

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 24-47—SB 109

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

**AN ACT MODIFYING THE CONNECTICUT AUTOMATIC
ADMISSIONS PROGRAM**

SUMMARY: This act modifies the academic threshold for student admission through the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program to “participating institutions” (i.e., the four state universities, CT State Community College, Charter Oak State College, and any other in-state higher education institution eligible to participate in the program). Specifically, it requires (1) the Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) to set a minimum unweighted grade point average (GPA) for program applicants to qualify for automatic admission to participating institutions and (2) these institutions to generally use this GPA as the threshold for admission through the program. However, the act allows participating institutions to set an additional academic threshold of performance on a nationally recognized college readiness assessment administered to grade 11 students (e.g., the SAT).

Under prior law, BOR had to set a minimum class rank percentile and participating institutions generally had to establish academic thresholds for admission based on this metric but could also include performance on a college readiness assessment.

The act also makes various conforming changes (e.g., requiring boards of education to calculate the unweighted GPA of students who have completed grade 11, rather than BOR’s prior method for determining class rank percentile, to determine whether the GPA meets BOR’s minimum).

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 bachelor’s degree program if he or she meets certain eligibility requirements, which include meeting or exceeding the academic threshold.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2024