

THE FLORIDA SENATE  
2024 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED  
**Committee on Education Postsecondary**

**CS/CS/SB 494 — Graduate Program Admissions**

by Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security Committee; Education Postsecondary Committee; and Senators Avila, Perry, and Collins

The bill requires an institution of higher education to waive the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and the Grade Management Admission Test (GMAT) for servicemembers who apply for admission to a graduate program that requires the examination.

The bill also provides definitions, to include:

- A “graduate program” as an advanced academic degree program in a specialized field of study, including, but not limited to, a master’s or doctoral degree program, which degree is pursued after one has obtained a bachelor’s degree.
- An “institution of higher education” as a state university.
- A “servicemember” as any person serving as a member of the United States Armed Forces on active duty or state active duty and all members of the Florida National Guard and United States Reserve Forces.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor’s signature, these provisions take effect July 1, 2024.

*Vote: Senate 37-0; House 113-1*