

Chapter 375

(House Bill 203)

AN ACT concerning

**Higher Education – Senatorial and Delegate Scholarships – Reimbursement of
~~Certificate and License Programs~~ Expenses for Community College
Certification and Licensure**

FOR the purpose of authorizing certain recipients of a senatorial scholarship to use the scholarship to reimburse certain expenses for certificate or license programs or for certain courses or sequences of courses at community colleges; exempting certain applicants from the requirement that certain senatorial scholarship recipients take a certain examination and be enrolled in certain institutions; authorizing certain students to use a delegate scholarship to reimburse certain expenses for certificate or license programs or for certain courses or sequences of courses at community colleges; making certain stylistic changes; and generally relating to the use of senatorial and delegate scholarships for the reimbursement of expenses for certificate and license programs, courses, or sequences of courses at community colleges that lead to certification or licensure.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 Article – Education
 Section 18–401, 18–405(b)(2), and 18–501(a)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Education
 Section 18–402(a), 18–405(a), 18–406, and 18–506
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

18–401.

There is a program of senatorial scholarships in this State that are awarded under this subtitle.

18–402.

(a) (1) Except as provided in [paragraph] **PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3)** of this subsection, each applicant for a senatorial scholarship shall:

(i) Take a competitive examination administered by the Office; and

(ii) 1. Be accepted for admission in the regular undergraduate, graduate, or professional program at an eligible institution; or

2. Be enrolled in a 2-year terminal certificate program in which the course work is acceptable for transfer credit for an accredited baccalaureate program in an eligible institution.

(2) An applicant is exempt from the examination if the applicant:

(i) Is attending an eligible institution and has completed at least 1 year in good academic standing at the institution;

(ii) Graduated from high school at least 5 years before application for a senatorial scholarship;

(iii) Is accepted for admission to a private career institution, if the institution's curriculum is approved by the Commission, and the institution is accredited by a national accrediting association approved by the United States Department of Education; or

(iv) Is planning to attend or is attending a Maryland community college.

(3) AN APPLICANT IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION IF THE APPLICANT IS OR WAS ENROLLED IN A CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE PROGRAM, COURSE, OR SEQUENCE OF COURSES AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE THAT LEADS TO CERTIFICATION OR LICENSURE.

18-405.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, a senatorial scholarship may be used only at any **COMMUNITY COLLEGE OR** undergraduate, graduate, or professional school in the State.

(b) A senatorial scholarship may be used:

(2) For educational expenses as defined by the Office, including:

(i) Tuition and mandatory fees; and

(ii) Room and board.

18-406.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, each recipient of a senatorial scholarship may hold the scholarship for 4 undergraduate academic years, subject to § 18-406.1 of this subtitle, and 4 graduate academic years if the recipient:

- (1) Is a full-time student;
- (2) Continues to be a resident of this State; and

(3) Continues to be a student at the institution and takes at least 12 semester hours of courses as an undergraduate or 9 semester hours of courses as a graduate student each semester leading to a degree.

(b) A recipient of an undergraduate or graduate senatorial scholarship may hold the scholarship, appropriately prorated, for 8 academic years if the recipient:

- (1) Is a part-time student;
- (2) Continues to be a resident of this State; and

(3) Continues to be a student at the institution and takes at least 6 semester hours of courses each semester leading to a degree.

(c) Any recipient of a senatorial scholarship may use up to one-half of the yearly award for summer school.

(d) A recipient of a senatorial scholarship who is enrolled in a terminal certificate program as provided in § ~~18-402(a)~~ **18-402(A)(1)** of this subtitle may hold the scholarship for 2 years if ~~he~~ **THE RECIPIENT** is a full-time student and otherwise meets the conditions of subsection (a) of this section, or may hold the scholarship for 4 years if ~~he~~ **THE RECIPIENT** is a part-time student and otherwise meets the conditions of subsection (b) of this section.

(E) A RECIPIENT OF A SENATORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WHO IS CURRENTLY ENROLLED, OR WAS ENROLLED WITHIN THE LAST 2 YEARS, IN A CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE PROGRAM, COURSE, OR SEQUENCE OF COURSES AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE THAT LEADS TO CERTIFICATION OR LICENSURE, AS PROVIDED IN § 18-402(A)(3) OF THIS SUBTITLE, MAY USE THE SCHOLARSHIP TO REIMBURSE EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES AS DEFINED BY THE OFFICE UNDER § 18-405(B)(2) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

[(e)] (F) Each recipient of a senatorial scholarship who is enrolled in a private postsecondary proprietary institution that is accredited by a national accrediting association approved by the United States Department of Education:

(1) May hold the scholarship for the completion of one program if the student otherwise meets the conditions of subsection (a)(1) and (2) of this section; and

(2) Shall complete the program within the length of time prescribed by the institution for the completion of the program.

[(f)] (G) A recipient of a senatorial scholarship who is an individual who is on active duty with the United States military and otherwise meets the conditions of subsection (a) or (b) of this section may be domiciled in this State rather than a resident of this State.

18-501.

(a) There is a program of Delegate Scholarships in this State that are awarded under this subtitle.

18-506.

(a) As an alternative to the scholarship awards authorized by §§ 18-503 through 18-505 of this subtitle, and subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, during each year in office each Delegate may award scholarships in a total amount equal to four times the tuition and mandatory fees for a full-time undergraduate student enrolled at the University of Maryland, College Park Campus for the academic year commencing in that year.

(b) A scholarship award under subsection (a) of this section:

(1) May not be for an amount less than \$200 or more than one-half of the total amount of scholarships authorized by subsection (a) of this section for that year;

(2) Shall be used at an eligible institution;

(3) May be used by:

(i) A graduate, undergraduate, or professional student; **[or]**

(ii) A student at a private career school within the State that is approved by the Maryland Higher Education Commission under § 11-202 of this article and that is accredited by a national accrediting association that is approved by the United States Department of Education; **[and] OR**

(III) A STUDENT WHO IS CURRENTLY ENROLLED OR WAS ENROLLED IN THE LAST 2 YEARS IN A CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE PROGRAM, COURSE, OR SEQUENCE OF COURSES AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE THAT LEADS TO CERTIFICATION OR LICENSURE ~~AND IS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION~~ AS REIMBURSEMENT FOR EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES THAT ARE DEFINED BY THE OFFICE AND INCLUDE TUITION, MANDATORY FEES, AND ROOM AND BOARD; AND

(4) To the extent it is not used by the student, shall be recredited to the Delegate's scholarship account and may be awarded in the next 12 months by that Delegate to another student pursuant to this section.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2018.

Approved by the Governor, May 8, 2018.