

# SB1309



## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

SB1309

Introduced 2/7/2019, by Sen. Chapin Rose

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

110 ILCS 205/9.07a new

Amends the Board of Higher Education Act. Requires the Board of Higher Education to establish a uniform admission process online, which must be used at all public institutions of higher education beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year; sets forth what components this admission process must include. Effective July 1, 2019.

LRB101 09043 AXK 54136 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES  
ACT MAY REQUIRE  
REIMBURSEMENT

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 5. The Board of Higher Education Act is amended by  
5 adding Section 9.07a as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 205/9.07a new)

7 Sec. 9.07a. Uniform admission process. The Board shall  
8 establish a uniform admission process online, which must be  
9 used at all public institutions of higher education beginning  
10 with the 2021-2022 academic year. The goal of this uniform  
11 admission process program is to ensure that no matter which  
12 institution an applicant initially applies to, if that  
13 institution denies the applicant acceptance, then the  
14 applicant may be offered admission to another public  
15 institution of higher education. This admission process must  
16 include the following components:

17 (1) The Board shall create a uniform admission  
18 application known as the "Universal App", to be accepted at  
19 all public institutions of higher education. The Board  
20 shall make the Universal App available online on the  
21 Board's website. The Board shall inform all high schools in  
22 this State of the availability of the Universal App online,  
23 and high school personnel shall provide this information to

1 students and their parents or guardian. Each high school  
2 shall allow a student, with the help of high school  
3 personnel, to complete the Universal App during school  
4 hours if the student's parent or guardian has not chosen to  
5 opt the student out of using school hours for that purpose.  
6 Universal App data must be sent to all public universities.  
7 An applicant who is not offered admission to a public  
8 university must be automatically referred to the community  
9 college district where the applicant resides and provided  
10 with enrollment information from that district.

11 (2) If a public institution of higher education accepts  
12 a person for admission to the institution, the person shall  
13 receive a letter of acceptance from the institution, which  
14 shall set forth any grant or scholarship offers extended by  
15 the institution at that time. However, nothing shall  
16 prevent the institution from subsequently enhancing such  
17 grant or scholarship offers to the person.

18 (3) The process must be integrated so that an applicant  
19 may choose which public institutions of higher education  
20 will receive his or her application and may rank the  
21 institutions in order of his or her preference of  
22 attendance. The process must also be integrated so that an  
23 applicant may choose to indicate that if he or she is not  
24 offered admittance to any of his or her indicated public  
25 institutions of choice, the Board may forward his or her  
26 academic information to all other public institutions of

1 higher education. Public institutions of higher education  
2 may choose to admit the student based upon the  
3 institution's criteria and shall notify the student of his  
4 or her admittance. The Board shall also forward the  
5 Universal App to the community college district where the  
6 applicant resides.

7 (4) The Board may charge an applicant an application  
8 fee of no more than \$25 for completing a Universal App  
9 under this Section. This fee may be paid by credit card or  
10 a check payable to the Board of Higher Education and shall  
11 be deposited into the Universal App Fund, which is hereby  
12 created as a nonappropriated trust fund to be held outside  
13 the State treasury, with the State Treasurer as custodian.  
14 Money in the Fund shall be used only for operation costs  
15 relating to the Universal App. Any excess money in the Fund  
16 not used by the Board for operation costs shall be  
17 distributed by the Board to public institutions of higher  
18 education.

19 (5) All admission decisions shall be made by each  
20 public institution of higher education, not the Board.

21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,  
22 2019.