

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 82nd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 1999  
4

*As Engrossed: S2/11/99 S2/15/99*

## A Bill

Act 520 of 1999  
SENATE BILL 359

5 By: Senator Mahony  
6  
7

### For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO EXTEND THE DATE BY WHICH STUDENTS ARE  
10 REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE CORE CURRICULUM WITH A  
11 MINIMUM GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF 2.0 TO QUALIFY FOR  
12 UNCONDITIONAL ADMISSION TO A PUBLIC INSTITUTION FOR  
13 HIGHER EDUCATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

### Subtitle

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16 "AN ACT TO EXTEND THE DATE BY WHICH  
17 STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE  
18 CORE CURRICULUM WITH A MINIMUM GRADE  
19 POINT AVERAGE OF 2.0 TO QUALIFY FOR  
20 UNCONDITIONAL ADMISSION TO A PUBLIC  
21 INSTITUTION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION."  
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24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 6-60-208 is amended to read as follows:

27 "(a) Beginning with the ~~1999-2000~~ 2002-2003 academic year, any public  
28 school student who graduates from a public high school after May 1, ~~1999~~ 2002,  
29 must have successfully completed the core curriculum, recommended by the State  
30 Board of Higher Education after consultation with the State Board of Education  
31 and pursuant to § 6-61-217 with a minimum cumulative grade point average of  
32 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, to be eligible for unconditional admission as an  
33 undergraduate to a public four-year institution of higher education. Nothing  
34 in this subsection shall prevent a student from enrolling for the purpose of  
35 obtaining a degree or a certificate offered by a public four-year institution.

36 (b) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, beginning with the ~~1999-~~

1 ~~2000~~ 2002-2003 academic year, any public school student who graduates from a  
2 public high school after May 1, ~~1999~~ 2002, must have successfully completed  
3 the core curriculum, recommended by the State Board of Higher Education after  
4 consultation with the State Board of Education and pursuant to § 6-61-217 to  
5 be eligible for unconditional admission to a public two-year institution of  
6 higher education. Nothing in this subsection shall prevent a student from  
7 enrolling for the purpose of obtaining a degree or a certificate offered by a  
8 public two-year institution.

9 (c)(1) The colleges and universities shall develop standards for  
10 collegiate admissions based on the mission of each institution and establish a  
11 conditional collegiate admission process for each institution, subject to the  
12 recommendations of the State Board of Higher Education. The colleges and  
13 universities are hereby directed to establish standards for conditional  
14 admission for public school students who have not completed the core  
15 curriculum, ~~[sic]~~ subject to the recommendations of the State Board of Higher  
16 Education. At a minimum, these conditional admissions standards shall require  
17 the following:

18 (A) For a public school student seeking an associate of  
19 arts degree or a baccalaureate degree and who failed to successfully complete  
20 the core curriculum, ~~[sic]~~ completion of twelve (12) hours of core academic  
21 courses and any necessary remedial courses with a cumulative grade point  
22 average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.

23 (B) For a public school student seeking a diploma, a  
24 technical certificate, or an associate of applied science degree and who  
25 failed to successfully complete the core curriculum, ~~[sic]~~ completion of six  
26 (6) hours of core academic courses, six (6) hours of technical courses  
27 required for the diploma, technical certificate, or associate of applied  
28 science degree, and any necessary remedial courses with a cumulative grade  
29 point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.

30 (2)(A) Beginning with the 1997-1998 academic year, conditional  
31 admissions standards for nontraditional students shall be based on the  
32 student's score on the American College Test composite, or its equivalent as  
33 defined by the Department of Higher Education, which shall issue guidelines to  
34 assist two-year and four-year institutions of higher education in developing  
35 such conditional admission standards.

36 (B) As used in this subdivision, 'nontraditional students'

1 shall include those who are home-schooled or who attended private or parochial  
2 secondary schools.

3 (3)(A) Conditional admissions standards should appropriately  
4 reflect the mission of the institution and shall be implemented by the  
5 institutions as a condition for receiving state funds.

6 (B) If the State Board of Higher Education does not approve  
7 the conditional collegiate admissions standards and process for an  
8 institution, no state funds shall be used to subsidize or pay for any portion  
9 of the cost associated with the conditional students.

10 (d) The admissions criteria set forth in this section shall not apply  
11 to those individuals who graduate from a public high school prior to May 1,  
12 ~~1999~~ 2002.

13 (e) Nothing in this section shall prevent an institution of higher  
14 education from setting higher admissions standards for enrolling freshmen.

15 (f) Nothing in this section shall prevent a student from enrolling for  
16 the purpose of obtaining a degree or a certificate offered by a public two-  
17 year or four-year institution of higher education."

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19 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature  
20 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
21 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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23 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to  
24 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
25 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
26 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
27 act are declared to be severable.

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29 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
30 hereby repealed.

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*/s/ Mahony*

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APPROVED: 3/10/1999

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