

TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

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Texas Public Institutions of Higher Education

FROM: DeChà Reid

Senior Director, Financial Aid Services

DATE: Dec. 16, 2021

RE: Statutory Update: Education Benefits for Certain Survivors, TEC 54.354

During the 87th Special Legislative Session, Texas Education Code (TEC), Section 54.354 (a) under the **Education Benefits for Certain Survivors**, was modified by <u>House Bill 133</u>, which was signed into law on October 25, 2021. This bill amended the program's age restriction for eligible children from "younger than 18 years of age" to "younger than 25 years of age" on the date of death. This change will go into effect for costs charged to eligible students in Spring 2022 and forward; it is not retroactive.

NOTE: The College For All Texans <u>webpage</u> for this program has been updated to clarify this statutory change. The associated program guidelines will also be updated in the coming weeks, which can be found on the Student Financial Aid Programs <u>webpage</u>, and training will be provided to institutions that are impacted by this change. A separate notification will be sent to communicate the availability of these resources.

Please share this information with any departments or individuals that help administer exemption or waiver programs such as the Registrar or Business Office.

For questions, please contact Financial Aid Services at 844-792-2640 or through CONTACT US (select "Financial Aid Question" as the Contact Reason).