



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB3300

Introduced 2/18/2025, by Rep. Katie Stuart

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

110 ILCS 205/7	from Ch. 144, par. 187
110 ILCS 1005/3	from Ch. 144, par. 123
110 ILCS 1005/4.5	
110 ILCS 1010/5	from Ch. 144, par. 235
110 ILCS 1010/6	from Ch. 144, par. 236

Amends the Board of Higher Education Act. Removes language providing that: each State university shall report annually to the Board on programs of instruction, research, or public service that have been terminated, dissolved, reduced, or consolidated by the university, and all programs of instruction, research, and public service that exhibit a trend of low performance in enrollments, degree completions, and high expense per degree; and the Board shall compile an annual report that shall contain information on new programs created, existing programs that have been closed or consolidated, and programs that exhibit low performance or productivity. Instead, requires the Board to annually identify and provide to each public university certain programs of instruction that exhibit indicators of low performance in enrollment, degree completion, and relative high expense per degree, and for each public university to review such information and report annually to the Board with its proposed performance improvement plan for each identified program. Requires the Board to report annually on the instructional programs offered at public institutions of higher education, to show number, types, and locations of instructional programs, new programs created, existing programs that have been closed or consolidated as a result of the review and report above, and other information relevant to assessing the State's portfolio of programs. Requires the report to be submitted to the General Assembly and the Governor (not only the General Assembly). Amends the Private College Act. Provides that applications submitted to the Board of Higher Education shall contain a statement, among others, regarding the tuition schedule. For a disclosure regarding heightened monitoring of the institution's finances, requires the disclosure to be made, among others, by written notice to the Board. Amends the Academic Degree Act. Requires an educational organization or entity that awards degrees and qualifies for degree granting to maintain appropriate accreditation to provide educational programming. Makes other changes. Effective immediately.

LRB104 10496 LNS 20571 b

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Board of Higher Education Act is amended by
5 changing Section 7 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 205/7) (from Ch. 144, par. 187)

7 Sec. 7. The Board of Trustees of the University of
8 Illinois, the Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois
9 University, the Board of Trustees of Chicago State University,
10 the Board of Trustees of Eastern Illinois University, the
11 Board of Trustees of Governors State University, the Board of
12 Trustees of Illinois State University, the Board of Trustees
13 of Northeastern Illinois University, the Board of Trustees of
14 Northern Illinois University, the Board of Trustees of Western
15 Illinois University, the Illinois Community College Board and
16 the campuses under their governance or supervision shall not
17 hereafter undertake the establishment of any new unit of
18 instruction, research, or public service without the approval
19 of the Board. The term "new unit of instruction, research, or
20 public service" includes the establishment of a college,
21 school, division, institute, department, or other unit in any
22 field of instruction, research, or public service not
23 theretofore included in the program of the institution, and

1 includes the establishment of any new branch or campus. The
2 term does not include reasonable and moderate extensions of
3 existing curricula, research, or public service programs which
4 have a direct relationship to existing programs; and the Board
5 may, under its rulemaking power, define the character of such
6 reasonable and moderate extensions.

7 Such governing boards shall submit to the Board all
8 proposals for a new unit of instruction, research, or public
9 service. The Board may approve or disapprove the proposal in
10 whole or in part or approve modifications thereof whenever in
11 its judgment such action is consistent with the objectives of
12 an existing or proposed statewide strategic plan of higher
13 education.

14 The Board of Higher Education is authorized to review
15 periodically all academic master plans all existing programs
16 of instruction, research, and public service at public
17 institutions of higher education, excluding public community
18 colleges of the State, ~~the State universities and colleges~~ and
19 to advise the appropriate board of control if the contribution
20 of each program is not educationally and economically
21 justified. The Board shall annually identify and provide to
22 each public university certain programs of instruction that
23 exhibit indicators of low performance in enrollment, degree
24 completion, and relative high expense per degree. Each public
25 university shall review this information, together with any
26 other relevant information, and report annually to the Board

1 with its proposed performance improvement plan for each
2 identified program, using a rubric provided by the Board,
3 including programs to be closed or consolidated. The Board
4 shall report annually on the instructional programs offered at
5 public institutions of higher education, to show number,
6 types, and locations of instructional programs, new programs
7 created, existing programs that have been closed or
8 consolidated as a result of the review and report above, and
9 other information relevant to assessing the State's portfolio
10 of programs. ~~Each State university shall report annually to~~
11 ~~the Board on programs of instruction, research, or public~~
12 ~~service that have been terminated, dissolved, reduced, or~~
13 ~~consolidated by the university. Each State university shall~~
14 ~~also report to the Board all programs of instruction,~~
15 ~~research, and public service that exhibit a trend of low~~
16 ~~performance in enrollments, degree completions, and high~~
17 ~~expense per degree. The Board shall compile an annual report~~
18 ~~that shall contain information on new programs created,~~
19 ~~existing programs that have been closed or consolidated, and~~
20 ~~programs that exhibit low performance or productivity. The~~
21 ~~report must be submitted to the General Assembly and the~~
22 Governor. The Board shall have the authority to define
23 relevant terms and timelines by rule with respect to this
24 reporting.

