

# HOUSE BILL 33

P1

(PRE-FILED)

5lr0074  
CF SB 248

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By: **Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee (By Request –  
Departmental – Service and Civic Innovation)**

Requested: October 7, 2024

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations and Appropriations

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 18, 2025

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Service and Civic Innovation – Maryland Corps Program Service**  
3 **Year Option Pathways – Revisions**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the duties of the Department of Service and Civic Innovation;  
5 renaming the Governor’s Volunteer Council to be the Governor’s Commission on  
6 Service and Volunteerism; altering certain requirements relating to qualifications  
7 for applicants and compensation for participants in the Young Adult Service Year  
8 Option Pathway and the Maryland Service Year Option Pathway; altering certain  
9 reporting requirements; repealing the Executive Fellows Program; and generally  
10 relating to the Maryland Corps Program Service Year Option Pathways.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article – State Government  
13 Section 21–106(b)(5) and (8), 21–204(d)(6) and (7), 21–205, 21–206, 21–209, 21–301,  
14 and 21–302  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
18 Article – State Government  
19 Section 21–201(a) and (h)  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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**EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 BY repealing  
2 Article – State Government  
3 Section 21–306  
4 Annotated Code of Maryland  
5 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

8 **Article – State Government**

9 21–106.

10 (b) The Department shall:

11 (5) administer:

12 (i) the Maryland Corps Program under Subtitle 2 of this title; AND

13 [(ii) the Executive Fellows Program under § 21–306 of this title; and]

14 [(iii)] (II) any other volunteer program recommended or designated  
15 by the governor or otherwise established by law;

16 (8) provide staff support for the [Governor’s Volunteer Council]  
17 GOVERNOR’S COMMISSION ON SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERISM.

18 21–201.

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

20 (h) “Program” means the Maryland Corps Program.

21 21–204.

22 (d) The Department shall adopt regulations regarding:

23 (6) stipends for corps participants, including:

24 (i) monetary payment of at least [\$15 per hour or] the APPLICABLE  
25 COUNTY OR State minimum wage, whichever is greater;

26 (ii) health insurance benefits and the potential for wraparound  
27 services; and

1 (iii) requirements for large-scale employers to provide matching  
2 funds;

3 (7) a Program completion award of \$6,000 for participants that complete at  
4 least 9 months of service that [may] **SHALL** be awarded as [follows:

5 (i) by deposit into a tax-exempt Maryland 529 account established  
6 under Title 18, Subtitle 19 of the Education Article and may only be used for qualified  
7 higher education expenses, as defined in § 18-1901 of the Education Article; or

8 (ii) payment of] a cash stipend;

9 21-205.

10 (a) (1) There is a Young Adult Service Year Option Pathway in the Program.

11 (2) The purpose of the Young Adult Service Year Option Pathway is to:

12 (i) provide service placements to eligible young adults as an  
13 additional option to immediately pursuing postsecondary education or career and technical  
14 training;

15 (ii) equip corps participants with professional development,  
16 mentoring, job training, financial literacy skills, and other supports while working in  
17 high-impact service placements;

18 (iii) assist in addressing the State's greatest challenges by  
19 channeling the next generation of Maryland citizens into impactful public service; and

20 (iv) strengthen a pipeline of talent into State and local governments  
21 to fill present and future staffing needs.

22 (b) An individual may apply to the Department for a service placement in the YA  
23 Pathway under this section if the individual [is]:

24 (1) **IS** a Maryland resident on the submission of application; [and]

25 (2) [within 3 years of graduation] **HAS GRADUATED** from high school or  
26 [having] **HAS** obtained a similar level of education completion, including an individual who  
27 has obtained a:

28 (i) [Maryland] high school diploma;

29 (ii) [Maryland] high school diploma by examination; or

1 (iii) [Maryland High School Certificate of Program Completion]  
2 HIGH SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION; AND

3 (3) IS AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD AND UNDER THE AGE OF 25 YEARS AT  
4 THE START DATE OF THE YA PATHWAY.

5 (c) (1) The Department shall set targets for participation in the YA Pathway  
6 under this section, including:

7 (i) 200 corps participants in the first year of implementation; and

8 (ii) 2,000 corps participants in the fourth year of implementation.

9 (2) The Department shall prioritize for participation in the YA Pathway  
10 under this section:

11 (i) individuals historically underrepresented in:

12 1. higher education enrollment or completion; or

13 2. employment:

14 A. by large-scale and community employers;

15 B. by participating organizations; or

16 C. in professions and occupations that require licensure or  
17 certification; and

18 (ii) organizations that provide wraparound services to corps  
19 participants.

20 (d) The Department shall develop focus areas for the YA Pathway under this  
21 section for the purpose of addressing priority State and community issues, including:

22 (1) climate;

23 (2) education; and

24 (3) health.

25 (e) A corps participant who receives a service placement in the YA Pathway under  
26 this section shall:

27 (1) participate in all training related to the service placement;

28 (2) work at least 30 hours per week;

1 (3) be partnered with an on-site mentor;

2 (4) perform the duties of the service placement to the satisfaction of the  
3 participating organization and the Department;

4 (5) participate in Program-wide events;

5 (6) be paid [\$15 per hour or] **AT LEAST** the **APPLICABLE COUNTY OR**  
6 State minimum wage, whichever is greater, for mandatory work hours or mandatory  
7 Program activities; and

8 (7) on completion of the Program, be notified of all available post-Program  
9 opportunities, including registered apprenticeships.

