

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 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Public  
5 University Uniform Admission Pilot Program Act.

6 Section 5. Definition. In this Act, "institution" means,  
7 except for the University of Illinois, Illinois State  
8 University, Governors State University, Northeastern Illinois  
9 University, and Chicago State University, a public university  
10 in this State.

11 Section 10. Uniform admission system pilot program.  
12 Beginning with the 2020-2021 academic year, each institution  
13 shall create a 4-year uniform admission system pilot program  
14 under this Act to admit first-time freshman students for each  
15 semester of the pilot program.

16 Section 15. Automatic admission.

17 (a) Each institution shall admit an applicant for general  
18 admission to the institution as an undergraduate student if the  
19 applicant graduated with a grade point average in the top 10%  
20 or was certified to be in the top 10% of the student's high  
21 school graduating class in one of the 2 school years preceding

1 the academic year for which the applicant is applying for  
2 admission and:

3 (1) the applicant graduated from a public or private  
4 high school in this State accredited by a generally  
5 recognized accrediting organization or from a high school  
6 operated by the United States Department of Defense;

7 (2) the applicant:

8 (A) successfully completed the minimum college  
9 preparatory curriculum requirements established by law  
10 for admission to the institution; and

11 (B) satisfied the ACT college admission assessment  
12 or the SAT college admission assessment composite  
13 score and subscores required for admission to the  
14 institution to which the applicant applied as well as  
15 any composite scores or subscores for colleges within  
16 that institution; and

17 (3) if the applicant graduated from a high school  
18 operated by the United States Department of Defense, the  
19 applicant is a State resident or is entitled to pay tuition  
20 fees at the rate provided for State residents for the term  
21 or semester to which admitted.

22 (b) An applicant who does not satisfy the curriculum  
23 requirements prescribed by item (A) of subdivision (2) of  
24 subsection (a) of this Section is considered to have satisfied  
25 those requirements for the purposes of this Act if the student  
26 completed the portion of the college preparatory curriculum

1 that was available to the student but was unable to complete  
2 the remainder of the curriculum solely because courses  
3 necessary to complete the remainder were unavailable to the  
4 student at the appropriate times in the student's high school  
5 career as a result of course scheduling, lack of enrollment  
6 capacity, or another cause not within the student's control. An  
7 institution may require a student's successful completion of  
8 such curriculum requirements prior to or concurrently with  
9 enrollment at the institution.

10 (c) An applicant who graduates in a graduating class of a  
11 school, whether public or non-public, that has so few students  
12 that class rank does not make a reliable contribution toward  
13 assessing the student's college readiness is considered to have  
14 satisfied the requirements of subsection (a) of this Section if  
15 the student has a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a  
16 4-point scale and has met the requirements of item (A) or (B)  
17 of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this Section.

18 Section 20. Admission requirements.

19 (a) To qualify for admission under this Act, an applicant  
20 must:

21 (1) submit an application before the expiration of any  
22 application filing deadline established by the  
23 institution; and

24 (2) provide a high school transcript or diploma that  
25 satisfies the requirements of subsection (b) of this

1 Section.

2 (b) For purposes of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of  
3 this Section, a student's official transcript or diploma must,  
4 not later than the end of the student's junior year, indicate:

5 (1) whether the student has satisfied or is on schedule  
6 to satisfy the requirements of item (A) of subdivision (2)  
7 of subsection (a) of Section 15 of this Act; or

8 (2) if subsection (b) of Section 15 of this Act applies  
9 to the student, whether the student has completed the  
10 portion of the college preparatory curriculum that was  
11 available to the student.

12 Section 25. Graduates of nonaccredited private schools.

13 (a) As used in this Section, "nonaccredited secondary  
14 education" means a course of study at the secondary school  
15 level in a nonaccredited private school setting.

16 (b) Because the State of Illinois considers successful  
17 completion of a nonaccredited secondary education to be  
18 equivalent to graduation from a public high school, an  
19 institution, in complying with this Act and for all other  
20 purposes, must treat an applicant for admission to the  
21 institution as an undergraduate student who presents evidence  
22 that he or she has successfully completed a nonaccredited  
23 secondary education according to the same general standards,  
24 including specific standardized testing score requirements, as  
25 other applicants for undergraduate admission who have

1 graduated from a public high school.

