Education

Stale coursework should not become permanent educational or credential exclusion.

THE POSITION

Public universities control access to education and the credentials required for many professions. When they treat old grades as permanent proof of ability, administrative rules can exclude capable returning students. Federal law should create an academic-renewal path for admission and a new degree, while schools keep records needed for professional standards and public safety.

Texas already has this kind of law. Its Academic Fresh Start program directs public colleges to disregard old coursework for eligible undergraduate applicants. Current rules use a period of five to ten years. A national rule should make academic renewal clear and available, not an exception known only to well-informed applicants.

SOURCES

Texas Education Code § 51.931
Lets eligible applicants ask public colleges to disregard older coursework for undergraduate admission.

GENERAL INFORMATION

This guide gives general information, not legal advice or representation. Laws and deadlines vary by place and circumstance. Check current official sources before acting.