

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 University of Illinois Act is amended by
5 changing Section 8 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 305/8) (from Ch. 144, par. 29)

7 Sec. 8. Admissions.

8 (a) (Blank).

9 (b) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any
10 of the departments or colleges of the University unless such
11 student also has satisfactorily completed:

12 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
13 the following 5 categories:

14 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
15 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2
16 years may be collegiate level instruction;

17 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
18 and government);

19 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
20 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
21 fundamentals of computer programming);

22 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences or
23 agricultural sciences); and

1 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language
2 (which may be deemed to include American Sign
3 Language), music, career and technical education,
4 agricultural education, or art;

5 (2) except that institutions may admit individual
6 applicants if the institution determines through
7 assessment or through evaluation based on learning
8 outcomes of the coursework taken, including career and
9 technical education courses and courses taken in a charter
10 school established under Article 27A of the School Code,
11 that the applicant demonstrates knowledge and skills
12 substantially equivalent to the knowledge and skills
13 expected to be acquired in the high school courses
14 required for admission. The Board of Trustees of the
15 University of Illinois shall not discriminate in the
16 University's admissions process against an applicant for
17 admission because of the applicant's enrollment in a
18 charter school established under Article 27A of the School
19 Code. Institutions may also admit 1) applicants who did
20 not have an opportunity to complete the minimum college
21 preparatory curriculum in high school, and 2)
22 educationally disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to
23 the formal organized special assistance programs that are
24 tailored to the needs of such students, providing that in
25 either case, the institution incorporates in the
26 applicant's baccalaureate curriculum courses or other

1 academic activities that compensate for course
2 deficiencies; and

3 (3) except that up to 3 of the 15 units of coursework
4 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
5 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
6 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
7 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
8 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

9 (c) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall
10 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
11 coursework required by subsection (b).

12 (d) A student who has graduated from high school and has
13 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or
14 SAT shall not be required to take a high school equivalency
15 test as a prerequisite to admission.

16 (e) The Board of Trustees shall establish an admissions
17 process in which honorably discharged veterans are permitted
18 to submit an application for admission to the University as a
19 freshman student enrolling in the spring semester if the
20 veteran was on active duty during the fall semester. The
21 University may request that the Department of Veterans'
22 Affairs confirm the status of an applicant as an honorably
23 discharged veteran who was on active duty during the fall
24 semester.

25 (f) Beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year, the
26 University of Trustees shall provide all Illinois students

1 transferring from a public community college in this State
2 with the University's undergraduate transfer admissions
3 application fee waiver policy and, if such a policy exists,
4 any application or forms necessary to apply for a fee waiver as
5 part of the University's transfer admissions process. The
6 University is encouraged to develop a policy to automatically
7 wave the undergraduate transfer admissions application fee
8 for low-income Illinois students transferring from a public
9 community college in this State. The University shall post
10 this policy in an easily accessible place on the University's
11 Internet website.

12 (Source: P.A. 102-403, eff. 1-1-22; 102-404, eff. 1-1-22.)

13 Section 10. The Southern Illinois University Management
14 Act is amended by changing Section 8e as follows:

15 (110 ILCS 520/8e) (from Ch. 144, par. 658e)

16 Sec. 8e. Admissions.

17 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any
18 of the departments or colleges of the University unless such
19 student also has satisfactorily completed:

20 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
21 the following 5 categories:

22 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
23 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2
24 years may be collegiate level instruction;

1 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
2 and government);

3 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
4 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
5 fundamentals of computer programming);

6 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences or
7 agricultural sciences); and

8 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language
9 (which may be deemed to include American Sign
10 Language), music, career and technical education,
11 agricultural education, or art;

12 (2) except that institutions may admit individual
13 applicants if the institution determines through
14 assessment or through evaluation based on learning
15 outcomes of the coursework taken, including career and
16 technical education courses and courses taken in a charter
17 school established under Article 27A of the School Code,
18 that the applicant demonstrates knowledge and skills
19 substantially equivalent to the knowledge and skills
20 expected to be acquired in the high school courses
21 required for admission. The Board of Trustees of Southern
22 Illinois University shall not discriminate in the
23 University's admissions process against an applicant for
24 admission because of the applicant's enrollment in a
25 charter school established under Article 27A of the School
26 Code. Institutions may also admit 1) applicants who did

1 not have an opportunity to complete the minimum college
2 preparatory curriculum in high school, and 2)
3 educationally disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to
4 the formal organized special assistance programs that are
5 tailored to the needs of such students, providing that in
6 either case, the institution incorporates in the
7 applicant's baccalaureate curriculum courses or other
8 academic activities that compensate for course
9 deficiencies; and

10 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework
11 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
12 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
13 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
14 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
15 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

16 (b) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall
17 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
18 coursework required by subsection (a).

