



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB5453

Introduced 2/9/2024, by Rep. Carol Ammons

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

110 ILCS 118/1
110 ILCS 118/10
110 ILCS 118/17 new

Amends the Public University Uniform Admission Pilot Program Act. Changes the short title of the Act to the Public University Direct Admission Program Act. Repeals the provisions concerning the uniform admission system pilot program on December 31, 2025. Provides that, beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year, the Board of Higher Education, in collaboration with the Illinois Community College Board, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, and the State Board of Education, shall establish and administer a direct admission program to automatically offer admission to a public university to qualified high school seniors in this State and public community college students in this State who qualify to transfer to a public university. Provides that under the direct admission program, a public university is required to offer admission to any high school senior who meets the public university's coursework standards for admission and to any public community college transfer student who meets specified criteria. Sets forth program and reporting requirements. Effective immediately.

LRB103 38846 RJT 68983 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 Public University Uniform Admission Pilot
5 Program Act is amended by changing Sections 1 and 10 and by
6 adding Section 17 as follows:

7 (110 ILCS 118/1)

8 (Section scheduled to be repealed on July 1, 2027)

9 Sec. 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Public
10 University Direct ~~Uniform~~ Admission ~~Pilot~~ Program Act.

11 (Source: P.A. 101-448, eff. 1-1-20.)

12 (110 ILCS 118/10)

13 (Section scheduled to be repealed on July 1, 2027)

14 Sec. 10. Uniform admission system pilot program.

15 (a) Beginning with the 2020-2021 academic year, each
16 institution, except for the University of Illinois, shall
17 create a 4-year uniform admission system pilot program under
18 this Act to admit first-time freshman students for each
19 semester of the pilot program.

20 (b) Beginning with the 2022-2023 academic year, the
21 University of Illinois shall create a 4-year uniform admission
22 system pilot program under this Act to admit community college

1 transfer students for each semester of the pilot program.

2 The University of Illinois provides multiple pathways to
3 transfer and shall guarantee admission to all applicants who:

4 (1) have enrolled only at an Illinois community
5 college after graduating from an Illinois high school;

6 (2) have earned a minimum of 36 graded, transferable
7 semester hours at the time of application to the
8 University. Students are encouraged to consult the
9 Illinois Articulation Initiative general education core
10 curriculum course list and other resources at the State
11 and University level to determine course transferability;

12 (3) have attained a minimum grade point average of 3.0
13 in all transferable coursework completed at the time of
14 application to the University; and

15 (4) have satisfied the University's English language
16 proficiency requirement.

17 (c) Beginning with the 2024-2025 academic year, each
18 institution shall create a 4-year uniform admission system
19 pilot program under this Act to admit community college
20 transfer students for each semester of the pilot program. This
21 subsection does not apply to a university that already has a
22 uniform admission policy for transfer students equal to or
23 less restrictive than that prescribed in this Section and
24 maintains that policy for the duration of the effective period
25 of this subsection.

26 At a minimum, the universities shall guarantee admission

1 to all applicants who:

2 (1) have enrolled at a State community college after
3 graduating from a State high school;

4 (2) have earned a minimum of 36 graded, transferable
5 semester hours at the time of application to the
6 university; students are encouraged to consult the
7 Illinois Articulation Initiative general education core
8 curriculum course list and other resources at the State
9 and university level to determine course transferability;

10 (3) have attained a minimum grade point average of 3.0
11 in all transferable coursework completed at the time of
12 application to the university; and

13 (4) have satisfied the university's English language
14 proficiency requirement.

15 Nothing in this Section prohibits institutions from
16 establishing or implementing less restrictive uniform
17 admission transfer policies.

18 (d) This Section is repealed on December 31, 2025.

19 (Source: P.A. 102-187, eff. 1-1-22; 103-205, eff. 1-1-24.)

20 (110 ILCS 118/17 new)

21 Sec. 17. Direct admission program.

22 (a) In this Section, "Public university" means the
23 University of Illinois, Southern Illinois University, Chicago
24 State University, Eastern Illinois University, Governors State
25 University, Illinois State University, Northeastern Illinois

1 University, Northern Illinois University, Western Illinois
2 University, or any other public university now or hereafter
3 established or authorized by the General Assembly.

4 (b) Beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year, the Board
5 of Higher Education, in collaboration with the Illinois
6 Community College Board, the Illinois Student Assistance
7 Commission, and the State Board of Education, shall establish
8 and administer a direct admission program to automatically
9 offer admission into a public university to qualified high
10 school seniors in this State and to public community college
11 students in this State who qualify to transfer to a public
12 university.

13 (c) Under the direct admission program, a public
14 university shall be required to offer admission to any high
15 school senior who meets the public university's coursework
16 standards for admission and to any public community college
17 transfer student who meets all of the following requirements:

18 (1) Is enrolled at a public community college in this
19 State

20 (2) Has earned a minimum of 37 hours in the Illinois
21 Articulation Initiative General Education Core Curriculum.

22 (3) Has attained a minimum cumulative grade point
23 average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent in all
24 transferable coursework completed at the time of
25 application to the public university.

26 (4) Has satisfied the public university's English

1 language proficiency requirement.

2 (d) In establishing the direct admission program, the
3 Board of Higher Education shall specifically evaluate the
4 impact on low-income students, students of color, first
5 generation college students, students from populations
6 underserved in higher education, and students from rural areas
7 of this State.

8 (e) The direct admission program shall utilize data and
9 technology from the State Board of Education, the Illinois
10 Student Assistance Commission, and the Illinois Community
11 College Board or shall gather data and develop the technology
12 to automatically inform high school seniors and community
13 college transfer students of direct admission into the public
14 universities for which the students qualify or may utilize the
15 services of a statewide student application aggregation
16 vendor.

17 (f) The direct admission program shall provide admitted
18 high school seniors and community college transfer students
19 with the web address for the Illinois Student Assistance
20 Commission to find information regarding State grant programs,
21 support for financial aid application completion, and
22 scholarship searches and other financial aid-related
23 information and shall encourage students to determine their
24 eligibility for financial aid based on the Free Application
25 for Federal Student Aid or, if applicable, an application for
26 State financial aid.

1 (g) The Board of Higher Education shall submit a report on
2 the direct admission program to the Governor and General
3 Assembly by February 1, 2026 and each February 1 thereafter.
4 The report shall include, but is not limited to, information
5 related to implementation of the direct admission program, the
6 demographic and geographic data of students offered direct
7 admission and the public university to which direct admission
8 was offered, the demographic and geographic data of high
9 school seniors who accepted direct admission and enrolled in
10 the public university that offered that direct admission,
11 annual comparable enrollment data of high school seniors and
12 community college transfer students, and recommendations to
13 improve the direct admission program.

14 (h) Notwithstanding any other provision or law to the
15 contrary, all public institutions of higher education, the
16 State Board of Education, the Illinois Community College
17 Board, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, and any
18 other State agency that collects pertinent data shall furnish
19 such data and information to the Board of Higher Education as
20 the Board of Higher Education deems necessary to fulfill the
21 requirements of this Section.

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