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**Senate Higher Education Committee  
Financial Aid Testimony  
Texas Grant**

Over the past 11 years, the exponential enrollment growth at Texas A&M International University has been supported by Federal and State programs such as the Texas Grant program. At present, nearly 75% of students at the University qualify for Federal, State or local financial aid.

The administration at Texas A&M International University is supportive of the proposed changes to Texas Grant. We believe that the proposed criteria will strengthen our students' commitment to their education, increasing persistence and graduation rates.

Enclosed you will find data from the last three years, showing the total number of students who meet the current criteria and the number of those students funded based on the annual allocation provided to TAMIU from Texas Grant. The third bar, shown in green, illustrates the number of students who would have qualified for Texas Grant using the proposed criteria.

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These data demonstrate that the total allocation for each year was disbursed to qualified students, yet not all of the students who met the criteria received support. If the proposed criteria are approved, the total institutional allocation would still not be adequate to fund deserving students who qualify for this program.

In previous years, Texas A&M International University eligible students have outnumbered the available funding from Texas Grant. In fact, nearly 44% of the students that qualified for Texas Grant have been turned away during the current fiscal year. If the proposed changes take effect, the University's Texas Grant allocation would not cover 30% of the students. Because the proposal increases access and broadens financial support, Texas A&M International University not only supports the proposed changes, but also supports increased funding sufficient to meet the needs of qualified students.

Note: these numbers do not include renewal students.

# Texas A&M International University - Texas Grant

