

AN ACT concerning education.

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

Section 5. The University of Illinois Act is amended by adding Section 85 as follows:

(110 ILCS 305/85 new)

Sec. 85. Priority enrollment; service member or veteran.

(a) For the purposes of this Section:

"Service member" means a resident of this State who is a member of any component of the U.S. Armed Forces, including any reserve component, or the National Guard of any state, the District of Columbia, a commonwealth, or a territory of the United States and who is eligible to receive military educational benefits.

"Veteran" means a resident of this State who was a service member and who has received an honorable discharge, a general discharge, or an other than honorable discharge.

(b) The Board of Trustees shall give the earliest possible enrollment opportunity that the University offers to a service member or veteran.

(c) The priority enrollment provided pursuant to this Section shall apply to enrollment for all degree and certificate programs offered by the University after the

student's eligibility to receive benefits has been verified by the University.

Section 10. The Southern Illinois University Management Act is amended by adding Section 70 as follows:

(110 ILCS 520/70 new)

Sec. 70. Priority enrollment; service member or veteran.

(a) For the purposes of this Section:

"Service member" means a resident of this State who is a member of any component of the U.S. Armed Forces, including any reserve component, or the National Guard of any state, the District of Columbia, a commonwealth, or a territory of the United States and who is eligible to receive military educational benefits.

"Veteran" means a resident of this State who was a service member and who has received an honorable discharge, a general discharge, or an other than honorable discharge.

(b) The Board shall give the earliest possible enrollment opportunity that the University offers to a service member or veteran.

(c) The priority enrollment provided pursuant to this Section shall apply to enrollment for all degree and certificate programs offered by the University after the student's eligibility to receive benefits has been verified by the University.

Section 15. The Chicago State University Law is amended by adding Section 5-180 as follows:

(110 ILCS 660/5-180 new)

Sec. 5-180. Priority enrollment; service member or veteran.

(a) For the purposes of this Section:

"Service member" means a resident of this State who is a member of any component of the U.S. Armed Forces, including any reserve component, or the National Guard of any state, the District of Columbia, a commonwealth, or a territory of the United States and who is eligible to receive military educational benefits.

"Veteran" means a resident of this State who was a service member and who has received an honorable discharge, a general discharge, or an other than honorable discharge.

(b) The Board shall give the earliest possible enrollment opportunity that the University offers to a service member or veteran.

(c) The priority enrollment provided pursuant to this Section shall apply to enrollment for all degree and certificate programs offered by the University after the student's eligibility to receive benefits has been verified by the University.

Section 20. The Eastern Illinois University Law is amended by adding Section 10-180 as follows:

(110 ILCS 665/10-180 new)

Sec. 10-180. Priority enrollment; service member or veteran.

(a) For the purposes of this Section:

"Service member" means a resident of this State who is a member of any component of the U.S. Armed Forces, including any reserve component, or the National Guard of any state, the District of Columbia, a commonwealth, or a territory of the United States and who is eligible to receive military educational benefits.

"Veteran" means a resident of this State who was a service member and who has received an honorable discharge, a general discharge, or an other than honorable discharge.

(b) The Board shall give the earliest possible enrollment opportunity that the University offers to a service member or veteran.

(c) The priority enrollment provided pursuant to this Section shall apply to enrollment for all degree and certificate programs offered by the University after the student's eligibility to receive benefits has been verified by the University.

Section 25. The Governors State University Law is amended

by adding Section 15-180 as follows:

(110 ILCS 670/15-180 new)

Sec. 15-180. Priority enrollment; service member or veteran.

(a) For the purposes of this Section:

"Service member" means a resident of this State who is a member of any component of the U.S. Armed Forces, including any reserve component, or the National Guard of any state, the District of Columbia, a commonwealth, or a territory of the United States and who is eligible to receive military educational benefits.

"Veteran" means a resident of this State who was a service member and who has received an honorable discharge, a general discharge, or an other than honorable discharge.

(b) The Board shall give the earliest possible enrollment opportunity that the University offers to a service member or veteran.

(c) The priority enrollment provided pursuant to this Section shall apply to enrollment for all degree and certificate programs offered by the University after the student's eligibility to receive benefits has been verified by the University.

