 61.8231. TRANSFER LIAISON. (a) Each institution of
3-19 higher education, using existing resources, shall designate at
3-20 least one employee of the institution to serve as a single point of
3-21 contact for other institutions of higher education and the board
3-22 regarding transfer issues and to act as a liaison officer for
3-23 current or incoming students at the institution who will transfer
3-24 into or out of the institution.

3-25 (b) On a transfer or request to transfer to or from an
3-26 institution of higher education, the institution's transfer
3-27 liaison shall provide a current, former, or prospective student, as
3-28 applicable, with:

3-29 (1) a complete and current list of the institution's
3-30 core curriculum applicable to the student;

3-31 (2) a complete and current list of the institution's
3-32 field of study curricula that may be applicable to the student;

3-33 (3) for a receiving institution, a list of courses
3-34 completed by the student:

3-35 (A) for which the institution will accept
3-36 academic credit; and

3-37 (B) for which the institution proposes to deny
3-38 academic credit in accordance with Section 61.826, including the
3-39 procedures for credit transfer dispute required by that section;
3-40 and

3-41 (4) any other information required by board rule.

3-42 (c) On the admission of a transfer student, the receiving
3-43 institution of higher education's transfer liaison shall assist the
3-44 student in obtaining a degree audit to determine whether the
3-45 student's completed coursework satisfies the institution's core
3-46 curriculum, satisfies a field of study curriculum of the
3-47 institution, or qualifies the student to be awarded a Texas Direct
3-48 associate degree under Section 61.834 or any other degree or
3-49 certificate offered by the institution.

3-50 (d) The board shall adopt rules necessary to implement this
3-51 section.

3-52 SECTION 4. This Act applies beginning with the 2025-2026
3-53 academic year.

3-54 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
3-55 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
3-56 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3-57 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
3-58 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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