



OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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Undergraduate Admissions

P.O. Box 8058 • Austin, TX 78713-8058 • (512) 475-7399 • Fax (512) 475-7478

September 15, 2011

Richard Ownby, Director
Education Service Center
3001 North Freeway
Fort Worth, TX 76106-6596

Dear Mr. Ownby:

The President of the University of Texas at Austin, William Powers Jr., recently sent a letter to the Commissioner of Education, Mr. Robert Scott, regarding automatic admission to the university for the 2013-2014 academic year. The letter states that the university will automatically admit freshman applicants from Texas high schools who are in the top 8% of their classes.

A copy of the President's letter is enclosed. I would appreciate your assistance in helping to spread the details about automatic admission for the 2013-2014 academic year. Please share the information with educators in your area in any way you feel is appropriate.

Information about automatic admission for the 2013-2014 entering freshman class is also available on the "Updates" page of the counselor web site maintained by the university's Office of Admissions at <http://bealonghorn.utexas.edu/counselors/updates/freshman/>. Please let me know if you have any questions about the content of the letter or about the university's admissions process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kedra Ishop".

Kedra Ishop, Ph.D.
Vice Provost and Director of Admissions

Enclosure



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

William Powers, Jr., President
University Distinguished Teaching Professor
Hines H. Baker and Thelma Kelley Baker Chair in Law
Main Building 400 • PO Box T • Austin, Texas 78713-8920

Direct Number (512) 471-1232
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president@po.utexas.edu

September 12, 2011

Via Interagency Mail

The Honorable Robert Scott
Commissioner
Texas Education Agency
William B. Travis Building, Room 2-185
Agency Code: 701

Dear Commissioner Scott:

Senate Bill 175 (by Senator Florence Shapiro and Representative Dan Branch), passed by the 81st Legislature, modifies the top-ten-percent automatic admission program at The University of Texas at Austin. Under the new law, the University is to admit automatically enough students to fill 75% of available spaces set aside for Texas residents in an entering freshman class, beginning with the 2011 summer/fall class.

Section 51.805 (a-2) of the Texas Education Code requires the University, in a manner prescribed by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and not later than September 15 annually, to

provide to each school district, for dissemination of the information to high school junior-level students and their parents, notice of which percentile ranks of high school senior-level students who qualify for automatic admission under Subsection (a) are anticipated by the institution to be offered admission under Subsection (a-1) during the next school year.

The following instructions, received from the TEA, are the "manner prescribed":

1. The President of the University will send to the Commissioner of Education a letter explaining which percentile ranks of high school senior-level students who qualify for automatic admission the University anticipates offering admissions for fall 2013.

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2. The Texas Education Agency will post a letter from the Commissioner on the "To the Administrator Addressed" Web site with the letter from the President of the University as an attachment.
3. The University will send a copy of the President's letter to the Regional Education Service Center (ESC) Executive Directors with a request that they assist in the dissemination of the information to all Texas school districts.

Using data from recent years, the University has determined that automatically admitting students in the top 8% of their high school graduating class to the 2013 entering freshman class will fill 75% of available spaces. As a result, The University of Texas at Austin will automatically admit all eligible 2013 summer/fall freshman applicants who rank within the top 8% of their high school graduating classes, with remaining spaces to be filled through holistic review.

This information is provided to you in accordance with provisions of SB 175 and instructions from your office. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Dr. Kedra Ishop, Vice Provost and Director of Admissions. We will send a copy of this letter to the Regional Education service Center (ESC) Executive Directors with a request that they assist in the dissemination of the information to all school districts in Texas.

We appreciate your assistance and that of the Texas Education Agency in disseminating this information to high school juniors and their parents across the state.

Sincerely,



William Powers, Jr.
President

WP/dwd

cc: The Honorable Florence Shapiro
The Honorable Dan Branch
Dr. Kedra Ishop