

**HB0016/985264/1**

BY: Committee on Ways and Means

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 16  
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “Delegate Turner” and substitute “Delegates Turner, A. Washington, and Tarlau”; in line 2, before “Maryland” insert “Near Completers and”; in line 3, after “of” insert “requiring the Governor to include a certain amount in the State budget for certain fiscal years for the Maryland Higher Education Commission to establish a near completer communication campaign; requiring the Commission to develop and implement a certain web-based match program for near completers; requiring the Commission to encourage certain institutions of higher education to participate in a certain program; requiring certain institutions to provide the Commission with certain information in a certain format; requiring the Commission to make a certain determination and send certain information to near completers; requiring the Governor to include a certain amount in the State budget for certain fiscal years for the Commission to develop and implement a certain match program; establishing eligibility requirements for a certain match program; requiring the Governor to include a certain amount in the State budget for certain fiscal years for the Commission to provide certain awards to certain students subject to certain limitations; requiring certain grants to be provided on a first-come, first-served basis; requiring the Commission and certain community colleges to make certain reports to the General Assembly on or before certain dates; prohibiting certain community colleges from increasing certain tuition rates more than the higher of certain amounts beginning in a certain academic year;”; in line 11, after “that” insert “initial”; in line 12, strike “on a first-come, first-served basis;” and substitute “based on greatest demonstrated financial need; specifying a priority for awards in subsequent years;”; in line 24, after the first semicolon insert “providing for the termination of certain provisions of this Act;”; in the same line, after “to” insert “near completers and”; after line 25, insert:

“BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

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Article – Education  
Section 11–209  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)”;

and in line 28, after “Section” insert “16–317 and 16–514; and”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, after line 5, insert:

“11–209.

(a) In this section, “near completer” means an individual who has completed some college credits but does not have a college degree and is no longer attending an institution of higher education.

(b) **(1) (I)** The Commission, in collaboration with institutions of higher education, shall create a statewide communication campaign to identify near completers in the State and to encourage near completers to re–enroll in an institution of higher education to earn a degree.

**(II)** FOR EACH OF FISCAL YEARS 2020 THROUGH 2024, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE STATE BUDGET \$125,000 TO THE COMMISSION TO FUND A STATEWIDE COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN.

**[(c)] (2)** The communication campaign shall:

**[(1)] (I)** Make use of a variety of marketing media, including billboards, brochures, and electronic resources;

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[(2)] (II) Provide a centralized contact point for near completers to get information about and assistance with re-enrolling;

[(3)] (III) Make readily available contact information for each public institution of higher education in the State; and

[(4)] (IV) Focus on near completers who:

[(i)] 1. Earned a minimum grade point average of 2.0 on a scale of 4.0 while in college; and

[(ii) 1.] 2. A. Earned at least 45 credit hours if the individual attended a community college; or

[2.] B. Earned at least 90 credit hours if the individual attended a senior higher education institution.

[(d) (1) The Commission shall develop and implement a plan that would provide an incentive to:

(i) A near completer to re-enroll and earn a degree; and

(ii) A college to identify and graduate near completers.

(2) The incentive plan shall use all available resources, including institutional funds, private sector funds, and State funds.]

**(C) (1) THE COMMISSION SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A CENTRALIZED WEB-BASED MATCH PROGRAM FOR NEAR COMPLETERS THAT FACILITATES THE MATCHING OF A NEAR COMPLETER WITH ANY INSTITUTION OF**

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HIGHER EDUCATION AT WHICH THE NEAR COMPLETER WOULD BE ABLE TO COMPLETE THE DEGREE.

(2) THE COMMISSION SHALL ENCOURAGE EACH INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MATCH PROGRAM AT NO COST TO THE INSTITUTION.

(3) (I) AN INSTITUTION THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE MATCH PROGRAM SHALL PROVIDE THE COMMISSION WITH INFORMATION REGARDING NEAR COMPLETERS WHO ATTENDED THE INSTITUTION, AS REQUESTED BY THE COMMISSION AND IN THE FORMAT IDENTIFIED BY THE COMMISSION.

