



## 99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

**HB4627**

by Rep. Michael W. Tryon

#### 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. Requires the governing board of each public university to establish an admissions process in which honorably discharged veterans are permitted to submit an application for admission to the University as a freshman student enrolling in the spring semester if the veteran was on active duty during the fall semester. Allows the university to request that the Department of Veterans' Affairs confirm the status of an applicant as an honorably discharged veteran who was on active duty during the fall semester. Effective immediately.

LRB099 14729 NHT 38876 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

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

4 Section 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) 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); and

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

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

1           (3) except that up to 3 of the 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           (c) When allocating funds, local boards of education shall  
8           recognize their obligation to their students to offer the  
9           coursework required by subsection (b).

10          (d) A student who has graduated from high school and has  
11          scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or SAT  
12          shall not be required to take a high school equivalency test as  
13          a prerequisite to admission.

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

22          (Source: P.A. 98-718, eff. 1-1-15.)

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

1 (110 ILCS 520/8e) (from Ch. 144, par. 658e)

2 Sec. 8e. Admissions.

3 (a) Commencing in the fall of 1993, no new student shall  
4 then or thereafter be admitted to instruction in any of the  
5 departments or colleges of the University unless such student  
6 also has satisfactorily 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); and

18 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language (which  
19 may be deemed to include American Sign Language),  
20 music, vocational education or art;

21 (2) except that institutions may admit individual  
22 applicants if the institution determines through  
23 assessment or through evaluation based on learning  
24 outcomes of the coursework taken, including vocational  
25 education courses and courses taken in a charter school  
26 established under Article 27A of the School Code, that the

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

18 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework  
19 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be  
20 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from  
21 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences  
22 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5  
23 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

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

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

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

13 (Source: P.A. 98-718, eff. 1-1-15.)

14 Section 15. The Chicago State University Law is amended by  
15 changing Section 5-85 as follows:

16 (110 ILCS 660/5-85)

17 Sec. 5-85. Admissions ~~Admission requirements~~.

18 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any  
19 of the departments or colleges of the Chicago State University  
20 unless such student also has satisfactorily completed:

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

23 (A) 4 years of English (emphasizing written and  
24 oral communications and literature), of which up to 2

1 years may be collegiate level instruction;

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

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

7 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences); and

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

11 (2) except that Chicago State 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 Chicago State 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. Chicago State  
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 SAT  
19 shall not be required to take a high school equivalency test as  
20 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.)

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

6 (110 ILCS 665/10-85)

7 Sec. 10-85. Admissions ~~Admission requirements~~.

8 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any  
9 of the departments or colleges of the Eastern Illinois  
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); and

23 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language (which  
24 may be deemed to include American Sign Language),

1 music, vocational education or art;

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

25 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework  
26 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be

1 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from  
2 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences  
3 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5  
4 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

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

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

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

20 (Source: P.A. 98-718, eff. 1-1-15.)

21 Section 25. The Governors State University Law is amended  
22 by changing Section 15-85 as follows:

23 (110 ILCS 670/15-85)

24 Sec. 15-85. Admissions ~~Admission requirements~~.

1 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any  
2 of the departments or colleges of the Governors State  
3 University unless such student also has satisfactorily  
4 completed:

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

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

10 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history  
11 and government);

12 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through  
13 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or  
14 fundamentals of computer programming);

15 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences); and

16 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language (which  
17 may be deemed to include American Sign Language),  
18 music, vocational education or art;

19 (2) except that Governors State University may admit  
20 individual applicants if it determines through assessment  
21 or through evaluation based on learning outcomes of the  
22 coursework taken, including vocational education courses  
23 and courses taken in a charter school established under  
24 Article 27A of the School Code, that the applicant  
25 demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially equivalent  
26 to the knowledge and skills expected to be acquired in the

1 high school courses required for admission. The Board of  
2 Trustees of Governors State University shall not  
3 discriminate in the University's admissions process  
4 against an applicant for admission because of the  
5 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established  
6 under Article 27A of the School Code. Governors State  
7 University may also admit (i) applicants who did not have  
8 an opportunity to complete the minimum college preparatory  
9 curriculum in high school, and (ii) educationally  
10 disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to the formal  
11 organized special assistance programs that are tailored to  
12 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,  
13 the institution incorporates in the applicant's  
14 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic  
15 activities that compensate for course deficiencies; and

16 (3) except that up to 3 of 15 units of coursework  
17 required by paragraph (1) of this subsection may be  
18 distributed by deducting no more than one unit each from  
19 the categories of social studies, mathematics, sciences  
20 and electives and completing those 3 units in any of the 5  
21 categories of coursework described in paragraph (1).