19 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has
20 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or
21 SAT shall not be required to take a high school equivalency
22 test as a prerequisite to admission.

23 (d) The Board shall establish an admissions process in
24 which honorably discharged veterans are permitted to submit an
25 application for admission to the University as a freshman
26 student enrolling in the spring semester if the veteran was on

1 active duty during the fall semester. The University may
2 request that the Department of Veterans' Affairs confirm the
3 status of an applicant as an honorably discharged veteran who
4 was on active duty during the fall semester.

5 (e) Beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year, the
6 University shall provide all Illinois students transferring
7 from a public community college in this State with the
8 University's undergraduate transfer admissions application fee
9 waiver policy and, if such a policy exists, any application or
10 forms necessary to apply for a fee waiver as part of the
11 University's transfer admissions process. The University is
12 encouraged to develop a policy to automatically waive the
13 undergraduate transfer admissions application fee for
14 low-income Illinois students transferring from a public
15 community college in this State. The University shall post
16 this policy in an easily accessible place on the University's
17 Internet website.

18 (Source: P.A. 102-403, eff. 1-1-22; 102-404, eff. 1-1-22.)

19 Section 15. The Chicago State University Law is amended by
20 changing Section 5-85 as follows:

21 (110 ILCS 660/5-85)

22 Sec. 5-85. Admissions.

23 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any
24 of the departments or colleges of the Chicago State University

1 unless such student also has satisfactorily completed:

2 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
3 the following 5 categories:

4 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
5 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2
6 years may be collegiate level instruction;

7 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
8 and government);

9 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
10 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
11 fundamentals of computer programming);

12 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences or
13 agricultural sciences); and

14 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language
15 (which may be deemed to include American Sign
16 Language), music, career and technical education,
17 agricultural education, or art;

18 (2) except that Chicago State University may admit
19 individual applicants if it determines through assessment
20 or through evaluation based on learning outcomes of the
21 coursework taken, including career and technical education
22 courses and courses taken in a charter school established
23 under Article 27A of the School Code, that the applicant
24 demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially equivalent
25 to the knowledge and skills expected to be acquired in the
26 high school courses required for admission. The Board of

1 Trustees of Chicago State University shall not
2 discriminate in the University's admissions process
3 against an applicant for admission because of the
4 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established
5 under Article 27A of the School Code. Chicago State
6 University may also admit (i) applicants who did not have
7 an opportunity to complete the minimum college preparatory
8 curriculum in high school, and (ii) educationally
9 disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to the formal
10 organized special assistance programs that are tailored to
11 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,
12 the institution incorporates in the applicant's
13 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic
14 activities that compensate for course deficiencies; and

15 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework
16 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
17 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
18 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
19 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
20 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

21 (b) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall
22 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
23 coursework required by subsection (a).

24 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has
25 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or
26 SAT shall not be required to take a high school equivalency

1 test as a prerequisite to admission.

2 (d) The Board shall establish an admissions process in
3 which honorably discharged veterans are permitted to submit an
4 application for admission to the University as a freshman
5 student enrolling in the spring semester if the veteran was on
6 active duty during the fall semester. The University may
7 request that the Department of Veterans' Affairs confirm the
8 status of an applicant as an honorably discharged veteran who
9 was on active duty during the fall semester.

10 (e) Beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year, the
11 University shall provide all Illinois students transferring
12 from a public community college in this State with the
13 University's undergraduate transfer admissions application fee
14 waiver policy and, if such a policy exists, any application or
15 forms necessary to apply for a fee waiver as part of the
16 University's transfer admissions process. The University is
17 encouraged to develop a policy to automatically waive the
18 undergraduate transfer admissions application fee for
19 low-income Illinois students transferring from a public
20 community college in this State. The University shall post
21 this policy in an easily accessible place on the University's
22 Internet website.

