

SENATE BILL 666

F2

4lr0663

By: **Senators Pinsky, Benson, Conway, Ferguson, Frosh, Madaleno,
Montgomery, and Rosapepe**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2014

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Teaching Fellows for Maryland Scholarship Program**

3 FOR the purpose of renaming the Maryland Teacher Scholarship to be the Teaching
4 Fellows for Maryland scholarship and altering certain elements of the
5 scholarship program; altering the eligibility criteria and the service obligation
6 for the scholarship; authorizing certain recipients to work in certain public
7 schools to satisfy a certain service obligation under certain circumstances;
8 altering the amount of a certain award; requiring certain institutions of higher
9 education to develop and implement a certain honors program in response to
10 certain dedication and accomplishment under certain circumstances; requiring
11 the Governor annually to include certain funds in the State budget to make
12 certain awards under this Act; requiring certain awards to be made in certain
13 years; altering certain definitions; making a stylistic change; and generally
14 relating to scholarships for individuals who pledge to work as public school
15 teachers.

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
17 Article – Education
18 Section 18–2201 through 18–2207 and 18–2210
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

21 BY adding to
22 Article – Education
23 Section 18–2208 and 18–2209
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

26 BY repealing
27 Article – Education

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Section 18–2209
2 Annotated Code of Maryland
3 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

4 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
5 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

6 **Article – Education**

7 18–2201.

8 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

9 (b) “Eligible institution” means a public [or private nonprofit] institution of
10 higher education in [this] **THE** State that possesses a certificate of approval from the
11 Maryland Higher Education Commission **AND HAS A SCHOOL OF EDUCATION.**

12 (c) “Office” means the Office of Student Financial Assistance as defined in §
13 18–101(c) of this title.

14 (d) (1) “Service obligation” means to teach full time in the State as a
15 teacher in a Maryland public elementary or secondary school **THAT HAS AT LEAST**
16 **50% OF ITS STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS**
17 **(FRPM).**

18 (2) “Service obligation” does not mean employment as teaching
19 assistants, volunteer service, paid fellowships, or internships.

20 18–2202.

21 There is a program of [Maryland Teacher Scholarships] **TEACHING FELLOWS**
22 **FOR MARYLAND SCHOLARSHIPS** that are awarded under this subtitle for students
23 who pledge to work as public elementary and secondary school teachers in [this] **THE**
24 State upon completion of their studies **AT SCHOOLS THAT HAVE AT LEAST 50% OF**
25 **THE STUDENTS IN THE SCHOOL ELIGIBLE FOR FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS**
26 **(FRPM).**

27 18–2203.

28 (a) The Office shall annually select eligible students and offer a scholarship
29 to each student selected to be used at an eligible institution of their choice.

30 (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, a recipient of the
31 [Maryland Teacher Scholarship] **TEACHING FELLOWS FOR MARYLAND**
32 **SCHOLARSHIP** shall:

1 (i) Be a Maryland resident **OR HAVE GRADUATED FROM A**
2 **MARYLAND HIGH SCHOOL;**

3 (ii) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, be
4 accepted for admission or currently enrolled at an eligible institution as a full-time or
5 part-time undergraduate or graduate student pursuing a course of study or program
6 in an academic discipline leading to a Maryland professional teacher's certificate;

7 (iii) 1. For a student currently enrolled in high school, have
8 earned an overall grade point average of at least **[3.0] 3.3** on a 4.0 scale or its
9 equivalent after completion of the first semester of the senior year; or

10 2. For a student currently enrolled as a full-time
11 undergraduate student, have maintained a grade point average of at least **[3.0] 3.3** on
12 a 4.0 scale and have been making satisfactory progress toward a degree in an
13 academic discipline leading to a Maryland professional teacher's certificate;

14 **(IV) HAVE ACHIEVED A SCORE OF AT LEAST 500 ON THE**
15 **READING AND MATH PORTIONS OF THE SAT, WITH A COMBINED SCORE OF AT**
16 **LEAST 1100 ON THE READING AND MATH PORTIONS OF THE SAT;**

17 **[(iv)] (V)** Sign a letter of intent to perform the service
18 obligation upon completion of the recipient's required studies;

19 **[(v)] (VI)** Accept any other conditions attached to the award;
20 and

21 **[(vi)] (VII)** Satisfy any additional criteria the Commission may
22 establish.