2 (c) An institution may not require an applicant for  
3 admission to the institution as an undergraduate student who  
4 presents evidence that he or she has successfully completed a  
5 nonaccredited secondary education to:

6 (1) obtain or submit evidence that the person has  
7 obtained a general educational development certificate,  
8 certificate of high school equivalency, or other  
9 credentials equivalent to a public high school degree; or

10 (2) take an examination or comply with any other  
11 application or admission requirement not generally  
12 applicable to other applicants for undergraduate admission  
13 to the institution.

14 (d) In complying with this Act or otherwise, when an  
15 institution in its undergraduate admission review process  
16 sorts or is required to sort applicants by high school  
17 graduating class rank, the institution shall place any  
18 applicant who presents evidence that the applicant has  
19 successfully completed a nonaccredited secondary education  
20 that does not include a high school graduating class ranking at  
21 the average high school graduating class rank of undergraduate  
22 applicants to the institution who have equivalent standardized  
23 testing scores as the applicant.

24 (e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, with  
25 respect to admission into the institution or any program within  
26 the institution, with respect to scholarship programs, and with

1 respect to other terms and conditions, and in complying with  
2 this Act, an institution may not treat an applicant who has  
3 successfully completed a nonaccredited secondary education  
4 that does not include a high school graduating class ranking  
5 differently than an applicant who graduated from an accredited  
6 public school.

7 Section 30. Admission for child of fallen police officer,  
8 firefighter, or Department of Corrections employee. Each  
9 institution shall admit an applicant for admission to the  
10 institution as an undergraduate student if the applicant:

11 (1) is the child of a police officer or firefighter  
12 employed by or in the voluntary service of this State or  
13 any local public entity in this State who was killed or  
14 sustained a fatal injury in the line of duty or is the  
15 child of an employee of the Department of Corrections who  
16 was assigned to a security position with the Department  
17 with responsibility for inmates of a correctional  
18 institution under the jurisdiction of the Department and  
19 who was killed or sustained a fatal injury in the line of  
20 duty;

21 (2) meets the minimum requirements, if any,  
22 established for purposes of this Section by the governing  
23 board of the institution for high school or prior  
24 college-level grade point average and performance on  
25 standardized tests; and

1           (3) satisfies the ACT college admission assessment or  
2           the SAT college admission assessment composite score and  
3           subscores required for admission to the institution to  
4           which the applicant applied as well as any composite scores  
5           or subscores for colleges within that institution.

6           Section 35. Additional preparation for college. After  
7           admitting an applicant under this Act, the institution shall  
8           review the applicant's record and any other factor the  
9           institution considers appropriate to determine whether the  
10          applicant may require additional preparation for college-level  
11          work or would benefit from inclusion in a retention program.  
12          The institution may require a student so identified to enroll  
13          during the summer immediately after the student is admitted  
14          under this Act to participate in appropriate enrichment courses  
15          and orientation programs. This Act does not prohibit a student  
16          who is not determined to need additional preparation for  
17          college-level work from enrolling, if the student chooses,  
18          during the summer immediately after the student is admitted  
19          under this Act.

20          Section 40. Student outreach program. The Illinois Student  
21          Assistance Commission, by rule, shall develop and implement a  
22          program to increase and enhance the efforts of institutions in  
23          conducting outreach to academically high-performing high  
24          school seniors in this State who are likely to be eligible for

1 automatic admission under Section 15 of this Act to provide to  
2 those students information and counseling regarding the  
3 operation of this Act and other opportunities, including  
4 financial assistance, available to those students for success  
5 at institutions.

6 Section 45. Fall or summer enrollment. An institution that  
7 admits, under this Act, an applicant qualified for automatic  
8 admission under Section 15 of this Act may admit the applicant  
9 for either the fall semester of the academic year for which the  
10 applicant applies or for the summer session preceding that fall  
11 semester, as determined by the institution.

12 Section 50. Admissions denial; reference to Act. If an  
13 institution denies admission to an applicant for an academic  
14 year, then, in any letter or other communication the  
15 institution provides to the applicant notifying the applicant  
16 of that denial, the institution may not reference the  
17 provisions of this Act, including using a description of a  
18 provision of this Act such as "the top 10% automatic admissions  
19 law", as a reason the institution is unable to offer admission  
20 to the applicant, unless the number of applicants for admission  
21 to the institution for that academic year who qualify for  
22 automatic admission under Section 15 of this Act is sufficient  
23 to fill 100% of the institution's enrollment capacity  
24 designated for first-time resident undergraduate students.

1           Section 90. Rules. The Board of Higher Education and the  
2           Illinois Student Assistance Commission may adopt any rules  
3           necessary to implement this Act.

4           Section 95. Repeal. This Act is repealed on July 1, 2025.