



## 102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

HB3218

Introduced 2/19/2021, by Rep. Nicholas K. Smith

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

110 ILCS 305/8	from Ch. 144, par. 29
110 ILCS 520/8e	from Ch. 144, par. 658e
110 ILCS 660/5-85	
110 ILCS 665/10-85	
110 ILCS 670/15-85	
110 ILCS 675/20-85	
110 ILCS 680/25-85	
110 ILCS 685/30-85	
110 ILCS 690/35-85	

Amends various Acts relating to the governance of public universities in Illinois. With respect to the high school coursework that a person must satisfactorily complete for university admission, adds agricultural sciences as a course option for the science category and agricultural education as a course option for the electives category.

LRB102 10389 CMG 15716 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 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 ~~In addition, commencing in the fall of 1993, no~~ new  
10 student shall ~~then or thereafter~~ be admitted to instruction in  
11 any of the departments or colleges of the University unless  
12 such student also has satisfactorily completed:

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

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

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

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

23 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences or

1           agricultural sciences); and

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

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

1           baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic  
2           activities that compensate for course 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          (Source: P.A. 98-718, eff. 1-1-15; 99-806, eff. 8-15-16.)

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

3 (110 ILCS 520/8e) (from Ch. 144, par. 658e)  
4 Sec. 8e. Admissions.

5 (a) ~~No Commencing in the fall of 1993, no~~ new student shall  
6 ~~then or thereafter~~ be admitted to instruction in any of the  
7 departments or colleges of the University unless such student  
8 also has satisfactorily completed:

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

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

14 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history  
15 and government);

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

19 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences or  
20 agricultural sciences); and

21 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language  
22 (which may be deemed to include American Sign  
23 Language), music, vocational education, agricultural  
24 education, or art;

25 (2) except that institutions may admit individual

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

23 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework  
24 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be  
25 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from  
26 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences

1 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5  
2 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

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

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

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

18 (Source: P.A. 98-718, eff. 1-1-15; 99-806, eff. 8-15-16.)

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, vocational education, agricultural  
17 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 vocational education courses  
22 and courses taken in a charter school established under  
23 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 (Source: P.A. 98-718, eff. 1-1-15; 99-806, eff. 8-15-16.)

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

13 (110 ILCS 665/10-85)

14 Sec. 10-85. Admissions.

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

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

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

24 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history

1 and government);

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 status of an applicant as an honorably discharged veteran who  
2 was on active duty during the fall semester.

3 (Source: P.A. 98-718, eff. 1-1-15; 99-806, eff. 8-15-16.)

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, vocational education, agricultural  
3 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 vocational education courses  
8 and courses taken in a charter school established under  
9 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          (Source: P.A. 98-718, eff. 1-1-15; 99-806, eff. 8-15-16.)

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

1 (110 ILCS 675/20-85)

2 Sec. 20-85. Admissions.

3 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any  
4 of the departments or colleges of the Illinois State  
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, vocational education, agricultural  
22 education, or art;

23 (2) except that Illinois State 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 vocational education courses



1 and courses taken in a charter school established under  
2 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 Illinois State 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. Illinois State  
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 (Source: P.A. 98-718, eff. 1-1-15; 99-806, eff. 8-15-16.)

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, vocational education, agricultural  
15 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 vocational  
20 education courses and courses taken in a charter school  
21 established under Article 27A of the School Code, that the  
22 applicant demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially  
23 equivalent to the knowledge and skills expected to be  
24 acquired in the high school courses required for  
25 admission. The Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois  
26 University shall not discriminate in the University's

1 admissions process against an applicant for admission  
2 because of the applicant's enrollment in a charter school  
3 established under Article 27A of the School Code.  
4 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 (Source: P.A. 98-718, eff. 1-1-15; 99-806, eff. 8-15-16.)

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

12 (110 ILCS 685/30-85)

13 Sec. 30-85. Admissions.

14 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any  
15 of the departments or colleges of the Northern Illinois  
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, vocational education, agricultural  
9 education, or art;

10 (2) except that Northern Illinois 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 vocational education courses  
14 and courses taken in a charter school established under  
15 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 Northern Illinois 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. Northern Illinois  
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 (Source: P.A. 98-718, eff. 1-1-15; 99-806, eff. 8-15-16.)

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, vocational education, agricultural  
2 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 vocational education courses  
7 and courses taken in a charter school established under  
8 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          (Source: P.A. 98-718, eff. 1-1-15; 99-806, eff. 8-15-16.)