23 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of this subsection, an individual
24 who, at the time the individual is scheduled to matriculate at an eligible institution,
25 will have been employed as a teaching assistant at a public elementary or secondary
26 school in the State for at least 2 years:

27 (i) May apply for a **[Maryland Teacher Scholarship]**
28 **TEACHING FELLOWS FOR MARYLAND SCHOLARSHIP** under this subtitle; and

29 (ii) Is eligible to hold a **[Maryland Teacher Scholarship]**
30 **TEACHING FELLOWS FOR MARYLAND SCHOLARSHIP** as a full-time or part-time
31 undergraduate or graduate student.

32 (c) A recipient of the **[Maryland Teacher Scholarship]** **TEACHING FELLOWS**
33 **FOR MARYLAND SCHOLARSHIP** may not hold a Maryland professional teacher's
34 certificate.

1 (d) (1) Applicants who are secondary school students shall provide a high
2 school transcript after completion of the first semester of their senior year.

3 (2) Applicants who are currently enrolled in an eligible institution
4 shall provide the most recent college transcript, or if not applicable, the applicant may
5 submit a final high school transcript.

6 (3) Applicants who are not currently enrolled in an eligible institution,
7 but who are high school graduates, shall provide a final high school transcript.

8 (4) Applicants who are high school graduates and are not currently
9 enrolled in an eligible institution, but have completed some courses at an eligible
10 institution, shall provide the most recent college transcript.

11 (5) Applicants who are not currently enrolled in an eligible institution,
12 but who are college graduates, shall provide a final college transcript.

13 18–2204.

14 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the recipient of a
15 **[Maryland Teacher Scholarship] TEACHING FELLOWS FOR MARYLAND**
16 **SCHOLARSHIP** shall repay the Commission the funds received as set forth in § 18–112
17 of this title if the recipient does not:

18 (1) Satisfy the degree requirements of the eligible course of study or
19 program or fulfill other requirements as provided in this subtitle;

20 (2) **[Perform] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION,**
21 **PERFORM** the service obligation for 1 year for each year that the recipient has a
22 scholarship awarded under this subtitle; and

23 (3) Become professionally certified to teach in the State of Maryland
24 within the time period specified by the Commission in consultation with the Maryland
25 Department of Education.

26 **(B) IF A RECIPIENT IS UNABLE TO PERFORM THE SERVICE OBLIGATION**
27 **REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE BECAUSE THERE ARE NO AVAILABLE**
28 **POSITIONS IN A SCHOOL THAT HAS AT LEAST 50% OF ITS STUDENTS ELIGIBLE**
29 **FOR FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS (FRPM), THE RECIPIENT MAY WORK IN**
30 **ANY PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE STATE.**

31 **[(b)] (C)** The Office shall forgive a recipient of a **[Maryland Teacher**
32 **Scholarship] TEACHING FELLOWS FOR MARYLAND SCHOLARSHIP** for 2 years of
33 an award if:

1 (1) The recipient has taken the teacher certification examination,
2 approved by the State Board of Education, in 2 consecutive years; and

3 (2) The recipient fails to pass the teacher certification examination
4 within the time period specified by the Commission in accordance with subsection
5 (a)(3) of this section.

6 18-2205.