23 (Source: P.A. 102-403, eff. 1-1-22; 102-404, eff. 1-1-22.)

24 Section 20. The Eastern Illinois University Law is amended
25 by changing Section 10-85 as follows:

1 (110 ILCS 665/10-85)

2 Sec. 10-85. Admissions.

3 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any
4 of the departments or colleges of the Eastern Illinois
5 University unless such student also has satisfactorily
6 completed:

7 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
8 the following 5 categories:

9 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
10 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2
11 years may be collegiate level instruction;

12 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
13 and government);

14 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
15 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
16 fundamentals of computer programming);

17 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences or
18 agricultural sciences); and

19 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language
20 (which may be deemed to include American Sign
21 Language), music, career and technical education,
22 agricultural education, or art;

23 (2) except that Eastern Illinois University may admit
24 individual applicants if it determines through assessment
25 or through evaluation based on learning outcomes of the

1 coursework taken, including career and technical education
2 courses and courses taken in a charter school established
3 under Article 27A of the School Code, that the applicant
4 demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially equivalent
5 to the knowledge and skills expected to be acquired in the
6 high school courses required for admission. The Board of
7 Trustees of Eastern Illinois University shall not
8 discriminate in the University's admissions process
9 against an applicant for admission because of the
10 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established
11 under Article 27A of the School Code. Eastern Illinois
12 University may also admit (i) applicants who did not have
13 an opportunity to complete the minimum college preparatory
14 curriculum in high school, and (ii) educationally
15 disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to the formal
16 organized special assistance programs that are tailored to
17 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,
18 the institution incorporates in the applicant's
19 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic
20 activities that compensate for course deficiencies; and

21 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework
22 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
23 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
24 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
25 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
26 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

1 (b) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall
2 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
3 coursework required by subsection (a).

4 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has
5 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or
6 SAT shall not be required to take a high school equivalency
7 test as a prerequisite to admission.

8 (d) The Board shall establish an admissions process in
9 which honorably discharged veterans are permitted to submit an
10 application for admission to the University as a freshman
11 student enrolling in the spring semester if the veteran was on
12 active duty during the fall semester. The University may
13 request that the Department of Veterans' Affairs confirm the
14 status of an applicant as an honorably discharged veteran who
15 was on active duty during the fall semester.

16 (e) Beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year, the
17 University shall provide all Illinois students transferring
18 from a public community college in this State with the
19 University's undergraduate transfer admissions application fee
20 waiver policy and, if such a policy exists, any application or
21 forms necessary to apply for a fee waiver as part of the
22 University's transfer admissions process. The University is
23 encouraged to develop a policy to automatically waive the
24 undergraduate transfer admissions application fee for
25 low-income Illinois students transferring from a public
26 community college in this State. The University shall post

1 this policy in an easily accessible place on the University's
2 Internet website.

3 (Source: P.A. 102-403, eff. 1-1-22; 102-404, eff. 1-1-22.)

4 Section 25. The Governors State University Law is amended
5 by changing Section 15-85 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 670/15-85)

7 Sec. 15-85. Admissions.

8 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any
9 of the departments or colleges of the Governors State
10 University unless such student also has satisfactorily
11 completed:

12 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
13 the following 5 categories:

14 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
15 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2
16 years may be collegiate level instruction;

17 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
18 and government);

19 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
20 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
21 fundamentals of computer programming);

22 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences or
23 agricultural sciences); and

24 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language

1 (which may be deemed to include American Sign
2 Language), music, career and technical education,
3 agricultural education, or art;

4 (2) except that Governors State University may admit
5 individual applicants if it determines through assessment
6 or through evaluation based on learning outcomes of the
7 coursework taken, including career and technical education
8 courses and courses taken in a charter school established
9 under Article 27A of the School Code, that the applicant
10 demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially equivalent
11 to the knowledge and skills expected to be acquired in the
12 high school courses required for admission. The Board of
13 Trustees of Governors State University shall not
14 discriminate in the University's admissions process
15 against an applicant for admission because of the
16 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established
17 under Article 27A of the School Code. Governors State
18 University may also admit (i) applicants who did not have
19 an opportunity to complete the minimum college preparatory
20 curriculum in high school, and (ii) educationally
21 disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to the formal
22 organized special assistance programs that are tailored to
23 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,
24 the institution incorporates in the applicant's
25 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic
26 activities that compensate for course deficiencies; and

1 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework
2 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
3 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
4 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
5 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
6 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

7 (b) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall
8 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
9 coursework required by subsection (a).

