

SB0317/375063/1

BY: Committee on Ways and Means

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 317
(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike line 2 in its entirety and substitute “Community Colleges – Near Completers and Maryland Community College Promise Scholarships”.

On page 2, strike beginning with “establishing” in line 5 down through “education” in line 32 and substitute “establishing a Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship program; requiring the Office of Student Financial Assistance in the Maryland Higher Education Commission to publicize the availability of certain scholarships; requiring the Office to annually select and offer a certain scholarship award to certain applicants; establishing the eligibility requirements for receiving a certain scholarship; requiring a certain community college to assist certain applicants with a certain application on request; requiring the scholarship award to be not more than a certain amount beginning in a certain academic year; specifying how certain financial aid shall be credited to the tuition of a scholarship recipient; specifying that initial awards shall be provided to recipients based on greatest demonstrated financial need; specifying a priority for awards in subsequent years; requiring eligible applicants who do not receive a certain award to be notified and placed on a waiting list; prohibiting a certain scholarship award from being made unless a recipient signs a certain agreement; providing for the duration of the scholarship award; authorizing the Office to extend the duration of the award under certain circumstances; establishing the requirements for a recipient to hold a scholarship award; requiring that a certain scholarship award be converted into a student loan under certain circumstances; authorizing the Office to waive or defer repayment of a certain student loan under certain circumstances; requiring the Governor to include a certain annual appropriation in the State budget for the scholarship program; requiring the Commission to adopt certain regulations; requiring the Commission to report certain information to the General Assembly on or before certain dates; providing for the termination of certain”.

(Over)

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provisions of this Act; defining certain terms; and generally relating to near completers and community college scholarships”;

in line 41, strike “16–701 through 16–707” and substitute “18–3401 through 18–3407”; in line 42, strike “7. The” and substitute “34.”; and in the same line, strike “Program” and substitute “Scholarships”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 3, in line 28, strike “**\$250,000**” and substitute “**\$125,000**”.

On page 5, in line 28, strike “**\$500,000**” and substitute “**\$250,000**”; and in line 30, strike “**\$750,000**” and substitute “**\$375,000**”.

On pages 10 through 18, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 24 on page 10 through line 6 on page 18, inclusive, and substitute:

“SUBTITLE 34. MARYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIPS.

18–3401.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) “ANNUAL ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME” MEANS THE TOTAL OF THE COMBINED ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT’S PARENTS, OR THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT’S SPOUSE IF THE APPLICANT IS MARRIED, AS REPORTED ON THE MOST RECENT FEDERAL OR STATE INCOME TAX RETURN.

(C) “COMMUNITY COLLEGE” INCLUDES BALTIMORE CITY COMMUNITY

COLLEGE.

(D) (1) "TUITION" MEANS THE BASIC INSTRUCTIONAL CHARGE FOR COURSES OFFERED AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

(2) "TUITION" INCLUDES ANY FEES FOR:

(I) REGISTRATION;

(II) APPLICATION;

(III) ADMINISTRATION;

(IV) LABORATORY WORK; AND

(V) OTHER MANDATORY FEES.

18-3402.

(A) THERE IS A PROGRAM OF MARYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIPS IN THE STATE THAT ARE AWARDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

(B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE TUITION ASSISTANCE FOR STUDENTS TO ATTEND A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE.

(C) THE OFFICE SHALL PUBLICIZE THE AVAILABILITY OF MARYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIPS.

18-3403.

(Over)

(A) (1) A STUDENT MUST APPLY ANNUALLY TO THE COMMISSION TO RECEIVE A MARYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD.

(2) THE OFFICE ANNUALLY SHALL SELECT ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS AND OFFER A MARYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD TO EACH SELECTED APPLICANT TO BE USED FOR TUITION AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF THE APPLICANT'S CHOICE.

(B) AN APPLICANT IS ELIGIBLE FOR A MARYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP IF THE APPLICANT:

(1) IS ELIGIBLE FOR IN-STATE TUITION;

(2) ENROLLS AS A CANDIDATE FOR A VOCATIONAL CERTIFICATE, A CERTIFICATE, OR AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE WITHIN 2 YEARS AFTER GRADUATING FROM A HIGH SCHOOL OR SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING A GED IN THE STATE;

(3) HAS EARNED AN OVERALL HIGH SCHOOL GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF AT LEAST 2.3 ON A 4.0 SCALE OR ITS EQUIVALENT;

(4) HAS AN ANNUAL ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME OF NOT MORE THAN:

(I) \$90,000 IF THE APPLICANT IS SINGLE OR RESIDES IN A SINGLE-PARENT HOUSEHOLD; OR

(II) \$125,000 IF THE APPLICANT IS MARRIED OR RESIDES IN

A TWO-PARENT HOUSEHOLD;

(5) ENROLLS IN AT LEAST 12 CREDITS PER SEMESTER AT THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE; AND

(6) (I) TIMELY SUBMITS A FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA) OR ANY OTHER APPLICATIONS FOR ANY STATE OR FEDERAL STUDENT FINANCIAL AID, OTHER THAN A STUDENT LOAN, FOR WHICH THE APPLICANT MAY QUALIFY; 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.

(C) (1) AN APPLICANT WHO RECEIVES ANY OTHER EDUCATIONAL GRANTS OR SCHOLARSHIPS THAT COVER THE APPLICANT'S FULL COST OF ATTENDANCE AT THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS INELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE AN AWARD UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

(2) AN APPLICANT WHO HAS EARNED A BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE IS INELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE AN AWARD UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

(D) ON REQUEST THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL ASSIST AN APPLICANT TO SUBMIT A FAFSA OR ANY OTHER APPLICATIONS FOR STATE OR FEDERAL STUDENT FINANCIAL AID.

