

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2019 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1086 (Delegate Cassilly)
Economic Matters

Apprenticeship Maryland - Establishment, Requirements, and Report

This bill establishes an apprenticeship program, Apprenticeship Maryland, in six local school systems to prepare students to enter the workforce by providing on-site employment training and related classroom instruction needed to obtain a license or certification for a skilled occupation in specified career tracks. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2019.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill essentially codifies an existing statewide program that is supported with a three-year federal grant; thus, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation (DLLR) can implement the bill with existing resources. To the extent that federal funds are not renewed, general funds may be necessary to sustain the program. No effect on revenues.

Local Effect: The program is available to all 24 local school systems as part of existing career and technical education programming, so it has no material effect on local finances.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary: MSDE, in consultation with DLLR and the Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland, must select six local school systems to participate in the program. MSDE, in consultation with DLLR, must identify and select participating employers, who must have an apprenticeship program approved by the Apprenticeship and Training Council. The eligible employers must pay an eligible student at least the applicable minimum wage.

Each county superintendent from a participating school system may select up to 30 students to participate in the program. A student selected to participate in the program must:

- start the program in the summer or fall of the student's junior or senior year in high school;
- complete at least 450 hours of supervised work-based training;
- receive at least one year of classroom instruction relating to the student's eligible career track in the science, technology, engineering, and math industries;
- must receive credit toward a high school diploma or a postsecondary credential, or both, for the work-based training and classroom instruction completed under the program; and
- must complete the program before August 31 following the student's graduation from high school.

DLLR must issue a skills certificate to each eligible student who completes the program. DLLR and MSDE must work together to explore options for increasing the availability of and access to youth apprenticeship programs based on other states' and countries' experiences, as well as the results of the program. By December 1 of each year, DLLR and MSDE must report jointly to the Governor and the General Assembly regarding the effectiveness of the program and other specified items. DLLR and MSDE jointly may adopt regulations to implement the program.

Current Law/Background: Chapter 140 of 2015 established Apprenticeship Maryland as a two-year pilot program with two participating school systems (Frederick and Washington counties). During the 2016-2017 school year, the program's first full year of operation, 11 students participated in the program. The following year, 27 students participated.

Although the pilot program was authorized for only two years, the program has continued and expanded. In May 2018, MSDE adapted the program into a career and technology program of study and made it available to all local school systems in the State. As a result, the program is expanding to additional school systems beginning in September 2019. MSDE received a three-year \$600,000 federal grant to continue to expand the program statewide in September 2018.

The bill requires participating employers to have an apprenticeship program approved by the Apprenticeship and Training Council, but the Department of Legislative Services notes that, in accordance with Chapter 257 of 2017, responsibility for approving apprenticeship programs was transferred from the council to the Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning within DLLR. The council serves as an advisory body to the division.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Association of Counties; Maryland State Department of Education; Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; Baltimore City Public Schools; Department of Legislative Services

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