

# Create the Texas Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities

## *HB 5148 by Raney | SB 2225 by Menéndez*

This bill will create the Texas Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities. Lack of financial aid and funding options available for students with disabilities prevents many students with disabilities from pursuing postsecondary education.

- Because college programs for students with intellectual disabilities are typically non-degree programs and/or not full-time, eligibility for scholarships can be extremely limited.
- For students with intellectual disabilities, there is essentially only one avenue for receiving federal financial aid: a Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary (CTP) Program. But there are only 5 approved CTPs in Texas.
- Taking steps to promote the availability and accessibility of financial assistance for the purpose of higher education to prepare an individual with a disability for their preferred employment will further promote the competitive employment of people with disabilities and the expectation that they are able to meet the same employment standards, responsibilities, and expectations as other working-age adults.

Among recent cohorts in Texas, fewer than one of three high school graduates with a disability enrolled in a Texas college within two years of graduation.

## Supported by:

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