

By: VanDeaver

H.B. No. 2110

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to public higher education.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 28.0095(c), (e), and (f), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(c) A student is eligible to enroll at no cost in a dual credit course under the program if the student:

(1) is enrolled:

(A) in a grade level from 9 through 12 [~~high school~~] in a school district or charter school; and

(B) in a dual credit course at a participating institution of higher education; and

(2) was educationally disadvantaged at any time during:

(A) the school year in which the student enrolls in the dual credit course described by Subdivision (1)(B); or

(B) the four school years preceding the student's enrollment in the dual credit course described by Subdivision (1)(B).

(e) Each school district or charter school shall:

(1) on the [~~a high school student's~~] enrollment of a student in a grade level from 9 through 12 in a dual credit course, determine whether the student meets the criteria for the program under Subsection (c)(2); and

1 (2) notify the institution of higher education that
2 offers the dual credit course in which the student is enrolled of
3 the district's or school's determination under Subdivision (1).

4 (f) A school district or charter school may make the
5 determination under Subsection (e)(1) based on the district's or
6 school's records, the agency's records, or any other method
7 authorized by commissioner or coordinating board rule. If the
8 district or school bases the determination on a method other than
9 the agency's records, the district or school shall report the
10 method used and the data on which the method is based to the agency
11 for purposes of verification. The agency shall make available to
12 school districts and charter schools the data necessary for making
13 the determination required under Subsection (e)(1).

14 SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 54, Education Code, is
15 amended by adding Section 54.215 to read as follows:

16 Sec. 54.215. FINANCIAL AID FOR SWIFT TRANSFER (FAST)
17 PROGRAM. The governing board of an institution of higher education
18 participating in the Financial Aid for Swift Transfer (FAST)
19 program under Section 28.0095 shall exempt from the payment of
20 tuition and required fees for a dual credit course, as defined by
21 that section, a student who is eligible for the program.

22 SECTION 3. Section 61.003(2), Education Code, is amended to
23 read as follows:

24 (2) "Public junior college" means any junior college
25 associated with a junior college district described by Subchapter
26 J, Chapter 130 [~~listed as a public junior college in accordance with~~
27 ~~Section 61.063~~].

1 SECTION 4. Subchapter B, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
2 amended by adding Section 61.0275 to read as follows:

3 Sec. 61.0275. ADOPTION BY REFERENCE. The board may adopt by
4 reference a manual or policy document as a rule.

5 SECTION 5. Section 130A.005, Education Code, is amended by
6 adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

7 (d) The coordinating board may use the emergency rulemaking
8 procedures established under Section 2001.034, Government Code, to
9 adopt rules necessary to align the funding formulas under this
10 chapter with appropriations or other legislative action. The
11 coordinating board is not required to make the finding described by
12 Section 2001.034(a), Government Code, to adopt rules under this
13 subsection.

14 SECTION 6. Section 130A.101(c), Education Code, is amended
15 to read as follows:

16 (c) The measurable outcomes considered for purposes of
17 performance tier funding are:

18 (1) the number of credentials of value awarded, as
19 determined by the coordinating board based on analyses of wages and
20 costs associated with the credential, including degrees,
21 certificates, and other credentials from credit and non-credit
22 programs that equip students for continued learning and greater
23 earnings in the state economy, with an additional weight for
24 placement of students who earn that credential in a high-demand
25 occupation, as defined by coordinating board rule, or an
26 appropriate proxy determined by the coordinating board based on
27 available data;

1 (2) the number of students who earn at least 15
2 semester credit hours or the equivalent at the junior college
3 district and:

4 (A) subsequently transfer to:

5 (i) a general academic teaching
6 institution, as that term is defined by Section 61.003; or

7 (ii) a private or independent institution
8 of higher education, as that term is defined by Section 61.003, that
9 offers four-year degree programs; or

10 (B) are enrolled in a structured co-enrollment
11 program, as authorized by coordinating board rule; and

12 (3) the number of students who complete a sequence of
13 at least 15 semester credit hours or the equivalent for dual credit
14 or dual enrollment courses, as defined by coordinating board rule,
15 that apply toward academic or workforce program requirements at the
16 postsecondary level.

17 SECTION 7. Section 28.0095, Education Code, as amended by
18 this Act, applies beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

19 SECTION 8. Section 54.215, Education Code, as added by this
20 Act, applies beginning with tuition and required fees charged for
21 the 2025 fall semester. Tuition and required fees charged for an
22 academic period before that semester are governed by the law in
23 effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and the
24 former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

25 SECTION 9. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this
26 section, this Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of
27 two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by

1 Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not
2 receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes
3 effect September 1, 2025.

4 (b) Section 130A.101(c), Education Code, as amended by this
5 Act, takes effect September 1, 2025.