10 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has
11 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or
12 SAT shall not be required to take a high school equivalency
13 test as a prerequisite to admission.

14 (d) The Board shall establish an admissions process in
15 which honorably discharged veterans are permitted to submit an
16 application for admission to the University as a freshman
17 student enrolling in the spring semester if the veteran was on
18 active duty during the fall semester. The University may
19 request that the Department of Veterans' Affairs confirm the
20 status of an applicant as an honorably discharged veteran who
21 was on active duty during the fall semester.

22 (e) Beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year, the
23 University shall provide all Illinois students transferring
24 from a public community college in this State with the
25 University's undergraduate transfer admissions application fee
26 waiver policy and, if such a policy exists, any application or

1 forms necessary to apply for a fee waiver as part of the
2 University's transfer admissions process. The University is
3 encouraged to develop a policy to automatically waive the
4 undergraduate transfer admissions application fee for
5 low-income Illinois students transferring from a public
6 community college in this State. The University shall post
7 this policy in an easily accessible place on the University's
8 Internet website.

9 (Source: P.A. 102-403, eff. 1-1-22; 102-404, eff. 1-1-22.)

10 Section 30. The Illinois State University Law is amended
11 by changing Section 20-85 as follows:

12 (110 ILCS 675/20-85)

13 Sec. 20-85. Admissions.

14 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any
15 of the departments or colleges of the Illinois State
16 University unless such student also has satisfactorily
17 completed:

18 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
19 the following 5 categories:

20 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
21 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2
22 years may be collegiate level instruction;

23 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
24 and government);

1 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
2 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
3 fundamentals of computer programming);

4 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences or
5 agricultural sciences); and

6 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language
7 (which may be deemed to include American Sign
8 Language), music, career and technical education,
9 agricultural education, or art;

10 (2) except that Illinois State University may admit
11 individual applicants if it determines through assessment
12 or through evaluation based on learning outcomes of the
13 coursework taken, including career and technical education
14 courses and courses taken in a charter school established
15 under Article 27A of the School Code, that the applicant
16 demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially equivalent
17 to the knowledge and skills expected to be acquired in the
18 high school courses required for admission. The Board of
19 Trustees of Illinois State University shall not
20 discriminate in the University's admissions process
21 against an applicant for admission because of the
22 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established
23 under Article 27A of the School Code. Illinois State
24 University may also admit (i) applicants who did not have
25 an opportunity to complete the minimum college preparatory
26 curriculum in high school, and (ii) educationally

1 disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to the formal
2 organized special assistance programs that are tailored to
3 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,
4 the institution incorporates in the applicant's
5 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic
6 activities that compensate for course deficiencies; and

7 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework
8 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
9 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
10 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
11 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
12 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

13 (b) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall
14 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
15 coursework required by subsection (a).

16 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has
17 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or
18 SAT shall not be required to take a high school equivalency
19 test as a prerequisite to admission.

20 (d) The Board shall establish an admissions process in
21 which honorably discharged veterans are permitted to submit an
22 application for admission to the University as a freshman
23 student enrolling in the spring semester if the veteran was on
24 active duty during the fall semester. The University may
25 request that the Department of Veterans' Affairs confirm the
26 status of an applicant as an honorably discharged veteran who

1 was on active duty during the fall semester.

2 (e) Beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year, the
3 University shall provide all Illinois students transferring
4 from a public community college in this State with the
5 University's undergraduate transfer admissions application fee
6 waiver policy and, if such a policy exists, any application or
7 forms necessary to apply for a fee waiver as part of the
8 University's transfer admissions process. The University is
9 encouraged to develop a policy to automatically waive the
10 undergraduate transfer admissions application fee for
11 low-income Illinois students transferring from a public
12 community college in this State. The University shall post
13 this policy in an easily accessible place on the University's
14 Internet website.

15 (Source: P.A. 102-403, eff. 1-1-22; 102-404, eff. 1-1-22.)

