

**OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS**  
Undergraduate Admissions

P.O. Box 8058 • Austin, Texas 78713-8058 • 512-475-7399 • FAX 512-475-7478

September 14, 2016

Dr. Pam Wells, Director  
Education Service Center  
7145 West Tidwell  
Houston, TX 77092-2096

Dear Dr. Wells:

The President of the University of Texas at Austin, Gregory L. Fenves, recently sent a letter to the Commissioner of Education, Mike Morath, regarding automatic admission to the university for the 2018-2019 academic year. The letter states that the university will automatically admit freshman applicants from Texas high schools who are in the top 7% 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 2018-2019 academic year. Please share the information with educators in your area in any way you feel is appropriate.

Details about automatic admission can be found on our Admission Decisions web page at <http://admissions.utexas.edu/apply/decisions>. 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 "Susan Kearns".

Susan Kearns  
Director of Admissions

Enclosure



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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Gregory L. Fenves, President  
110 Inner Campus Drive, G3400 · Austin, TX 78712-3400  
512-471-1232 · president@utexas.edu

September 9, 2016

*Via Interagency Mail*

Mr. Mike Morath  
Commissioner  
Texas Education Agency  
William B. Travis Building, Room 2-185  
Agency Code: 701

Dear Commissioner Morath:

Senate Bill 175, passed by the 81<sup>st</sup> Legislature, modifies the Top 10% 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.

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 2018.
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.

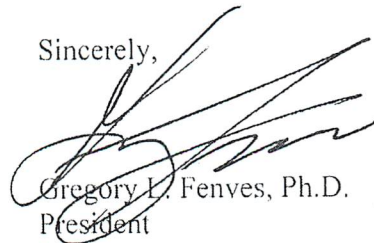
3. The University will send a copy of the President's letter to the Regional Education Service Center (ESC) Executive Directors with a request that they assist in the dissemination of the information to all Texas school districts.

Using data from recent years, the University has determined that automatically admitting students in the top 7% of their high school graduating class to the 2018 entering freshman class will fill 75% of available spaces. As a result, The University of Texas at Austin will automatically admit all eligible 2018 summer/fall freshman applicants who rank within the top 7% 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. David Laude, Senior Vice Provost for Enrollment and Curriculum. 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,



Gregory L. Fenves, Ph.D.  
President

GLF/nn

cc: The Honorable Kel Seliger  
The Honorable John Zerwas  
Maurie McInnis, Provost  
David Laude, Senior Vice Provost for Enrollment and Curriculum  
Susan Kearns, Director of Admissions