(II) ON RECEIPT OF INFORMATION UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE COMMISSION SHALL:

1. DETERMINE ANY MATCHES BETWEEN A NEAR COMPLETER AND INSTITUTIONS; AND

2. SEND INFORMATION TO THE NEAR COMPLETER REGARDING THE MATCHES, ANY INCENTIVES OFFERED FOR NEAR COMPLETERS BY THE STATE OR BY THE INSTITUTIONS, AND ANY OTHER FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE TO THE NEAR COMPLETER.

(4) FOR EACH OF FISCAL YEARS 2020 THROUGH 2024, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE STATE BUDGET \$50,000 TO THE COMMISSION TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT THE MATCH PROGRAM FOR NEAR COMPLETERS DESCRIBED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.

(D) (1) A NEAR COMPLETER IS ELIGIBLE FOR A GRANT UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE NEAR COMPLETER:

(I) EARNED A MINIMUM GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF 2.0 ON A SCALE OF 4.0 WHILE IN COLLEGE; AND

(II) 1. EARNED AT LEAST 45 CREDIT HOURS IF THE INDIVIDUAL ATTENDED A COMMUNITY COLLEGE; OR

2. EARNED AT LEAST 90 CREDIT HOURS IF THE INDIVIDUAL ATTENDED A SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION.

(2) THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE STATE BUDGET THE AMOUNT SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE TO A NEAR COMPLETER THE FOLLOWING AMOUNT:

(I) FOR A NEAR COMPLETER WHO RE-ENROLLS IN A COMMUNITY COLLEGE, UP TO ONE-THIRD OF THE IN-COUNTY TUITION CHARGE; OR

(II) FOR A NEAR COMPLETER WHO RE-ENROLLS IN A PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION, UP TO ONE-THIRD OF THE RESIDENT UNDERGRADUATE TUITION CHARGE.

(3) THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE COMMISSION FOR NEAR COMPLETER GRANTS UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION:

(I) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020, \$250,000; AND

(II) FOR EACH OF FISCAL YEARS 2021 THROUGH 2024, \$375,000.

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(4) A GRANT PROVIDED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MAY BE USED ONLY FOR TUITION AND MAY NOT BE USED FOR FEES OR OTHER CHARGES OR EXPENSES RELATED TO ATTENDING AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

(5) ALL NONLOAN AID RECEIVED BY THE NEAR COMPLETER SHALL BE CREDITED TO THE NEAR COMPLETER'S TUITION BEFORE THE CALCULATION OF THE GRANT AMOUNT PROVIDED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.

(6) GRANTS SHALL BE PROVIDED ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

(e) The Commission and institutions of higher education may implement other near completer initiatives in addition to the campaign and [incentive plan] MATCH PROGRAM required under this section.

(f) By December 1, [2013] 2019, AND EVERY DECEMBER 1 THROUGH 2025, the Commission shall submit a report, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly on the details of the statewide communication campaign and the [incentive plan] MATCH PROGRAM, including [the expected timeline for] implementation OF THE CAMPAIGN AND MATCH PROGRAM AND A DETAILED ACCOUNT OF THE EXPENDITURES UNDER THE GRANT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION.”;

in line 13, after “FEDERAL” insert “OR STATE”; and in line 27, after “(B)” insert “THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE TUITION ASSISTANCE FOR STUDENTS TO ATTEND A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE.”

(C)”.

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On page 3, in line 3, after “(A)” insert “**(1) A STUDENT MUST APPLY ANNUALLY TO THE COMMISSION TO RECEIVE A MARYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD.**”

**(2)**;

strike beginning with “A” in line 9 down through “COLLEGE” in line 10 and substitute “**ELIGIBLE FOR IN-STATE TUITION**”; in line 11, after “CERTIFICATE” insert “**, A CERTIFICATE,**”; in line 13, strike “IN THE STATE”; in line 14, after “GED” insert “**IN THE STATE**”; in line 18, strike “\$100,000” and substitute “**\$90,000**”; in line 20, strike “\$150,000” and substitute “**\$125,000**”; in line 24, after “(6)” insert “**(1)**”; and in line 27, after “QUALIFY” insert “**; OR**”

