

The rules below, Texas Administrative Code, §§1.9100 – 1.9106, were adopted by the Board of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board at the Board's meeting on January 23, 2020. The newly adopted rules will be filed with the Texas Register on or around February 10 and will be effective 20 days after filing.

CHAPTER 1.
AGENCY ADMINISTRATION

SUBCHAPTER BB
TEXAS APPLICATION FOR STATE FINANCIAL AID
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1.9100 Authority and Specific Purposes of the Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA) Committee

1.9101 Definitions

1.9102 Committee Membership and Officers

1.9103 Duration

1.9104 Meetings

1.9105 Tasks Assigned the Committee

1.9106 Report to the Board

1.9100 Authority and Specific Purpose of the Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA) Advisory Committee

(a) Authority. Statutory authority for this subchapter is provided in the Texas Government Code, Chapter 2110, §2110.0012 and §2110.0015 and Texas Education Code (TEC) §61.07762.

(b) Purpose. The Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA) Advisory Committee is created to assist the board in adopting the procedures to allow a person to complete and submit the TASFA or similar application for state student financial assistance by electronic submission through the internet website which the board provides the common admission application form required by TEC §51.762.

1.9101 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings:

- (1) Board--The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.
- (2) Apply Texas System--The state's primary method for applying for admission to Texas public institutions of higher education. The Apply Texas System includes, but is not limited to, common admission applications; a portal for completing and submitting application forms to participating institutions of higher education; help desks to provide users assistance; and a portal through which Texas high school counselors

gain access to status data regarding their students' progress in applying for admission and financial aid.

- (3) Interested persons--Persons who attend committee meetings as representatives of stakeholder entities and any other persons who have made their interest in the work of the committee known to its presiding officer. Such interested persons may participate in committee discussions, as invited by the presiding officer to do so, but do not have the authority to cast votes.

1.9102 Committee Membership and Officers

- (a) Membership shall consist of financial aid personnel, public school counselors, and other stakeholders who represent the needs of interested students with responsibility of advising students regarding financial aid.
- (b) Membership on the committee shall include:
 - (1) at least two financial aid personnel representatives from the following sectors of higher education: four-year public universities; two-year colleges, and participating private or independent institutions of higher education, all as defined by TEC §61.003;
 - (2) at least two representatives from public school districts;
 - (3) at least one student representative from a public school district who will serve as a non-voting member;
 - (4) at least one institution of higher education technical representative with knowledge of the transfer of financial aid data;
 - (5) representatives of nonprofit organizations who represent the needs of interested students with responsibility of advising students regarding financial aid.
- (c) Interested persons, such as the Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, Council of Public University Presidents and Chancellors, Texas Association of Community Colleges, Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas, and legislative and governmental relations staff shall be regularly advised of committee meetings.
- (d) The number of committee members shall not exceed 24.
- (e) Members of the committee shall select a chair, who will be responsible for conducting meetings and conveying committee recommendations to the board. A co-chair shall also be elected by the committee to serve in the chair's stead as needed. The chair and co-chair shall each serve a two-year term.
- (f) Members shall each serve a three-year term and may serve multiple terms.

1.9103 Duration

The committee shall be abolished no later than January 1, 2023 in accordance with Texas Government Code, Chapter 2110.008 and TEC §61.07762. It may be reestablished by the Board.

1.9104 Meetings

The committee shall meet at least three times a year. Additional meetings may be called as deemed appropriate by the chair of the committee. Meetings shall be open to the public and broadcast via the web, unless prevented by technical difficulties. Minutes shall be available to the public after they have been prepared by the Board staff and reviewed by members of the committee.

1.9105 Tasks Assigned the Committee

Tasks assigned the committee may include:

- (a) Making recommendations to the Board on the procedures, development, and any associated cost of the online TASFA;
- (b) Identifying technical and functional revisions of the ApplyTX System regarding the development of the online TASFA;
- (c) soliciting input from stakeholders across the state; and
- (d) other activities necessary for the development of the online TASFA.

1.9106 Report to the Board

The committee shall report any recommendations to the Board by December 1, 2020. The Board shall report the advisory committee's recommendations to the standing committee of each house of the legislature with jurisdiction over higher education by January 1, 2021.