

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2026 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 69

By Senator Rucker

[Introduced January 14, 2026; referred
to the Committee on Education]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §18B-1-1e of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
2 to requiring higher education institutions to accept the Classic Learning Test.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE**1.****GOVERNANCE.**

**§18B-1-1e. Public education and higher education collaboration for the preparation of
students for college and other post-secondary education.**

1 (a) *Purpose.* — The purpose of this section is as follows:

2 (1) To assist students in the planning and preparation for success in college and other post-
3 secondary education if their education major interests require such formal education after high
4 school;

5 (2) To establish the minimum expected level of knowledge, skill and competency a student
6 must possess to be prepared fully for college and other post-secondary education at state
7 institutions of higher education;

8 (3) To implement a method for communicating the minimum level of knowledge, skill and
9 competency to students, parents, educators and counselors in the public schools, and admissions
10 officers, advisors and faculty in the higher education institutions; and

11 (4) To assure that the teacher preparation programs in state institutions of higher education
12 prepare educators to, at a minimum, deliver instruction necessary to prepare students fully for
13 college and other post-secondary education or gainful employment consistent with the provisions
14 of §18-2E-8 of this code.

15 (b) *Joint rule.* — On or before October 1, 1996, the higher education governing boards
16 shall promulgate a joint rule to achieve the purposes of subsection (a) of this section. In the
17 development of such rule, the governing boards shall consult with the state board and the jobs
18 through education employer panel, established pursuant to §18-2E-8 of this code, and shall
19 collaborate with the state board in the establishment of compatible practices within their separate
20 systems.

21 (c) *Assessment of student readiness.* — To provide continuous assessment and program
22 improvement in the preparation of high school students for success in college or other post-
23 secondary education, the higher education governing boards shall communicate to the state
24 board and the Legislative Oversight commission on education accountability by December 1, in
25 each year, beginning in December, 1997, the number of graduates from the public schools in the
26 state by high schools who were accepted in the last calendar year for enrollment at each of the
27 state institutions of higher education within one year of graduation, and whose knowledge, skill
28 and competency were below the minimum expected levels for full preparation as defined by the
29 governing boards. The governing boards also shall report the areas in which the knowledge, skill
30 and competency of the students were below the minimum expected level. The state board shall
31 provide information to each of the high schools of the state for graduates from the high school.

32 (d) *Nondiscrimination in admission process.* —

33 (1) State institutions of higher education may not require a person who has obtained a
34 diploma or other appropriate credentialing from private, nonpublic, or home schooling, and who
35 has acceptable test results on ACT, SAT, CLT or other tests recognized by the institution of higher
36 education which would qualify the person for admission, to submit to alternate testing as a
37 condition of admission.

38 (2) A person who has obtained a diploma or other appropriate credentialing may not be
39 rejected for admission to an institution of higher education solely because their secondary
40 education was not accredited by the state Board of Education or any accrediting agency approved
41 by the board.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require higher education institutions to accept the
Classic Learning Test.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law
and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.