

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 435 (Senators McCray and Sydnor)
 Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
 and Budget and Taxation

Legal Education Success Collaborative - Established

This bill establishes the Legal Education Success Collaborative between the University of Baltimore (UB) School of Law, the University of Maryland (UM) School of Law, and the Maryland historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) to increase diversity in the legal field. For each law program, the Governor must include an appropriation of \$400,000 in fiscal 2022, \$700,000 in fiscal 2023, and \$1.0 million in fiscal 2024 and annually thereafter. Beginning in fiscal 2022, the Governor must include \$50,000 for each HBCU to support a coordinator position to promote the UB Law and HBCU Cooperative to students at the Maryland HBCUs. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2020.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures increase by \$1.0 million in FY 2022 and \$2.2 million in FY 2024 and subsequent years. Higher education revenues and expenditures at specified public law school programs and HBCU institutions increase proportionate to general fund expenditures. **This bill establishes mandated appropriations beginning in FY 2022.**

(\$ in millions)	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Higher Ed Rev.	\$0	\$1.0	\$1.6	\$2.2	\$2.2
GF Expenditure	\$0	\$1.0	\$1.6	\$2.2	\$2.2
Higher Ed Exp.	\$0	\$1.0	\$1.6	\$2.2	\$2.2
Net Effect	\$0.0	(\$1.0)	(\$1.6)	(\$2.2)	(\$2.2)

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate increase; (-) = indeterminate decrease

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The UB Law and HBCU Cooperative must be developed and administered by the UB School of Law and coordinated with Maryland HBCUs. The UM School of Law Diversity and Inclusion Scholars Program must be developed and administered by the UM School of Law.

The funding under the bill is supplemental to and may not supplant funding that would otherwise be included for the scholars program, Maryland HBCUs, UB, or the University System of Maryland.

Current Law/Background: The UB School of Law and the UM School of Law are the two public law schools in the State. The four HBCUs are Bowie State University, Coppin State University, the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, and Morgan State University.

State Fiscal Effect: As shown in **Exhibit 1**, general fund expenditures increase by \$1.0 million in fiscal 2022 and \$2.2 million in fiscal 2024 and subsequent years when the mandated funding is fully phased in. Higher education revenues and expenditures at the UB School of Law, the UM School of Law, and HBCU institutions increase, as specified, proportionate to general fund expenditures.

Exhibit 1
Mandated Additional Funding for Schools of Law and HBCUs
Fiscal 2022-2025
(\$ in Thousands)

	<u>FY 2022</u>	<u>FY 2023</u>	<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>
University of Baltimore School of Law	\$400	\$700	\$1,000	\$1,000
University of Maryland School of Law	400	700	1,000	1,000
Bowie State University	50	50	50	50
Coppin State University	50	50	50	50
University of Maryland Eastern Shore	50	50	50	50
Morgan State University	50	50	50	50
Total Funding	\$1,000	\$1,600	\$2,200	\$2,200

HBCUs: historically black colleges and universities

Notes: Mandated general fund expenditures continue at \$2.2 million in fiscal 2026 and beyond. The funding for the HBCUs is to support a coordinator position at each HBCU. The funding for the law schools is for expansion of their specified diversity programs.

Source: Department of Legislative Services

Funding is for the purposes specified in the bill, specifically, to support a coordinator position at each HBCU and to expand the diversity program at the law schools. The UM Carey School of Law advises that the additional funds will substantially increase its efforts to recruit a diverse student body by enhancing existing pipeline and diversity scholarship programs. The UB School of Law advises that the UB Law and HBCU Collaborative will enable it to expand and continue to offer law school preparation, mentorship, and career preparation in an effort to increase diversity in the legal field.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 10, 2020
mr/rhh

Analysis by: Caroline L. Boice

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510