



99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

HB4565

by Rep. André M. Thapedi

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Public University Uniform Admission Act. Requires each public university in this State to admit first-time freshman applicants as undergraduate students if the applicant graduated with a grade point average in the top 10% of the student's high school graduating class in one of the 2 school years preceding the academic year for which the applicant is applying for admission and (1) the applicant graduated from an accredited public or private high school in this State or from a high school operated by the United States Department of Defense; (2) the applicant successfully completed the minimum college preparatory curriculum requirements for admission to the university or satisfied the ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks on the ACT college admission assessment applicable to the applicant or earned on the SAT college admission assessment a score of at least 1,500 out of 2,400; and (3) if the applicant graduated from a high school operated by the United States Department of Defense, the applicant is a State resident or is entitled to pay tuition fees at the rate provided for State residents. Provides that the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is not required to offer admission to applicants who qualify for automatic admission in excess of the number required to fill 75% of the university's enrollment capacity designated for first-time resident undergraduate students in an academic year. Sets forth other provisions concerning the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Sets forth other provisions concerning admissions. Provides for additional preparation for college, student outreach, and rulemaking.

LRB099 16760 NHT 41102 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

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 Act.

6 Section 5. Definition of institution. In this Act,
7 "institution" means a public university in this State.

8 Section 10. Uniform admission system. An institution shall
9 admit first-time freshman students for each semester under the
10 provisions of this Act.

11 Section 15. Automatic admission.

12 (a) Subject to Section 20 of this Act, each institution
13 shall admit an applicant for admission to the institution as an
14 undergraduate student if the applicant graduated with a grade
15 point average in the top 10% of the student's high school
16 graduating class in one of the 2 school years preceding the
17 academic year for which the applicant is applying for admission
18 and:

19 (1) the applicant graduated from a public or private
20 high school in this State accredited by a generally
21 recognized accrediting organization or from a high school

1 operated by the United States Department of Defense;

2 (2) the applicant:

3 (A) successfully completed the minimum college
4 preparatory curriculum requirements established by law
5 for admission to the institution; or

6 (B) satisfied the ACT's College Readiness
7 Benchmarks on the ACT college admission assessment
8 applicable to the applicant or earned on the SAT
9 college admission assessment a score of at least 1,500
10 out of 2,400 or the equivalent; and

11 (3) if the applicant graduated from a high school
12 operated by the United States Department of Defense, the
13 applicant is a State resident or is entitled to pay tuition
14 fees at the rate provided for State residents for the term
15 or semester to which admitted.

16 (b) An applicant who does not satisfy the curriculum
17 requirements prescribed by item (A) of subdivision (2) of
18 subsection (a) of this Section is considered to have satisfied
19 those requirements if the student completed the portion of the
20 college preparatory curriculum that was available to the
21 student but was unable to complete the remainder of the
22 curriculum solely because courses necessary to complete the
23 remainder were unavailable to the student at the appropriate
24 times in the student's high school career as a result of course
25 scheduling, lack of enrollment capacity, or another cause not
26 within the student's control.

1 Section 20. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
2 admission.

3 (a) The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is not
4 required to offer admission to applicants who qualify for
5 automatic admission under Section 15 of this Act in excess of
6 the number required to fill 75% of the university's enrollment
7 capacity designated for first-time resident undergraduate
8 students in an academic year. If the number of applicants who
9 qualify for automatic admission to the University of Illinois
10 at Urbana-Champaign under Section 15 of this Act for an
11 academic year exceeds 75% of the university's enrollment
12 capacity designated for first-time resident undergraduate
13 students for that academic year, the university may elect to
14 offer admission to those applicants as provided by this
15 subsection (a) and not as otherwise required by Section 15 of
16 this Act. If the university elects to offer admission under
17 this subsection (a), the university shall offer admission to
18 those applicants by percentile rank according to high school
19 graduating class standing based on grade point average,
20 beginning with the top percentile rank, until the applicants
21 qualified under Section 15 of this Act have been offered
22 admission in the number estimated in good faith by the
23 university as sufficient to fill 75% of the university's
24 enrollment capacity designated for first-time resident
25 undergraduate students, except that the university must offer

1 admission to all applicants with the same percentile rank.
2 After the applicants qualified for automatic admission under
3 Section 15 of this Act have been offered admission under this
4 subsection (a) in the number estimated in good faith as
5 sufficient to fill 75% of the designated enrollment capacity
6 described by this subsection (a), the university shall consider
7 any remaining applicants qualified for automatic admission
8 under Section 15 of this Act in the same manner as other
9 applicants for admission as first-time undergraduate students.

10 (b) If the number of applicants who apply to the University
11 of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign during the current academic
12 year for admission in the next academic year and who qualify
13 for automatic admission to an institution under Section 15 of
14 this Act exceeds 75% of the university's enrollment capacity
15 designated for first-time resident undergraduate students for
16 that next academic year and the university plans to offer
17 admission under subsection (a) of this Section during the next
18 academic year, the university shall, in the manner prescribed
19 by the Board of Higher Education and not later than September
20 15 of the current academic year, provide to each school
21 district, for dissemination of the information to high school
22 junior-level students and their parents, notice of which
23 percentile ranks of high school senior-level students who
24 qualify for automatic admission under Section 15 of this Act
25 are anticipated by the university to be offered admission under
26 subsection (a) of this Section during the next academic year.

