

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2019 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader - Revised

Senate Bill 755

(Senator Peters)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Appropriations

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Interagency Agreements – Historically Black Colleges and Universities –  
Reporting Requirements

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This bill requires the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) to report annually on specified information about interagency agreements with historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs).

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None. DBM can report the information required by the bill using existing resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Bill Summary:** DBM must provide information on interagency agreements with HBCUs including (1) the total percentage of interagency contracts with HBCUs and (2) any recommendations for regulatory or statutory changes necessary to address barriers to interagency agreements with HBCUs.

**Current Law/Background:** The public four-year HBCUs in the State are Bowie State University, Coppin State University, Morgan State University, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

Chapter 23 of 2017 (the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act) requires DBM to submit an annual report on selected interagency agreements between an agency or unit of the Executive Branch of State government and a public institution of higher education that: has a duration of three years or more; was in place during any part of the preceding fiscal year; and has a total value of more than \$750,000. At least every three years, DBM must review each interagency agreement to determine: (1) whether the agreement is necessary and should continue; (2) whether the services can be provided more cost effectively by the agency or unit or through a competitive procurement; and (3) whether the agreement is being utilized due to the agency's or unit's inability to recruit or retain positions and, if so, whether an annual salary review should be conducted to address recruitment or retention issues. DBM must establish a cycle to review one-third of the interagency agreements each year.

The fiscal 2019 budget bill (Chapter 570 of 2018) requires all State agencies and public institutions of higher education to report on all interagency agreements in excess of \$100,000, and requires DBM to submit a consolidated report on these agreements by December 1, 2018. It also requires that all new higher education interagency agreements with State agencies in excess of \$500,000 for fiscal 2019 be approved by DBM. Also, language establishes a goal that State agencies award 5% of total interagency agreement expenditures to HBCUs unless a waiver is granted following demonstration of good-faith efforts to comply. In support of this, DBM is required to create a master list of services offered by each higher education institution and report on the extent to which agencies met the goal.

As required, DBM created a master list of interagency agreements between State agencies and institutions of higher education with expenditures expected to exceed \$100,000. The list can be found in the [FY 2018 Report of Historically Black Colleges & Universities Participation in Interagency Agreements](#). DBM shared the list with HBCUs and asked HBCUs to report back on those agreements in which they were most interested. DBM also requested that HBCUs create "capabilities documents" to be shared with all State agencies that provide information on each HBCU's areas of interest, expertise, and capabilities.

According to the report, active interagency agreements totaled \$433.2 million. Of those funds, \$5.6 million, or 1.3% was awarded to the four HBCUs (including subcontracts). In looking only at the fiscal 2018 awards, a total of \$2.2 million was awarded to HBCUs, or 2.7% of \$81.7 million in total fiscal 2018 awards.

The fiscal 2020 budget bill (House Bill 100 of 2019) requires DBM to report on interagency agreements with public higher education institutions in excess of \$100,000, and approve new agreements in excess of \$500,000, but it does not include specific provisions related to HBCUs.

## Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 658 (Delegate Valentino-Smith, *et al.*) - Appropriations.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Budget and Management; Morgan State University; University System of Maryland; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 1, 2019  
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Revised - Amendment(s) - April 4, 2019  
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