

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 shall provide all Illinois students transferring

1 from a public community college in this State with the  
2 University's undergraduate transfer admissions application fee  
3 waiver policy and, if such a policy exists, any application or  
4 forms necessary to apply for a fee waiver as part of the  
5 University's transfer admissions process. The University is  
6 encouraged to develop a policy to automatically waive the  
7 undergraduate transfer admissions application fee for  
8 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.