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By: Senators Pinsky, Kagan, Lam, Patterson, Rosapepe, and Washington Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2020

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

## A BILL ENTITLED

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ı	AN	$\mathbf{ACT}$	concerning
-	·		COLLECTION

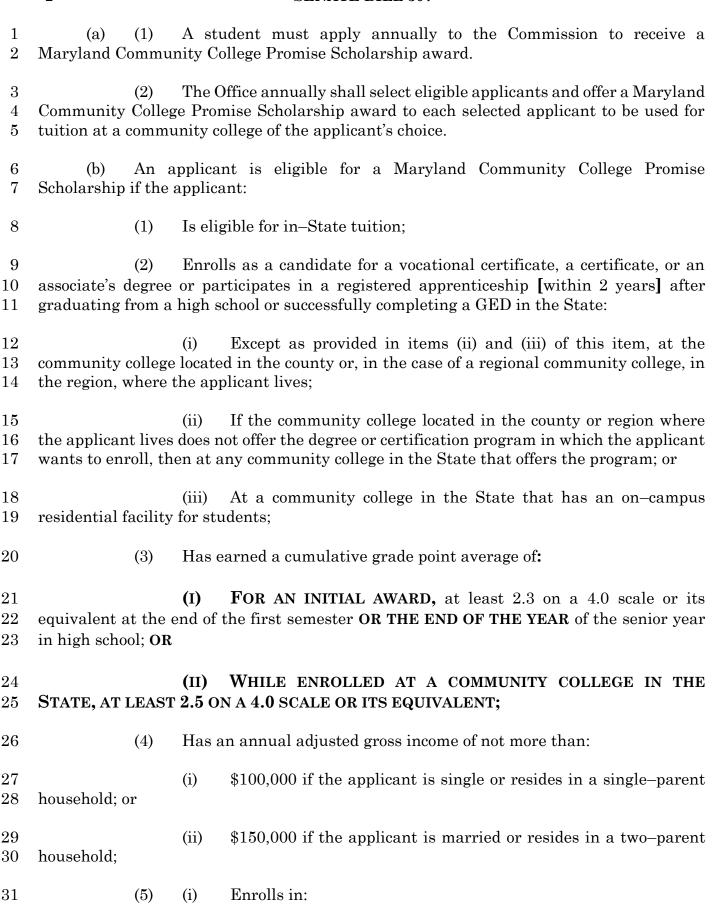
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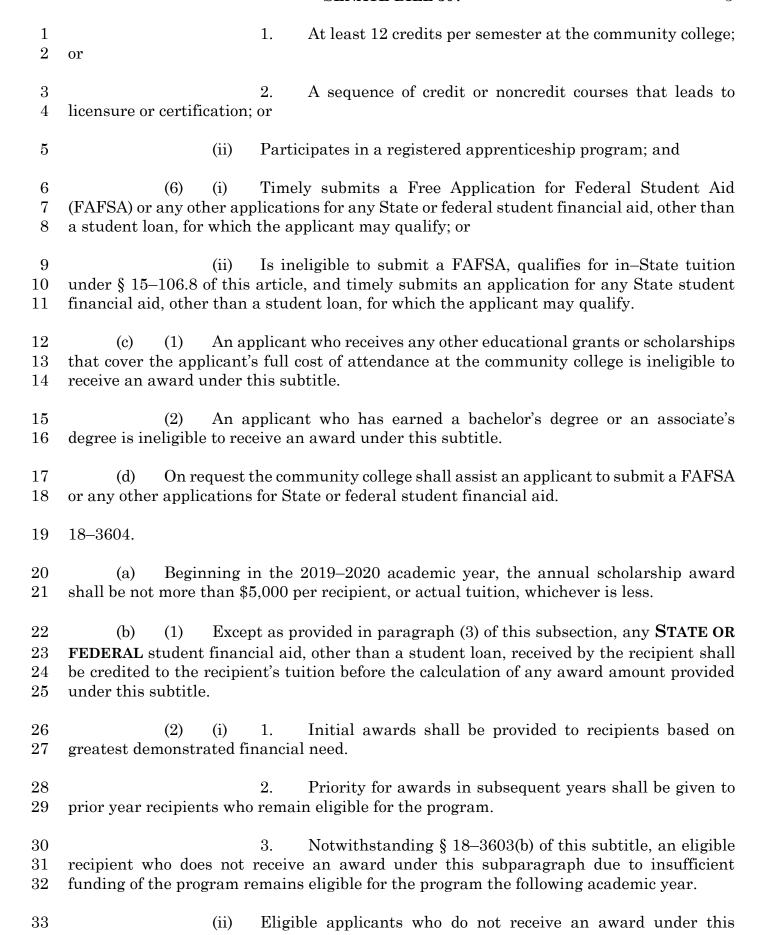
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## Higher Education – Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship – Revisions

4 FOR the purpose of altering the eligibility requirements for a Maryland Community College 5 Promise Scholarship to repeal a provision of law requiring a certain applicant to 6 apply within a certain number of years after graduating from high school; altering 7 certain eligibility requirements to allow a certain applicant to have earned a certain 8 grade point average by the end of the senior year of high school for an initial award 9 or while enrolled at a community college; requiring certain State or federal student financial aid received by a scholarship award recipient to be credited to the 10 11 recipient's tuition before the calculation of a scholarship award amount; repealing 12 certain provisions of law regarding a service obligation for receiving a scholarship 13 award and converting a scholarship award to a loan under certain circumstances; 14 altering the contents of a certain report; providing that a certain agreement signed 15 by a recipient of a scholarship award before a certain date is null and void and 16 without legal effect after a certain date; and generally relating to the Maryland 17 Community College Promise Scholarship.

