

House Study Bill 547 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON HIGHER
EDUCATION BILL BY CHAIRPERSON
COLLINS)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act regarding student admission factors to regents
- 2 universities.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act shall be known and may be
2 cited as the "Admissions Reform Act".

3 Sec. 2. Section 262.9, subsection 3, Code 2026, is amended to
4 read as follows:

5 3. Make rules for admission to and for the government of
6 said institutions, not inconsistent with law. The rules shall
7 require the institutions of higher learning under its control to
8 accept the classic learning test, developed by classic learning
9 initiatives, into the regent admission index as an additional
10 standardized test option, in addition to the college readiness
11 assessment administered by ACT, inc., and the college readiness
12 assessment administered by the college board, for purposes
13 of calculating the regent admission index score prior to the
14 beginning of the 2026-2027 academic year.

15 Sec. 3. Section 262.9, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
16 following new subsection:

17 NEW SUBSECTION. 43. By December 31, 2026, develop and adopt
18 a policy ensuring that only merit and the likelihood of
19 employment in Iowa after graduation are considered in admission
20 determination for students who do not qualify under the regent
21 admission index.

22 EXPLANATION

23 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
24 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

25 This bill relates to student admission in regents
26 universities. The bill directs the state board of regents
27 to adopt a policy ensuring only the factors of merit and
28 likelihood to work in Iowa post-graduation are considered in
29 admission determination for students who do not qualify under the
30 regent admission index (RAI). The RAI is part of the admission
31 requirements for Iowa high school students applying to regents
32 universities. The RAI combines the following factors: ACT or
33 SAT test score, high school cumulative grade-point average, and
34 the number of completed high school core courses to predict
35 success at regents universities. For students who do not

1 qualify under the RAI, the bill provides that the only factors
2 universities can utilize in making admission determinations of
3 these students are merit and likelihood of employment in Iowa
4 after graduation. The state board shall adopt the policy by
5 December 31, 2026.

6 The bill further directs the state board of regents to
7 accept the classic learning test into the RAI as an additional
8 standardized test option, in addition to the college readiness
9 assessments administered by ACT, inc., and the college board,
10 respectively the ACT and SAT, for purposes of calculating the RAI
11 score prior to the beginning of the 2026-2027 academic year. The
12 classic learning test is an online college entrance exam.

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