

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2017 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 257

(Delegate Hixson)

Ways and Means

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

**Education - Maryland Meals for Achievement In-Classroom Breakfast Program
- Administration (Maryland Meals for Achievement for Teens Act of 2017)**

This bill authorizes secondary schools that participate in the Maryland Meals for Achievement In-classroom Breakfast Program (MMFA) to serve breakfast in any part of the school, including from “Grab and Go” carts, after arrival of students to the school. The bill also clarifies that schools that provide breakfasts in the classroom through MMFA, to students at all grade levels, must serve the breakfasts after arrival of students to the school.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2017.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) expenditures for MMFA are not affected. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: Local school systems may realize cost savings as a result of increased flexibility and efficiency in the delivery of meals in secondary schools through MMFA. However, the great majority of schools participating in MMFA are elementary or middle schools. Therefore, cost savings for local school systems are assumed to be minimal.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: MMFA provides a free in-class breakfast to all students enrolled in schools in which 40% or more of the students qualify for free and reduced-price meals. Schools are selected to participate in the program and must serve breakfasts that

meet the MSDE guidelines and the nutritional standards of the U.S. Department of Agriculture for schools that participate in the federal school breakfast program.

According to MSDE data, the great majority of the 461 schools participating in MMFA during the 2016-2017 school year are elementary or middle schools. The proposed fiscal 2018 budget includes \$6.9 million for MMFA, the same total provided in fiscal 2017. **Exhibit 1** shows the allocation of MMFA State funding for fiscal 2017.

Local Fiscal Effect: Because the bill authorizes, but does not require, meals to be served in parts of a secondary school other than the classroom, the finances of local school systems are not adversely affected. Local school systems may realize cost savings as a result of increased flexibility and efficiency in the delivery of meals in secondary schools through MMFA. However, because the great majority of schools participating in the program are not secondary schools, cost savings for local school systems are assumed to be minimal.

Exhibit 1
Fiscal 2017 State MMFA Funding Allocation

County	MMFA
Allegany	\$125,519
Anne Arundel	960,415
Baltimore City	0
Baltimore	667,303
Calvert	0
Caroline	221,662
Carroll	52,101
Cecil	249,045
Charles	296,490
Dorchester	71,437
Frederick	194,975
Garrett	114,703
Harford	275,457
Howard	269,367
Kent	69,148
Montgomery	1,439,686
Prince George's	1,097,177
Queen Anne's	30,610
St. Mary's	177,566
Somerset	9,821
Talbot	100,778
Washington	303,471
Wicomico	63,117
Worcester	81,025
Archdiocese of Baltimore	29,126
Total	\$6,900,000

MMFA: Maryland Meals for Achievement

Note: School systems and public schools that participate in the Community Eligibility Program to provide free breakfast and lunch to all students do not receive MMFA funding.

Source: Maryland State Department of Education

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 359 (Senator Madaleno, *et al.*) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City; Harford and Montgomery counties; Maryland State Department of Education; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 6, 2017
mm/rhh Third Reader - February 22, 2017

Analysis by: Scott P. Gates

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510