

Statutory Initiative to Simplify Colorado College Admission Procedures and Expand Student Opportunities

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:

Section 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 23-1-113.5 (1); **repeal** (d.5); and **add** (1.5) as follows:

23-1-113.5. Commission directive - resident admissions - report - definitions.

(1) It is the intent of the general assembly that all state-supported institutions of higher education operate primarily to serve and educate the people of Colorado. The general assembly therefore directs the commission to develop admission policies to ensure that, beginning with the fall term of 1994 and for the fall term of each year thereafter, not less than fifty-five percent of the incoming freshman class at each state-supported institution of higher education are in-state students as defined in section 23-7-102 (5). Commencing with the fall term of 1995, this requirement shall be met if the percentage of in-state students in the incoming freshman class for the then current fall term and the two previous fall terms averages not less than fifty-five percent. Such fifty-five percent requirement shall also apply to the percentage of incoming freshmen students who are admitted based on criteria other than standardized test scores, high school class rank, and high school grade point average pursuant to section 23-1-113 AND INCOMING FRESHMEN STUDENTS ADMITTED BY AUTOMATIC ADMISSION PROCEDURES AS OUTLINED IN SECTION 23-1-113.5 (1.5). In addition, the commission shall develop admission policies to ensure, beginning with the fiscal year which begins July 1, 1994, and for each fiscal year thereafter, that not less than two-thirds of the total student enrollment, including undergraduate and graduate students, at each campus of each state-supported institution of higher education, except the Colorado school of mines, are in-state students as defined in section 23-7-102 (5) and that not less than sixty percent of the total student enrollment, including undergraduate and graduate students, at the Colorado school of mines are in-state students as defined in section 23-7-102 (5). This requirement shall be met if, commencing with the fiscal year that begins July

1, 1995, the fraction of in-state students, as defined in section 23-7-102 (5), enrolled at each state-supported institution of higher education, except the Colorado school of mines, averages not less than two-thirds of the total fiscal year student enrollment for the then current fiscal year plus the two previous fiscal years. For the Colorado school of mines, this fraction of in-state students shall be not less than three-fifths. Such policies shall be implemented no later than July 1, 1994.

(1.5) (a) EACH STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL ADMIT AN APPLICANT FOR ADMISSION TO THE INSTITUTION AS AN INCOMING FRESHMAN STUDENT IF THE APPLICANT GRADUATED IN ONE OF THE TWO SCHOOL YEARS PRECEDING THE ACADEMIC YEAR FOR WHICH THE APPLICANT IS APPLYING FOR ADMISSION FROM A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOL IN THIS STATE ACCREDITED BY THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION WITH A GRADE POINT AVERAGE IN THE TOP 10 PERCENT OF THE STUDENT'S HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS. TO QUALIFY FOR ADMISSION UNDER THIS SECTION, AN APPLICANT SHALL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF ANY APPLICATION FILING DEADLINE ESTABLISHED BY THE INSTITUTION. ADMISSION GRANTED UNDER THESE PROCEDURES SHALL BE KEPT AVAILABLE UNTIL THE 31ST OF JANUARY OF THE RESPECTIVE APPLICATION SEASON AND GIVEN AT MINIMUM BY THE 31ST OF DECEMBER OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR SO THAT THE APPLICANT HAS A ONE-MONTH WINDOW TO ACCEPT OR DECLINE THEIR ADMISSION. THE APPLICANT MUST HAVE DONE THE FOLLOWING IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION (1.5) (a):

(I) COMPLETED ALL CLASS REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMITTANCE SET BY THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION.

(II) COMPLIED WITH THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION'S RULES ON MORAL CONDUCT OR CODE OF CONDUCT IF THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION HAS SUCH A POLICY.

(b) AFTER ADMITTING AN APPLICANT UNDER THIS SECTION 23-1-113.5 (1.5)(a), THE INSTITUTION SHALL REVIEW THE APPLICANT'S RECORD AND ANY OTHER FACTOR THE INSTITUTION CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE APPLICANT MAY REQUIRE ADDITIONAL PREPARATION FOR COLLEGE LEVEL WORK OR WOULD BENEFIT FROM INCLUSION IN A RETENTION PROGRAM. THE INSTITUTION MAY REQUIRE A STUDENT SO IDENTIFIED TO

ENROLL DURING THE SUMMER IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE STUDENT IS ADMITTED UNDER THIS SECTION TO PARTICIPATE IN APPROPRIATE ENRICHMENT COURSES AND ORIENTATION PROGRAMS. THIS SECTION DOES NOT PROHIBIT A STUDENT WHO IS NOT DETERMINED TO NEED ADDITIONAL PREPARATION FOR COLLEGE LEVEL WORK FROM ENROLLING, IF THE STUDENT CHOOSES, DURING THE SUMMER IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE STUDENT IS ADMITTED UNDER THIS SECTION.

