

Chapter 403

(House Bill 98)

AN ACT concerning

**Maryland Higher Education Outreach and College Access Pilot Program –
Alterations
(Maryland College Access Act)**

FOR the purpose of repealing the termination date of the Maryland Higher Education Outreach and College Access Pilot Program; altering the title of the Program; requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill a certain appropriation for the Program; altering the reporting dates of a certain report on the Program; altering a certain definition; making conforming changes; and generally relating to the Maryland Higher Education Outreach and College Access Pilot Program.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Education

Section 11–1101, 11–1102, 11–1103, and 11–1106 to be under the amended subtitle
“Subtitle 11. Maryland Higher Education Outreach and College Access
Program”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Education

Section 11–1104 and 11–1105

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Education

Section 11–1107

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Chapter 200 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2015, as amended by
Chapter 399 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2018

Section 2

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Chapter 201 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2015, as amended by Chapter
399 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2018

Section 2

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Education

Subtitle 11. Maryland Higher Education Outreach and College Access [Pilot]
Program.

11–1101.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) “Nonprofit organization” means an organization that is exempt or eligible for exemption from taxation under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(c) “Program” means the Maryland Higher Education Outreach and College Access [Pilot] Program.

11–1102.

There is a Maryland Higher Education Outreach and College Access [Pilot] Program.

11–1103.

The purposes of the Program are to:

(1) Encourage low–income Maryland high school students to attend and complete college;

(2) Connect potential college and university students with nonprofit organizations that have a history of successful higher education outcomes for targeted youth;

(3) Create an equal matching fund for nonprofit organizations to access in order to increase college outreach services to low–income students;

(4) Provide funding for nonprofit organizations that are already established in communities to provide targeted outreach to encourage low–income students to enroll in college; and

(5) [Establish a 5–year pilot program to determine if the Program can lead to an increase in] **INCREASE THE NUMBER OF** low–income students attending and succeeding in college.

11–1104.

(a) The Commission shall administer the Program.

(b) To carry out the purposes of the Program, the Commission shall:

(1) Establish a grant program to be published on the Commission's website through which nonprofit organizations may learn about eligibility, application, and compliance requirements and apply for funding as provided under this subtitle;

(2) Develop application requirements and review and approve applications;

(3) Develop a process for verifying that matching funds are available; and

(4) Allocate funding to approved nonprofit organizations on a competitive basis.

11-1105.

(a) To be eligible for participation in the Program, a nonprofit organization shall:

(1) Be located in the State;

(2) Have a contract or memorandum of understanding with a local school system or an institution of higher education or must establish one if one does not exist; and

(3) Demonstrate an equal match for funds requested.

(b) A nonprofit organization that receives funding through the Program shall:

(1) Submit data on outreach programs;

(2) Track student progress through the higher education system; and

(3) Submit annual reports to the Commission on or before October 1 following the fiscal year in which funds were received.

11-1106.

(a) The Commission shall prepare a report on the Program that includes:

(1) A summary of the reports received from the participating nonprofit organizations regarding the Program;

(2) The amount of funds distributed each fiscal year;

(3) Information regarding the effectiveness of the Program, including whether students matriculate and remain continuously enrolled in higher education as a

result of the Program; and

(4) If an eligible wait list exists, the number of nonprofit organizations on the wait list.

(b) On or before December 1 [in 2017 through 2021] **EACH YEAR**, the Commission shall submit a copy of the report required under subsection (a) of this section to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article.

11–1107.

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF \$200,000 FOR THE PROGRAM.

Chapter 200 of the Acts of 2015, as amended by Chapter 399 of the Acts of 2018

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2015. [It shall remain effective for a period of 7 years and, at the end of September 30, 2022, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.]

Chapter 201 of the Acts of 2015, as amended by Chapter 399 of the Acts of 2018

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2015. [It shall remain effective for a period of 7 years and, at the end of September 30, 2022, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 30, 2021.