1 (c) If the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
2 elects to offer admission to first-time resident undergraduate
3 students under subsection (a) of this Section for an academic
4 year, the university must not consider an applicant's legacy
5 status as a factor in the university's decisions relating to
6 admissions for that academic year.

7 (d) If the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
8 offers admission to first-time resident undergraduate students
9 under subsection (a) of this Section, the university shall
10 require that a student admitted under subsection (a) of this
11 Section complete a designated portion of not less than 6
12 semester credit hours of the student's coursework during
13 evening hours or other low-demand hours as necessary to ensure
14 the efficient use of the university's available classrooms.

15 (e) If the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
16 elects to offer admission under subsection (a) of this Section
17 for an academic year, the university may not offer admission to
18 first-time undergraduate students who are not residents of this
19 State for that academic year in excess of the number required
20 to fill 10% of the university's enrollment capacity designated
21 for first-time undergraduate students for that academic year.

22 (f) Not later than December 31 of each academic year in
23 which the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign offers
24 admission under subsection (a) of this Section, the university
25 shall deliver a written report to the Governor and the General
26 Assembly regarding the university's progress in each of the

1 following matters:

2 (1) increasing geographic diversity of the entering
3 freshman class;

4 (2) counseling and outreach efforts aimed at students
5 qualified for automatic admission under this Act;

6 (3) recruiting State residents who graduate from other
7 institutions of higher education to the university's
8 graduate and professional degree programs;

9 (4) recruiting students who are members of
10 underrepresented demographic segments of this State's
11 population; and

12 (5) assessing and improving the university's
13 recruitment efforts.

14 (g) The Board of Higher Education shall publish an annual
15 report on the impact of subsection (a) of this Section on this
16 State's goal of closing college access and achievement gaps
17 with respect to students of the University of Illinois at
18 Urbana-Champaign, disaggregated by race, ethnicity,
19 socioeconomic status, and geographic region and by whether the
20 high school from which the student graduated was a small
21 school, as designated by the State Superintendent of Education,
22 or a public high school that is ranked among the lowest 20% of
23 public high schools according to the percentage of each high
24 school's graduates who enroll in an institution in one of the 2
25 academic years following the year of the applicant's high
26 school graduation. On request, the university shall provide the

1 Board with any information the Board considers necessary for
2 the completion of the report required by this subsection (g).

3 Section 25. Admission requirements.

4 (a) To qualify for admission under this Act, an applicant
5 must:

6 (1) submit an application before the expiration of any
7 application filing deadline established by the
8 institution; and

9 (2) provide a high school transcript or diploma that
10 satisfies the requirements of subsection (b) of this
11 Section.

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

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

18 (2) if subsection (b) of Section 15 of this Act applies
19 to the student, whether the student has completed the
20 portion of the college preparatory curriculum that was
21 available to the student.

22 Section 30. Admission for child of fallen police officer,
23 firefighter, or Department of Corrections employee. Each
24 institution shall admit an applicant for admission to the

1 institution as an undergraduate student if the applicant:

2 (1) is the child of a police officer or firefighter
3 employed by or in the voluntary service of this State or
4 any local public entity in this State who was killed or
5 sustained a fatal injury in the line of duty or is the
6 child of an employee of the Department of Corrections who
7 was assigned to a security position with the Department
8 with responsibility for inmates of a correctional
9 institution under the jurisdiction of the Department and
10 who was killed or sustained a fatal injury in the line of
11 duty; and

12 (2) meets the minimum requirements, if any,
13 established for purposes of this Section by the governing
14 board of the institution for high school or prior
15 college-level grade point average and performance on
16 standardized tests.

17 Section 35. Additional preparation for college. After
18 admitting an applicant under this Act, the institution shall
19 review the applicant's record and any other factor the
20 institution considers appropriate to determine whether the
21 applicant may require additional preparation for college-level
22 work or would benefit from inclusion in a retention program.
23 The institution may require a student so identified to enroll
24 during the summer immediately after the student is admitted
25 under this Act to participate in appropriate enrichment courses

1 and orientation programs. This Act does not prohibit a student
2 who is not determined to need additional preparation for
3 college-level work from enrolling, if the student chooses,
4 during the summer immediately after the student is admitted
5 under this Act.

6 Section 40. Student outreach program. The Board of Higher
7 Education, by rule, shall develop and implement a program to
8 increase and enhance the efforts of institutions in conducting
9 outreach to academically high-performing high school seniors
10 in this State who are likely to be eligible for automatic
11 admission under Section 15 of this Act to provide to those
12 students information and counseling regarding the operation of
13 this Act and other opportunities, including financial
14 assistance, available to those students for success at
15 institutions. Under the program, the Board, after gathering
16 information and recommendations from available sources and
17 examining current outreach practices by institutions of higher
18 education in this State and in other states, shall prescribe
19 best practice guidelines and standards to be used by
20 institutions in conducting the student outreach described by
21 this Section.

22 Section 45. Fall or summer enrollment. An institution that
23 admits, under this Act, an applicant qualified for automatic
24 admission under Section 15 of this Act may admit the applicant

1 for either the fall semester of the academic year for which the
2 applicant applies or for the summer session preceding that fall
3 semester, as determined by the institution.

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

17 Section 90. Rules. The Board of Higher Education may adopt
18 any rules necessary to implement this Act.