- 18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments.
- 19 Article Education
- 20 Section 18–3603, 18–3604, 18–3606, and 18–3607
- 21 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 22 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)
- 23 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 24 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 25 Article Education
- 26 18–3603.





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1 subtitle shall be notified and placed on a waiting list.

- 2 (3) If a recipient is eligible for a local promise scholarship, an award 3 provided under this subtitle shall be credited to the recipient's tuition before the award of the local promise scholarship.
- 5 **[**(c) An award under this subtitle may be made only if a recipient signs an 6 agreement at the time of the initial award to:
- 7 (1) Use an address in the State on the recipient's State income tax return 8 and commence full—time employment within 1 year after completion of the later of:
- 9 (i) The vocational certificate, certificate, or associate's degree; or
- 10 (ii) If a recipient has attained at least 48 credits at the community college and transferred to a 4–year institution, a baccalaureate degree;
- 12 (2) Continue to use an address in the State on the recipient's State income 13 tax return and maintain employment for at least 1 year for each year that the scholarship 14 was awarded; and
- 15 (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.
- 18 **[**(d)**] (C)** (1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, each recipient may hold the award until the earlier of:
- 20 (i) 3 years after first enrolling as a candidate for a vocational 21 certificate, a certificate, or an associate's degree at a community college in the State; or
- 22 (ii) The date that the individual is awarded an associate's degree.
- 23 (2) The Office may extend the duration of an award for an allowable 24 interruption of study if the recipient provides to the Office satisfactory evidence of 25 extenuating circumstances that prevent the recipient from continuous enrollment.
- 26 (3) Each recipient may hold the award in accordance with paragraph (1) of this subsection only if the recipient:
- 28 (i) Continues to be eligible for in–State tuition;
- 29 (ii) 1. Continues to enroll in and complete at least 12 credits per 30 semester, or a sequence of credit or noncredit courses that leads to licensure or certification, 31 or their equivalent, as determined by the Office; or
  - 2. Continues to participate in a registered apprenticeship

1 program;

- 2 (iii) Maintains a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 3 4.0 scale or its equivalent for the requisite credit—bearing coursework for the remainder of the award or, failing to do so, provides to the Office satisfactory evidence of extenuating circumstances;
- 6 (iv) Makes satisfactory progress toward a vocational certificate, a 7 certificate, or an associate's degree;
- 8 (v) Continues to meet the income limitations under 18-3603(b)(4) 9 of this subtitle; and
- 10 (vi) Continues to timely submit an application under § 18–3603(b)(6) 11 of this subtitle.
- [(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.
- 14 (2) The Office may waive or defer repayment of the student loan if the 15 recipient provides satisfactory evidence of extenuating circumstances that prevent the 16 recipient from fulfilling the service obligation.]
- 17 18-3606.
- 18 **[**(a)**]** The Commission shall adopt regulations necessary to implement the 19 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 § 18–3604 of this subtitle.]
- 22 18–3607.
- On or before December 1, 2020, and each December 1 thereafter, the Commission shall report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, on the implementation of the Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship program, including:
- 27 (1) The number of applicants who received a Maryland Community College 28 Promise Scholarship in the academic year disaggregated by the community college at which 29 the scholarship was used;
- 30 (2) The number of scholarship recipients enrolled in an associate's degree 31 program;
- 32 (3) The number of scholarship recipients enrolled in a vocational certificate

<pre>1 program;</pre>	
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- 2 (4) The number of scholarship recipients enrolled in a certificate program;
- 3 (5) The amount of the award made to each scholarship recipient;
- 4 (6) The number of eligible applicants, if any, who were placed on a waiting 5 list and the amount of demonstrated financial need, in the aggregate, of those applicants;
- 6 (7) The number of scholarship recipients who earned an associate's degree 7 within 2, 3, or 4 years after receiving an award;
- 8 (8) The number of scholarship recipients who earned a vocational 9 certificate within 1, 2, or 3 years after receiving an award;
- 10 (9) The number of scholarship recipients who transferred to a 4-year 11 institution in the State;
- 12 (10) The number of scholarship recipients who received a baccalaureate 13 degree after transferring to a 4-year institution in the State; **AND**
- 14 (11) [The number of scholarship awards for which the service obligation was deferred, waived, or converted into a student loan; and
- 16 (12)] 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 an agreement signed before the effective date of this Act by a recipient of a Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship award requiring performance of a service obligation in accordance with § 18–3604(c) of the Education Article is null and void and without legal effect after the effective date of this Act.
- SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2020.