18-3404.

(Over)

(A) BEGINNING IN THE 2019–2020 ACADEMIC YEAR, THE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD SHALL BE NOT MORE THAN \$5,000 PER RECIPIENT, OR ACTUAL TUITION, WHICHEVER IS LESS.

(B) (1) ANY STUDENT FINANCIAL AID, OTHER THAN A STUDENT LOAN, RECEIVED BY THE RECIPIENT SHALL BE CREDITED TO THE RECIPIENT’S TUITION BEFORE THE CALCULATION OF ANY AWARD AMOUNT PROVIDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

(2) (i) 1. INITIAL AWARDS SHALL BE PROVIDED TO RECIPIENTS BASED ON GREATEST DEMONSTRATED FINANCIAL NEED.

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

(ii) ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS WHO DO NOT RECEIVE AN AWARD UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE NOTIFIED AND PLACED ON A WAITING LIST.

(C) AN AWARD UNDER THIS SUBTITLE MAY BE MADE ONLY IF A RECIPIENT SIGNS AN AGREEMENT AT THE TIME OF THE INITIAL AWARD TO:

(1) USE AN ADDRESS IN THE STATE ON THE RECIPIENT’S STATE INCOME TAX RETURN AND COMMENCE FULL–TIME EMPLOYMENT IN THE STATE WITHIN 1 YEAR AFTER COMPLETION OF THE VOCATIONAL CERTIFICATE, CERTIFICATE, OR ASSOCIATE’S DEGREE;

(2) CONTINUE TO USE AN ADDRESS IN THE STATE ON THE

RECIPIENT'S STATE INCOME TAX RETURN AND MAINTAIN EMPLOYMENT IN THE STATE FOR AT LEAST 1 YEAR FOR EACH YEAR THAT THE SCHOLARSHIP WAS AWARDED; AND

(3) HAVE THE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD CONVERTED INTO A STUDENT LOAN PAYABLE TO THE STATE IF THE RECIPIENT FAILS TO FULFILL THE SERVICE OBLIGATION REQUIRED IN ITEMS (1) AND (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(D) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, EACH RECIPIENT MAY HOLD THE AWARD UNTIL THE EARLIER OF:

(I) 3 YEARS AFTER FIRST ENROLLING AS A CANDIDATE FOR A VOCATIONAL CERTIFICATE, A CERTIFICATE, OR AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE; OR

(II) THE DATE THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS AWARDED AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE.

(2) THE OFFICE MAY EXTEND THE DURATION OF AN AWARD FOR AN ALLOWABLE INTERRUPTION OF STUDY IF THE RECIPIENT PROVIDES TO THE OFFICE SATISFACTORY EVIDENCE OF EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES THAT PREVENT THE RECIPIENT FROM CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT.

(3) EACH RECIPIENT MAY HOLD THE AWARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION ONLY IF THE RECIPIENT:

(I) CONTINUES TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR IN-STATE TUITION;

(II) CONTINUES TO ENROLL IN AND COMPLETE AT LEAST 12

CREDITS PER SEMESTER OR ITS EQUIVALENT AS DETERMINED BY THE OFFICE;

(III) MAINTAINS A CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF AT LEAST 2.5 ON A 4.0 SCALE OR ITS EQUIVALENT FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE AWARD OR, FAILING TO DO SO, PROVIDES TO THE OFFICE SATISFACTORY EVIDENCE OF EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES;

(IV) MAKES SATISFACTORY PROGRESS TOWARD A VOCATIONAL CERTIFICATE, A CERTIFICATE, OR AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE;

(V) CONTINUES TO MEET THE INCOME LIMITATIONS UNDER § 18-3403(B)(4) OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND

(VI) CONTINUES TO TIMELY SUBMIT AN APPLICATION UNDER § 18-3403(B)(6).

(E) (1) IF THE RECIPIENT DOES NOT PERFORM THE SERVICE OBLIGATION REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD SHALL BE CONVERTED INTO A STUDENT LOAN.

(2) THE OFFICE MAY WAIVE OR DEFER REPAYMENT OF THE STUDENT LOAN IF THE RECIPIENT PROVIDES SATISFACTORY EVIDENCE OF EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES THAT PREVENT THE RECIPIENT FROM FULFILLING THE SERVICE OBLIGATION.

18-3405.

THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE AN ANNUAL APPROPRIATION OF AT LEAST \$10,000,000 IN THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE COMMISSION TO DISBURSE

MARYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIPS UNDER THIS
SUBTITLE.

18-3406.

(A) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS NECESSARY TO
IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(B) THE REGULATIONS SHALL INCLUDE THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS
FOR REPAYMENT OF ANY AWARD AMOUNT THAT IS CONVERTED TO A LOAN UNDER
§ 18-3404 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

18-3407.

ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2020, AND EACH DECEMBER 1 THEREAFTER,
THE COMMISSION SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE
WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MARYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, INCLUDING:

(1) THE NUMBER OF APPLICANTS WHO RECEIVED A MARYLAND
COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR;

(2) 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) THE AMOUNT OF THE AWARD MADE TO EACH SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT;

(6) THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS, IF ANY, WHO WERE PLACED ON A WAITING LIST 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.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That 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.”.

On page 24, in line 12, strike “2.” and substitute “3.”; and in line 13, after “2018.” 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.”.