16 Section 35. The Northeastern Illinois University Law is
17 amended by changing Section 25-85 as follows:

18 (110 ILCS 680/25-85)

19 Sec. 25-85. Admissions.

20 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any
21 of the departments or colleges of the Northeastern Illinois
22 University unless such student also has satisfactorily
23 completed:

24 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from

1 the following 5 categories:

2 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
3 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2
4 years may be collegiate level instruction;

5 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
6 and government);

7 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
8 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
9 fundamentals of computer programming);

10 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences or
11 agricultural sciences); and

12 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language
13 (which may be deemed to include American Sign
14 Language), music, career and technical education,
15 agricultural education, or art;

16 (2) except that Northeastern Illinois University may
17 admit individual applicants if it determines through
18 assessment or through evaluation based on learning
19 outcomes of the coursework taken, including career and
20 technical education courses and courses taken in a charter
21 school established under Article 27A of the School Code,
22 that the applicant demonstrates knowledge and skills
23 substantially equivalent to the knowledge and skills
24 expected to be acquired in the high school courses
25 required for admission. The Board of Trustees of
26 Northeastern Illinois University shall not discriminate in

1 the University's admissions process against an applicant
2 for admission because of the applicant's enrollment in a
3 charter school established under Article 27A of the School
4 Code. Northeastern Illinois University may also admit (i)
5 applicants who did not have an opportunity to complete the
6 minimum college preparatory curriculum in high school, and
7 (ii) educationally disadvantaged applicants who are
8 admitted to the formal organized special assistance
9 programs that are tailored to the needs of such students,
10 providing that in either case, the institution
11 incorporates in the applicant's baccalaureate curriculum
12 courses or other academic activities that compensate for
13 course deficiencies; and

14 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework
15 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
16 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
17 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
18 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
19 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

20 (b) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall
21 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
22 coursework required by subsection (a).

23 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has
24 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or
25 SAT shall not be required to take a high school equivalency
26 test as a prerequisite to admission.

1 (d) The Board shall establish an admissions process in
2 which honorably discharged veterans are permitted to submit an
3 application for admission to the University as a freshman
4 student enrolling in the spring semester if the veteran was on
5 active duty during the fall semester. The University may
6 request that the Department of Veterans' Affairs confirm the
7 status of an applicant as an honorably discharged veteran who
8 was on active duty during the fall semester.

9 (e) Beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year, the
10 University shall provide all Illinois students transferring
11 from a public community college in this State with the
12 University's undergraduate transfer admissions application fee
13 waiver policy and, if such a policy exists, any application or
14 forms necessary to apply for a fee waiver as part of the
15 University's transfer admissions process. The University is
16 encouraged to develop a policy to automatically waive the
17 undergraduate transfer admissions application fee for
18 low-income Illinois students transferring from a public
19 community college in this State. The University shall post
20 this policy in an easily accessible place on the University's
21 Internet website.

22 (Source: P.A. 102-403, eff. 1-1-22; 102-404, eff. 1-1-22.)

23 Section 40. The Northern Illinois University Law is
24 amended by changing Section 30-85 as follows:

1 (110 ILCS 685/30-85)

2 Sec. 30-85. Admissions.

3 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any
4 of the departments or colleges of the Northern Illinois
5 University unless such student also has satisfactorily
6 completed:

7 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
8 the following 5 categories:

9 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
10 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2
11 years may be collegiate level instruction;

12 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
13 and government);

14 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
15 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
16 fundamentals of computer programming);

17 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences or
18 agricultural sciences); and

19 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language
20 (which may be deemed to include American Sign
21 Language), music, career and technical education,
22 agricultural education, or art;

23 (2) except that Northern Illinois University may admit
24 individual applicants if it determines through assessment
25 or through evaluation based on learning outcomes of the
26 coursework taken, including career and technical education

1 courses and courses taken in a charter school established
2 under Article 27A of the School Code, that the applicant
3 demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially equivalent
4 to the knowledge and skills expected to be acquired in the
5 high school courses required for admission. The Board of
6 Trustees of Northern Illinois University shall not
7 discriminate in the University's admissions process
8 against an applicant for admission because of the
9 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established
10 under Article 27A of the School Code. Northern Illinois
11 University may also admit (i) applicants who did not have
12 an opportunity to complete the minimum college preparatory
13 curriculum in high school, and (ii) educationally
14 disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to the formal
15 organized special assistance programs that are tailored to
16 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,
17 the institution incorporates in the applicant's
18 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic
19 activities that compensate for course deficiencies; and

20 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework
21 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
22 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
23 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
24 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
25 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

26 (b) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall

1 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
2 coursework required by subsection (a).

