



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 28

February Session, 2024

Senate Bill No. 109

Senate, March 14, 2024

The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through SEN. SLAP of the 5th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT MODIFYING THE CONNECTICUT AUTOMATIC ADMISSIONS PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (e) of section 10a-11h of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
3 *2024*):

4 (e) (1) The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall establish (A)
5 a minimum [class rank percentile] grade point average for applicants to
6 qualify for admission through the Connecticut Automatic Admissions
7 Program to each participating institution, and (B) a standardized
8 method for calculating grade point average. [that shall be used to
9 determine class rank percentile.]

10 (2) Each participating institution shall establish an academic
11 threshold for admission to such institution through the Connecticut
12 Automatic Admissions Program. Any other institution of higher

13 education shall establish one or more of the following academic
14 thresholds: (A) The minimum [class rank percentile] grade point
15 average established by the Board of Regents for Higher Education
16 pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, [(B)
17 a minimum grade point average calculated in accordance with the
18 standardized method established by the board pursuant to
19 subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection,] or [(C)] (B) a
20 combination of [a] the minimum grade point average [calculated in
21 accordance with the standardized method established by the board
22 pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection] and
23 performance on a nationally recognized college readiness assessment
24 administered to students enrolled in grade eleven pursuant to
25 subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of section 10-14n. Each state university
26 within the Connecticut State University System shall establish the
27 academic threshold set forth in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision
28 and may establish the additional academic [thresholds] threshold set
29 forth in [subparagraphs] subparagraph (B) [and (C)] of this subdivision.
30 An applicant shall be deemed to have satisfied the academic threshold
31 for admission to a participating institution through the Connecticut
32 Automatic Admissions Program if such applicant satisfies any one of
33 the academic thresholds established by such institution.

34 (3) No governing board of a participating institution shall establish
35 policies or procedures that require any academic qualifications in
36 addition to the qualifications specified in subsection (b) of this section
37 and the academic threshold established pursuant to this subsection for
38 the purposes of the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program.

39 Sec. 2. Section 10-220q of the general statutes is repealed and the
40 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

41 (a) For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year
42 thereafter, for the purpose of qualifying a student for the Connecticut
43 Automatic Admissions Program, established pursuant to section 10a-
44 11h, as amended by this act, each local and regional board of education
45 shall (1) calculate a grade point average using the standardized method

46 established by the Board of Regents for Higher Education pursuant to
 47 subsection (e) of section 10a-11h, as amended by this act, for each
 48 student who completes eleventh grade, and (2) determine whether such
 49 student's [class rank percentile] grade point average is above or below
 50 the minimum established by the Board of Regents for Higher Education
 51 pursuant to subsection (e) of section 10a-11h, as amended by this act.
 52 Each local and regional board of education shall share a student's grade
 53 point average and whether such student is above or below the minimum
 54 [class rank percentile] grade point average with (A) the student, (B) the
 55 student's parent or guardian, (C) the Department of Education, in the
 56 form and manner prescribed by the department, and (D) upon the
 57 student's request, a participating institution for the purposes of
 58 applying to such participating institution under the Connecticut
 59 Automatic Admissions Program.

60 (b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a local or
 61 regional board of education to publish [or provide a class ranking for
 62 any student or to publish] on a student's transcript the grade point
 63 average calculated pursuant to subsection (a) of this section or whether
 64 such student is above or below the minimum [class rank percentile]
 65 grade point average established by the Board of Regents for Higher
 66 Education pursuant to subsection (e) of section 10a-11h, as amended by
 67 this act.

68 (c) For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year
 69 thereafter, each local and regional board education shall notify each
 70 student enrolled in his or her final year of high school, and the parent or
 71 guardian of such student, whether such student may be admitted to at
 72 least one participating institution under the Connecticut Automatic
 73 Admissions Program based on the academic threshold established by
 74 such institution pursuant to subsection (e) of section 10a-11h, as
 75 amended by this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2024	10a-11h(e)

Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-220q
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HED *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which makes a procedural change to the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program, is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact. The bill requires participating institutions to use a grade point average for automatic admission, rather than a class rank.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

SB 109

AN ACT MODIFYING THE CONNECTICUT AUTOMATIC ADMISSIONS PROGRAM.

SUMMARY

This bill requires higher education institutions participating in the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program to use a Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR)-established minimum grade point average (GPA), rather than a BOR-established minimum class rank percentile, as an academic threshold for admission. It correspondingly requires BOR to set this GPA, rather than class rank, threshold and makes conforming changes.

By law, the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program is a BOR-established program that requires participating higher education institutions to automatically admit an applicant as a full-time, first-year student to a Connecticut in-person’s bachelor’s degree program if he or she meets certain eligibility requirements, which include meeting or exceeding the established academic threshold.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2024

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 22 Nay 0 (02/29/2024)