7 The annual scholarship award shall be [in the amount of:

8 (1) \$2,000 for a full-time undergraduate student, or \$1,000 for a
9 part-time undergraduate student, enrolled at a 2-year eligible institution;

10 (2) \$5,000 for a full-time undergraduate or graduate student enrolled
11 in a 4-year eligible institution; or

12 (3) \$2,500 for a part-time undergraduate or graduate student enrolled
13 at a 4-year eligible institution] **100% OF THE EQUIVALENT ANNUAL TUITION,
14 MANDATORY FEES, AND ROOM AND BOARD OF A RESIDENT UNDERGRADUATE
15 STUDENT OR GRADUATE STUDENT, AS APPROPRIATE, AT A PUBLIC INSTITUTION
16 OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE THAT HAS A SCHOOL OF EDUCATION.**

17 18-2206.

18 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, each recipient of a
19 [Maryland Teacher Scholarship] **TEACHING FELLOWS FOR MARYLAND
20 SCHOLARSHIP** may renew the award three times if the recipient:

21 (1) Continues to be a resident of the State **OR GRADUATED FROM A
22 HIGH SCHOOL IN THE STATE;**

23 (2) Continues to be a full-time or part-time undergraduate or
24 graduate student at an eligible institution as determined by the Office;

25 (3) Has achieved a cumulative grade point average of at least [3.0] **3.3**
26 on a 4.0 scale and maintains this minimum cumulative grade point average
27 throughout the remainder of this award, or failing to do so, provides evidence of
28 extenuating circumstances;

29 (4) In the judgment of the institution, is making satisfactory progress
30 toward a degree; and

31 (5) Maintains the standards of the institution.

1 (b) (1) Each recipient of a [Maryland Teacher Scholarship] **TEACHING**
2 **FELLOWS FOR MARYLAND SCHOLARSHIP** who is enrolled in an associate degree
3 program as permitted in this subtitle may renew the award two times if the recipient
4 is enrolled in an associate degree program that, as determined by the institution,
5 requires 3 years to complete.

6 (2) Each recipient of the [Maryland Teacher Scholarship] **TEACHING**
7 **FELLOWS FOR MARYLAND SCHOLARSHIP** may renew the annual award four times
8 if the recipient is enrolled in a course of study that, as determined by the institution,
9 requires 5 years to complete.

10 18-2207.

11 A [Maryland Teacher Scholarship] **TEACHING FELLOWS FOR MARYLAND**
12 **SCHOLARSHIP** may be used for tuition and mandatory fees at any eligible institution.

13 **18-2208.**

14 **IF AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION HAS ENROLLED AT LEAST 15 RECIPIENTS OF**
15 **A TEACHING FELLOWS FOR MARYLAND SCHOLARSHIP, THE ELIGIBLE**
16 **INSTITUTION SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT AN ENRICHED HONORS**
17 **PROGRAM OF EDUCATION THAT IS RESPONSIVE TO EXCEPTIONAL DEDICATION**
18 **AND MERIT-BASED ACCOMPLISHMENT IN THE STUDY OF EDUCATION AND**
19 **PREPARATION FOR THE TEACHING PROFESSION.**

20 [18-2209.

21 Funds for the Maryland Teacher Scholarship program shall be as provided in
22 the annual budget of the Commission by the Governor.]

23 **18-2209.**

24 **THE GOVERNOR ANNUALLY SHALL INCLUDE FUNDS IN THE STATE**
25 **BUDGET FOR THE COMMISSION TO AWARD UNDER THIS SUBTITLE:**

26 (1) **ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2015, A SCHOLARSHIP TO 40**
27 **APPLICANTS;**

28 (2) **ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2016, A SCHOLARSHIP TO 80**
29 **APPLICANTS;**

30 (3) **ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2017, A SCHOLARSHIP TO 120**
31 **APPLICANTS; AND**

1 **(4) ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2018, AND EACH YEAR**
2 **THEREAFTER, A SCHOLARSHIP TO 160 APPLICANTS.**

3 18-2210.

4 The Office of Student Financial Assistance shall publicize the availability of
5 **[Maryland Teacher Scholarships] TEACHING FELLOWS FOR MARYLAND**
6 **SCHOLARSHIPS.**

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
8 July 1, 2014.