Section 30. The Illinois State University Law is amended by adding Section 20-185 as follows:

(110 ILCS 675/20-185 new)

Sec. 20-185. Priority enrollment; service member or veteran.

(a) For the purposes of this Section:

"Service member" means a resident of this State who is a member of any component of the U.S. Armed Forces, including any reserve component, or the National Guard of any state, the District of Columbia, a commonwealth, or a territory of the United States and who is eligible to receive military educational benefits.

"Veteran" means a resident of this State who was a service member and who has received an honorable discharge, a general discharge, or an other than honorable discharge.

(b) The Board shall give the earliest possible enrollment opportunity that the University offers to a service member or veteran.

(c) The priority enrollment provided pursuant to this Section shall apply to enrollment for all degree and certificate programs offered by the University after the student's eligibility to receive benefits has been verified by the University.

Section 35. The Northeastern Illinois University Law is amended by adding Section 25-180 as follows:

(110 ILCS 680/25-180 new)

Sec. 25-180. Priority enrollment; service member or veteran.

(a) For the purposes of this Section:

"Service member" means a resident of this State who is a member of any component of the U.S. Armed Forces, including any reserve component, or the National Guard of any state, the District of Columbia, a commonwealth, or a territory of the United States and who is eligible to receive military educational benefits.

"Veteran" means a resident of this State who was a service member and who has received an honorable discharge, a general discharge, or an other than honorable discharge.

(b) The Board shall give the earliest possible enrollment opportunity that the University offers to a service member or veteran.

(c) The priority enrollment provided pursuant to this Section shall apply to enrollment for all degree and certificate programs offered by the University after the student's eligibility to receive benefits has been verified by the University.

Section 40. The Northern Illinois University Law is amended by adding Section 30-190 as follows:

(110 ILCS 685/30-190 new)

Sec. 30-190. Priority enrollment; service member or veteran.

(a) For the purposes of this Section:

"Service member" means a resident of this State who is a member of any component of the U.S. Armed Forces, including any reserve component, or the National Guard of any state, the District of Columbia, a commonwealth, or a territory of the United States and who is eligible to receive military educational benefits.

"Veteran" means a resident of this State who was a service member and who has received an honorable discharge, a general discharge, or an other than honorable discharge.

(b) The Board shall give the earliest possible enrollment opportunity that the University offers to a service member or veteran.

(c) The priority enrollment provided pursuant to this Section shall apply to enrollment for all degree and certificate programs offered by the University after the student's eligibility to receive benefits has been verified by the University.

Section 45. The Western Illinois University Law is amended by adding Section 35-185 as follows:

(110 ILCS 690/35-185 new)

Sec. 35-185. Priority enrollment; service member or

veteran.

(a) For the purposes of this Section:

"Service member" means a resident of this State who is a member of any component of the U.S. Armed Forces, including any reserve component, or the National Guard of any state, the District of Columbia, a commonwealth, or a territory of the United States and who is eligible to receive military educational benefits.

"Veteran" means a resident of this State who was a service member and who has received an honorable discharge, a general discharge, or an other than honorable discharge.

(b) The Board shall give the earliest possible enrollment opportunity that the University offers to a service member or veteran.

(c) The priority enrollment provided pursuant to this Section shall apply to enrollment for all degree and certificate programs offered by the University after the student's eligibility to receive benefits has been verified by the University.

Section 50. The Public Community College Act is amended by adding Section 3-29.10 as follows:

(110 ILCS 805/3-29.10 new)

Sec. 3-29.10. Priority enrollment; service member or veteran.

(a) For the purposes of this Section:

"Service member" means a resident of this State who is a member of any component of the U.S. Armed Forces, including any reserve component, or the National Guard of any state, the District of Columbia, a commonwealth, or a territory of the United States and who is eligible to receive military educational benefits.

"Veteran" means a resident of this State who was a service member and who has received an honorable discharge, a general discharge, or an other than honorable discharge.

(b) A board shall give the earliest possible enrollment opportunity that a community college offers to a service member or veteran.

(c) The priority enrollment provided pursuant to this Section shall apply to enrollment for all degree and certificate programs offered by a community college after the student's eligibility to receive benefits has been verified by the community college.