1. GENERAL

1.01 Undergraduate students may elect the University’s Academic Fresh Start Program to have all academic course work completed at Sam Houston State University or elsewhere ten or more years prior to the semester of election removed from consideration by the University for any academic purpose including, but not limited to, cumulative grade point average, academic classification, academic standing, course prerequisites, degree requirements, eligibility for graduation, and honors standing.

1.02 Undergraduate students who elect to invoke this policy under the provisions of Senate Bill 1321 and who are enrolled as students may not receive any credit for any courses undertaken ten or more years prior to signing the Academic Fresh Start agreement.

2. PROCEDURE

2.01 Students electing to invoke Academic Fresh Start at Sam Houston State University under the provisions of SB 1321 may not choose which credit hours are to be counted or to be ignored. All college hours ten or more years old will be ignored if the student makes use of this policy.

2.02 Sam Houston State University students electing to use the Academic Fresh Start Program will acknowledge the following provisions of the policy:

a. Courses that are removed from consideration under provisions of Academic Fresh Start will not be removed from the student’s transcript, but it will be noted on the SHSU transcript that these classes will not be included for any academic purpose under the provisions of SB 1321 and this policy statement.

b. There may be implications for financial aid, veteran’s benefits, and the cost of tuition. The student bears the responsibility for investigating such implications prior to signing the agreement.

c. The Sam Houston State University Academic Fresh Start Program applies only to undergraduate work. There is no similar program for disregarding graduate or professional-level work.
d. Academic Fresh Start may be selected only once.

e. Students will be required to sign a copy of the attached agreement form and file it with the registrar, if they elect to use the Sam Houston State University Fresh Start Program under the provisions of SB 1321. Once this decision is made, it cannot be revoked.

3. REFERENCE

Senate Bill 1321 (Barrientos), 73rd Texas Legislature.

APPROVED: /signed/  
James F. Gaertner, President  
DATE: 10/28/05

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

This academic policy statement (APS) has been approved by the reviewer(s) listed below and represents Sam Houston State University’s Division of Academic Affairs’ APS from the date of this document until superseded.

Original Date: March 17, 1994  
Reviewer(s): Council of Academic Deans  
Review Cycle: March, ONY*  
Academic Policy Council  
Review Date: March 1, 2007

Approved: /signed/  
David E. Payne  
Date: 10/26/05  
Provost and Vice President  
for Academic Affairs

*=Odd Numbered Year
I, ________________________________, understand and accept the provisions of the Academic Fresh Start legislation (Texas Senate Bill 1321 and Academic Policy Statement 940317). I acknowledge that I will not receive consideration or credit for any college-level courses or grades earned ten or more years prior to the semester or summer session in which I invoke the Academic Fresh Start Program. I further affirm that I have provided Sam Houston State University with a complete record of my academic history to date.

Furthermore, I understand that once I accept the provisions of Academic Fresh Start, I may not revoke that decision.

Student Signature/Date: ________________________________________________

Registrar’s Signature/Date: ________________________________________________