25 (Source: P.A. 101-81, eff. 7-12-19; 102-1046, eff. 6-7-22.)

1 Section 10. The Private College Act is amended by changing
2 Sections 3 and 4.5 as follows:

3 (110 ILCS 1005/3) (from Ch. 144, par. 123)

4 Sec. 3. (a) Applications submitted to the Board for a
5 certificate of approval to operate a post-secondary
6 educational institution shall contain a statement of the
7 following:

8 1. the proposed name of the institution and its
9 proposed location;

10 2. the nature, extent and purposes of the courses of
11 study to be given;

12 3. the fees to be charged, ~~and~~ the conditions under
13 which the fees are to be paid, and tuition schedule that
14 includes, but is not limited to, tuition rates per course
15 or unit of work;

16 4. the education and experience of the members of the
17 teaching staff;

18 5. the degrees to be issued to students upon
19 completion of courses of instruction.

20 (b) The Board may not approve any application for a
21 certificate of approval that has been plagiarized, in part or
22 in whole. Additionally, the Board may not approve any
23 application that has not been completed in its entirety and
24 such application shall be returned to the post-secondary
25 educational institution.

1 (Source: P.A. 102-1046, eff. 6-7-22.)

2 (110 ILCS 1005/4.5)

3 Sec. 4.5. Disclosure of heightened monitoring of finances.
4 Any institution with a certificate of approval under this Act
5 is required to make the following disclosures:

6 (1) If the United States Department of Education
7 places the institution on either the Heightened Cash
8 Monitoring 2 payment method or the reimbursement payment
9 method, as authorized under 34 CFR 668.162, a clear and
10 conspicuous disclosure that the United States Department
11 of Education has heightened monitoring of the
12 institution's finances and the reason for such monitoring.
13 Such disclosure shall be made by the institution within 14
14 days of the action of the United States Department of
15 Education by (i) notice ~~both~~ on the institution's website,
16 (ii) notice ~~and~~ to all students and prospective students
17 on a form prescribed by the Board, and (iii) written
18 notice to the Board.

19 (2) Any other disclosure the Board requires by rule
20 adopted pursuant to this Act.

21 (Source: P.A. 102-1046, eff. 6-7-22.)

22 Section 15. The Academic Degree Act is amended by changing
23 Sections 5 and 6 as follows:

1 (110 ILCS 1010/5) (from Ch. 144, par. 235)

2 Sec. 5. Degrees by other than residence institutions. ~~)(a)~~

3 Any educational organization or entity which does not conduct
4 instruction in residence may award degrees and qualify as a
5 degree granting institution upon approval by the Board. Such
6 approval shall be given only if the Board finds that the
7 applicant, organization or entity:

8 (1) Maintains physical facilities suitable and sufficient
9 to the giving of a program or programs of instruction of degree
10 caliber in the field or fields wherein it proposes to grant
11 degrees;

12 (2) Maintains a suitable and sufficient faculty for
13 instruction in its degree granting program or programs;

14 (3) Maintains its student records in a safe and suitable
15 place so that there is reasonable assurance that they are and
16 will remain available for all normal purposes for a reasonable
17 period of time;

18 (4) Maintains financial ~~a~~ stability sufficient to carry
19 out its obligations under the enrollment contracts; ~~and~~

20 (5) Maintains appropriate accreditation to provide
21 educational programming; and

22 (6) ~~(5)~~ Complies with all provisions of this Act other
23 than the requirement for instruction in residence.

24 (Source: P.A. 80-1309.)

25 (110 ILCS 1010/6) (from Ch. 144, par. 236)

1 Sec. 6. Right of inspection; penalty for refusal or
2 obstruction. Any duly authorized employee or other
3 representative of the Board may, announced or unannounced,
4 enter upon the premises of any degree granting institution or
5 may have access through electronic means to inspect or
6 otherwise examine the same and any books, papers or other
7 records pertaining to the degree granting program of such
8 institution including, but not limited to, financial records
9 such as balance sheets, income statements, and cash flow
10 statements. For failure to permit such entry, inspection or
11 examination or for obstruction thereof, the Board may
12 invalidate any notice filed with it by the degree granting
13 institution and revoke any authorization made pursuant to
14 Section 4 of this Act and may refuse to accept another notice
15 from or on behalf of such institution or any person connected
16 with the administration thereof until such refusal or
17 obstruction has been withdrawn. Any action taken pursuant to
18 this Section shall be in addition to any other penalty which
19 may be imposed for violation of this Act.

20 (Source: P.A. 102-1046, eff. 6-7-22.)

21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
22 becoming law.