1. GENERAL

1.01 Unless otherwise prohibited by law, a resident of Texas is entitled to apply for admission to and enroll as an undergraduate student in any public institution of higher education under Texas Education Code Sec (TEC) 51.931 (Right to an Academic Fresh Start).

1.02 Undergraduate applicants 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 enrollment 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.

1.03 Undergraduate applicants who elect to invoke this policy under the provisions of Texas Education Code Sec (TEC) 51.931 and who enroll 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 seek admission at Sam Houston State University under the provisions of TEC 51.931 may not choose which credit hours are to be counted or to be ignored. All academic course credits or grades earned by the applicant 10 or more years prior to the starting date of the semester in which the applicant seeks to enroll will be ignored if the student makes use of this policy.

2.02 Sam Houston State University applicants 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 considered for any academic purpose under the provisions of TEC 51.931 and this policy statement.

b. There may be implications for financial aid, veteran’s benefits, and the cost of tuition. The applicant 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. Applicants 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 TEC 51.931. Once a student accepts the provisions of Academic Fresh Start, it cannot be revoked.

APPROVED: <signed>
Dana G. Hoyt, President

DATE: 5/11/18

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

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listed below and represents SHSU’s Division of Academic Affairs’ policy from the date of this document until superseded.

Original: March 17, 1994
Reviewer(s): Council of Academic Deans
Faculty Senate
Academic Affairs Council

Approved: <signed> Date: 5/15/18
Richard Eglsaeer
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

*Effective January 2018, Academic Policy Statements will be reviewed on a rotating 5-year schedule. To transition to a distributed review load, some policies may be reviewed prior to the 5-year timeframe, with subsequent reviews transitioning to the 5-year schedule.
I, ________________________________, understand and accept the provisions of the Academic Fresh Start legislation (Texas Education Code Sec 51.931 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 start date of the semester or summer session in which I seek to enroll at Sam Houston State University. 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.

Note: After the provisions of Academic Fresh Start have been accepted, the current admission requirements must be met prior to acceptance into Sam Houston State University.

________________________________________________________________________

Student Date

Director of Admissions Date

Registrar Date