3 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has
4 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or
5 SAT shall not be required to take a high school equivalency
6 test as a prerequisite to admission.

7 (d) The Board shall establish an admissions process in
8 which honorably discharged veterans are permitted to submit an
9 application for admission to the University as a freshman
10 student enrolling in the spring semester if the veteran was on
11 active duty during the fall semester. The University may
12 request that the Department of Veterans' Affairs confirm the
13 status of an applicant as an honorably discharged veteran who
14 was on active duty during the fall semester.

15 (e) Beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year, the
16 University shall provide all Illinois students transferring
17 from a public community college in this State with the
18 University's undergraduate transfer admissions application fee
19 waiver policy and, if such a policy exists, any application or
20 forms necessary to apply for a fee waiver as part of the
21 University's transfer admissions process. The University is
22 encouraged to develop a policy to automatically waive the
23 undergraduate transfer admissions application fee for
24 low-income Illinois students transferring from a public
25 community college in this State. The University shall post
26 this policy in an easily accessible place on the University's

1 Internet website.

2 (Source: P.A. 102-403, eff. 1-1-22; 102-404, eff. 1-1-22.)

3 Section 45. The Western Illinois University Law is amended
4 by changing Section 35-85 as follows:

5 (110 ILCS 690/35-85)

6 Sec. 35-85. Admissions.

7 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any
8 of the departments or colleges of the Western Illinois
9 University unless such student also has satisfactorily
10 completed:

11 (1) at least 15 units of high school coursework from
12 the following 5 categories:

13 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and
14 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2
15 years may be collegiate level instruction;

16 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history
17 and government);

18 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through
19 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or
20 fundamentals of computer programming);

21 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences or
22 agricultural sciences); and

23 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language
24 (which may be deemed to include American Sign

1 Language), music, career and technical education,
2 agricultural education, or art;

3 (2) except that Western Illinois University may admit
4 individual applicants if it determines through assessment
5 or through evaluation based on learning outcomes of the
6 coursework taken, including career and technical education
7 courses and courses taken in a charter school established
8 under Article 27A of the School Code, that the applicant
9 demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially equivalent
10 to the knowledge and skills expected to be acquired in the
11 high school courses required for admission. The Board of
12 Trustees of Western Illinois University shall not
13 discriminate in the University's admissions process
14 against an applicant for admission because of the
15 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established
16 under Article 27A of the School Code. Western Illinois
17 University may also admit (i) applicants who did not have
18 an opportunity to complete the minimum college preparatory
19 curriculum in high school, and (ii) educationally
20 disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to the formal
21 organized special assistance programs that are tailored to
22 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,
23 the institution incorporates in the applicant's
24 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic
25 activities that compensate for course deficiencies; and

26 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework

1 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be
2 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from
3 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences
4 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5
5 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

6 (b) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall
7 recognize their obligation to their students to offer the
8 coursework required by subsection (a).

9 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has
10 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or
11 SAT shall not be required to take a high school equivalency
12 test as a prerequisite to admission.

13 (d) The Board shall establish an admissions process in
14 which honorably discharged veterans are permitted to submit an
15 application for admission to the University as a freshman
16 student enrolling in the spring semester if the veteran was on
17 active duty during the fall semester. The University may
18 request that the Department of Veterans' Affairs confirm the
19 status of an applicant as an honorably discharged veteran who
20 was on active duty during the fall semester.

21 (e) Beginning with the 20245-2026 academic year, the
22 University shall provide all Illinois students transferring
23 from a public community college in this State with the
24 University's undergraduate transfer admissions application fee
25 waiver policy and, if such a policy exists, any application or
26 forms necessary to apply for a fee waiver as part of the

1 University's transfer admissions process. The University is
2 encouraged to develop a policy to automatically waive the
3 undergraduate transfer admissions application fee for
4 low-income Illinois students transferring from a public
5 community college in this State. The University shall post
6 this policy in an easily accessible place on the University's
7 Internet website.

8 (Source: P.A. 102-403, eff. 1-1-22; 102-404, eff. 1-1-22.)

9 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
10 becoming law.