**(II) IS INELIGIBLE TO SUBMIT A FAFSA, QUALIFIES FOR IN-STATE TUITION UNDER § 15-106.8 OF THIS ARTICLE, AND TIMELY SUBMITS AN APPLICATION FOR ANY STATE STUDENT FINANCIAL AID, OTHER THAN A STUDENT LOAN, FOR WHICH THE APPLICANT MAY QUALIFY.**

On page 4, in line 14, strike “AWARDS” and substitute “**1. INITIAL AWARDS**”; strike beginning with “ON” in line 14 down through “BASIS” in line 15 and substitute “**BASED ON GREATEST DEMONSTRATED FINANCIAL NEED**”; after line 15, insert:

**2. PRIORITY FOR AWARDS IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS SHALL BE GIVEN TO PRIOR YEAR RECIPIENTS WHO REMAIN ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM.**”;

in line 20, strike “RESIDE EXCLUSIVELY IN THE STATE” and substitute “**USE AN ADDRESS IN THE STATE ON THE RECIPIENT’S STATE INCOME TAX RETURN**”; in line 23, strike “MAINTAIN RESIDENCY AND” and substitute “**CONTINUE TO USE AN**”

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ADDRESS IN THE STATE ON THE RECIPIENT'S STATE INCOME TAX RETURN AND MAINTAIN"; and in line 30, strike "2" and substitute "3".

On page 5, in lines 1 and 19, in each instance, after "CERTIFICATE" insert ", A CERTIFICATE,"; strike beginning with "A" in line 3 down through "OR" in line 4; and in line 11, strike "A RESIDENT OF THE STATE" and substitute "ELIGIBLE FOR IN-STATE TUITION".

On page 6, in line 14, after the second "THE" insert "IMPLEMENTATION OF THE"; in line 18, after "(2)" insert "THE NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ENROLLED IN AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE PROGRAM;

(3) THE NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ENROLLED IN A VOCATIONAL CERTIFICATE PROGRAM;

(4) THE NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ENROLLED IN A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM;

(5);

in line 18, after "EACH" insert "SCHOLARSHIP"; in the same line, strike "AND"; in line 19, strike "(3)" and substitute "(6)"; in line 20, after "LIST" insert "AND THE AMOUNT OF DEMONSTRATED FINANCIAL NEED, IN THE AGGREGATE, OF THOSE APPLICANTS;

(7) THE NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS WHO EARNED AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE WITHIN 2, 3, OR 4 YEARS AFTER RECEIVING AN AWARD;



(8) THE NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS WHO EARNED A VOCATIONAL CERTIFICATE WITHIN 1, 2, OR 3 YEARS AFTER RECEIVING AN AWARD;

(9) THE NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS WHO TRANSFERRED TO A 4-YEAR INSTITUTION IN THE STATE; AND

(10) THE ACTUAL AND POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE PROGRAM ON ENROLLMENT RATES AT COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND 4-YEAR PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE STATE”;

and in line 21, after “That” insert “the Laws of Maryland read as follows:”

Article – Education

16-317.

BEGINNING IN THE 2019-2020 ACADEMIC YEAR, A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE MAY NOT INCREASE THE IN-COUNTY TUITION RATE OVER THE PRIOR YEAR BY MORE THAN THE HIGHER OF THE INCREASE IN THE 3-YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE OF THE STATE’S MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME OR 4% OVER THE PRIOR YEAR TUITION RATE.

16-514.

BEGINNING IN THE 2019-2020 ACADEMIC YEAR, BALTIMORE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE MAY NOT INCREASE THE TUITION RATE OVER THE PRIOR YEAR BY MORE THAN THE HIGHER OF THE INCREASE IN THE 3-YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE OF THE STATE’S MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME OR 4% OVER THE PRIOR YEAR TUITION RATE.

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SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That”;

in line 22, after the period insert “Section 2 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of June 30, 2021, Section 2 of this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.