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

25 (c) A student who has graduated from high school and has  
26 scored within the University's accepted range on the ACT or SAT

1 shall not be required to take a high school equivalency test as  
2 a prerequisite to admission.

3 (d) The Board shall establish an admissions process in  
4 which honorably discharged veterans are permitted to submit an  
5 application for admission to the University as a freshman  
6 student enrolling in the spring semester if the veteran was on  
7 active duty during the fall semester. The University may  
8 request that the Department of Veterans' Affairs confirm the  
9 status of an applicant as an honorably discharged veteran who  
10 was on active duty during the fall semester.

11 (Source: P.A. 98-718, eff. 1-1-15.)

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

14 (110 ILCS 675/20-85)

15 Sec. 20-85. Admissions ~~Admission requirements~~.

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

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

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



1 organized special assistance programs that are tailored to  
2 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,  
3 the institution incorporates in the applicant's  
4 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic  
5 activities that compensate for course deficiencies; and

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

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

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

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

1 (Source: P.A. 98-718, eff. 1-1-15.)

2 Section 35. The Northeastern Illinois University Law is  
3 amended by changing Section 25-85 as follows:

4 (110 ILCS 680/25-85)

5 Sec. 25-85. Admissions ~~Admission requirements~~.

6 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any  
7 of the departments or colleges of the Northeastern Illinois  
8 University unless such student also has satisfactorily  
9 completed:

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 (2) except that Northeastern Illinois University may

1 admit individual applicants if it 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 admission.  
9 The Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University  
10 shall not discriminate in the University's admissions  
11 process against an applicant for admission because of the  
12 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established  
13 under Article 27A of the School Code. Northeastern Illinois  
14 University may also admit (i) applicants who did not have  
15 an opportunity to complete the minimum college preparatory  
16 curriculum in high school, and (ii) 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 SAT  
8 shall not be required to take a high school equivalency test as  
9 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.)

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

21 (110 ILCS 685/30-85)

22 Sec. 30-85. Admissions ~~Admission requirements~~.

23 (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any  
24 of the departments or colleges of the Northern Illinois

1 University unless such student also has satisfactorily  
2 completed:

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

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

8 (B) 3 years of social studies (emphasizing history  
9 and government);

10 (C) 3 years of mathematics (introductory through  
11 advanced algebra, geometry, trigonometry, or  
12 fundamentals of computer programming);

13 (D) 3 years of science (laboratory sciences); and

14 (E) 2 years of electives in foreign language (which  
15 may be deemed to include American Sign Language),  
16 music, vocational education or art;

17 (2) except that Northern Illinois University may admit  
18 individual applicants if it determines through assessment  
19 or through evaluation based on learning outcomes of the  
20 coursework taken, including vocational education courses  
21 and courses taken in a charter school established under  
22 Article 27A of the School Code, that the applicant  
23 demonstrates knowledge and skills substantially equivalent  
24 to the knowledge and skills expected to be acquired in the  
25 high school courses required for admission. The Board of  
26 Trustees of Northern Illinois University shall not

1 discriminate in the University's admissions process  
2 against an applicant for admission because of the  
3 applicant's enrollment in a charter school established  
4 under Article 27A of the School Code. Northern Illinois  
5 University may also admit (i) applicants who did not have  
6 an opportunity to complete the minimum college preparatory  
7 curriculum in high school, and (ii) educationally  
8 disadvantaged applicants who are admitted to the formal  
9 organized special assistance programs that are tailored to  
10 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,  
11 the institution incorporates in the applicant's  
12 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic  
13 activities that compensate for 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 SAT  
25 shall not be required to take a high school equivalency test as  
26 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.)

10       Section 45. The Western Illinois University Law is amended  
11 by changing Section 35-85 as follows:

12       (110 ILCS 690/35-85)

13       Sec. 35-85. Admissions ~~Admission requirements~~.

14       (a) No new student shall be admitted to instruction in any  
15 of the departments or colleges of the Western 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); and

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

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



1 the needs of such students, providing that in either case,  
2 the institution incorporates in the applicant's  
3 baccalaureate curriculum courses or other academic  
4 activities that compensate for course deficiencies; and

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

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

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

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

26 (Source: P.A. 98-718, eff. 1-1-15.)

1           Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
2           becoming law.