(c) A GRADUATING STUDENT WHO DOES NOT QUALIFY FOR ADMISSION UNDER SECTION 23-1-113.5 (1.5)(a) MAY STILL APPLY TO ANY HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION.

(d) HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO OFFER ADMISSION TO APPLICANTS WHO QUALIFY FOR AUTOMATIC ADMISSION BY SECTION 23-1-113.5 (1.5)(a) IN EXCESS OF THE NUMBER REQUIRED TO FILL 75% OF THE UNIVERSITY'S ENROLLMENT CAPACITY DESIGNATED FOR INCOMING FRESHMAN STUDENTS FOR THAT ACADEMIC YEAR. THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION SHALL OFFER ADMISSION TO ALL APPLICANTS REQUESTING ADMISSION BY SECTION 23-1-113.5 (1.5)(a) BY PERCENTILE RANK, BEGINNING WITH THE TOP PERCENTILE RANK AND PROCEEDING UNTIL THE APPLICANTS ADMITTED ARE EQUAL TO THE NUMBER ESTIMATED IN GOOD FAITH BY THE INSTITUTION TO FILL 75% OF THE UNIVERSITY'S INCOMING FRESHMAN ENROLLMENT CAPACITY, EXCEPT THAT THE INSTITUTION SHALL OFFER ADMISSION TO ALL APPLICANTS WITH THE SAME PERCENTILE RANK AS THE LAST ADMITTED. AFTER SUCH AUTOMATIC ADMISSIONS HAVE TAKEN PLACE, ALL GRADUATES REQUESTING ADMISSION UNDER SECTION 23-1-113.5 (1.5)(a) THAT HAVE NOT BEEN ADMITTED ~~ARE SHALL~~ ~~BE~~ CONSIDERED AS STANDARD IN-STATE APPLICANTS.

(e) THE ~~INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL DISPLAY THE~~ PERCENTILE GPA NECESSARY TO ENTER THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION FOR THE CURRENT APPLICATION PERIOD ~~SHALL BE VISIBLE~~ ON THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION'S WEBSITE. ~~THE FIGURE~~ SHALL BE CURRENT TO THE PREVIOUS WEEK IF WITHIN THE APPLICATION WINDOW, AND FOR THE PREVIOUS APPLICATION PERIOD OTHERWISE, UNDER SECTION 23-1-113.5 (1.5)(d), AND IF SECTION 23-1-113.5 (1.5)(d) DOES NOT APPLY THEN SECTION 23-1-113.5 (1.5)(a). ~~THE~~ ~~INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL SEND~~ THIS FIGURE FOR THE PAST APPLICATION PERIOD ~~SHALL ADDITIONALLY BE SENT~~ TO ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS AFTER THE END OF THE

APPLICATION WINDOW FOR THE DISSEMINATION OF THE INFORMATION TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS.

(f) THE TERM “INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION” MEANS THE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AS DEFINED IN SECTION 23-18-102 (10) (a), THE LOCAL DISTRICT COLLEGES, AND THE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGES. THE LIST INCLUDES ~~HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS MENTIONED MEAN:~~ THE COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES, THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO SYSTEM, ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY, COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY, WESTERN COLORADO UNIVERSITY, FORT LEWIS COLLEGE, COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY, METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY, AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO **AMONG OTHERS**. THE LIST INCLUDES COMMUNITY COLLEGES, LOCAL DISTRICT COLLEGES, AND AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGES FUNDED BY THE STATE OF COLORADO.

~~(d.5) An institution of higher education shall make an effort to recruit in-state students who graduated from a high school that is a rural school or in a rural school district, as defined in section 23-76-102 (4).~~

Section 4. Effective date - **November 30, 2026.** ~~Nov 30st, 2026~~