10 (f) The Department shall promote and publicize the availability of opportunities  
11 in the YA Pathway to:

12 (1) high schools and adult high schools in the State;

13 (2) community and nonprofit organizations;

14 (3) faith-based institutions; and

15 (4) employers that are potential service placement providers.

16 (g) (1) There is a Young Adult Service Year Option Pathway Fund.

17 (2) The purpose of the YA Pathway Fund is to:

18 (i) provide stipends to corps participants with a service placement  
19 in the [YA Pathway] **PROGRAM** under this section;

20 (ii) pay the costs to administer and promote [the YA Pathway under]  
21 the Program; and

22 (iii) assist in the creation of additional corps programs under §  
23 21-207 of this subtitle.

24 (3) The Department shall administer the YA Pathway Fund.

25 (4) Except as provided in paragraph (9) of this subsection, the YA Pathway  
26 Fund is a continuing, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to § 7-302 of the State Finance  
27 and Procurement Article.

- 1           (5)   (i)    The State Treasurer shall hold the YA Pathway Fund separately  
2 and shall invest the money in the YA Pathway Fund in the same manner as other State  
3 money may be invested.
- 4                   (ii)   Any investment earnings of the YA Pathway Fund shall be  
5 credited to the Fund.
- 6           (6)    The Comptroller shall separately account for each source for the YA  
7 Pathway Fund.
- 8           (7)    The Department:
- 9                   (i)    may accept any gift or grant from any person for the YA Pathway  
10 Fund;
- 11                   (ii)   shall use any gift or grant that it receives for the purposes listed  
12 under paragraph (2) of this subsection; and
- 13                   (iii)   shall deposit with the State Treasurer any gift or grant that it  
14 receives for the YA Pathway Fund.
- 15           (8)    The YA Pathway Fund consists of:
- 16                   (i)    money appropriated to the YA Pathway Fund under the Program  
17 in the State budget;
- 18                   (ii)   gifts or grants received by the Department for the YA Pathway  
19 Fund;
- 20                   (iii)   investment earnings of the YA Pathway Fund; and
- 21                   (iv)   any other money from any other source accepted for the benefit  
22 of the YA Pathway Fund.
- 23           (9)    (i)    Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, any  
24 unspent State appropriation of the YA Pathway Fund shall revert to the General Fund of  
25 the State at the end of the fiscal year.
- 26                   (ii)   For fiscal years 2024 through 2026, any unspent portion of the  
27 YA Pathway Fund may not be transferred or revert to the General Fund of the State but  
28 shall remain in the YA Pathway Fund to be used for the purposes specified in this subtitle.
- 29           (10)   Beginning with fiscal year 2024, at the end of each fiscal year, the  
30 Department shall prepare an annual report of the YA Pathway Fund that includes:
- 31                   (i)    an accounting of all financial receipts and expenditures to and  
32 from the YA Pathway Fund; and

1 (ii) the following information:

2 1. the total number of corps participants disaggregated by  
3 demographic categories;

4 2. the total annual cost of the YA Pathway disaggregated by  
5 the source of the funds;

6 3. corps participant transition after Program completion into  
7 higher education, postsecondary education, full-time employment, registered  
8 apprenticeships, and any other post-Program opportunity;

9 4. the number of corps participants employed by State or  
10 local government agencies after completion of the Program; and

11 5. to the extent practicable, what former corps participants  
12 are doing 1 year, 2 years, and 5 years after completing the Program.

13 **(11) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT A COPY OF THE REPORT**  
14 **PREPARED UNDER PARAGRAPH (10) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO THE GENERAL**  
15 **ASSEMBLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

16 **[(11)] (12)** The YA Pathway Fund is subject to audit by the Office of  
17 Legislative Audits in accordance with § 2-1220 of this article.

18 21-206.

19 (a) (1) There is a Maryland Service Year Option Pathway in the Program.

20 (2) The purpose of the Maryland Service Year Option Pathway is to:

21 (i) equip corps participants with professional development,  
22 mentoring, job training, financial literacy skills, and other supports while working in  
23 high-impact service placements;

24 (ii) assist in addressing the State's greatest challenges by  
25 channeling the talents of individuals into impactful public service; and

26 (iii) strengthen a pipeline of talent into State and local governments  
27 to fill present and future staffing needs.

28 (b) (1) An individual may apply to the Department for a **SERVICE** placement  
29 in the MSY Pathway under this section if the individual is **[interested in performing public**  
30 **and community service in the State]**:

1 (I) A MARYLAND RESIDENT; AND

2 (II) AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD AT THE START DATE OF THE MSY  
3 PATHWAY.

4 (2) The Department shall prioritize for participation in the MSY Pathway  
5 under this section individuals who are **HISTORICALLY UNDERREPRESENTED IN:**

6 (i) [Maryland residents; and

7 (ii) historically underrepresented in:

8 1.] higher education enrollment or completion; or

9 [2.] (II) employment by:

10 [A.] 1. large-scale and community employers; or

11 [B.] 2. participating organizations.

12 (3) The Department shall prioritize for participation in the MSY Pathway  
13 under this section organizations that provide wraparound services to corps participants.

14 (c) A corps participant who receives a service placement in the MSY Pathway  
15 under this section shall:

16 (1) participate in all training related to the service placement;

17 (2) perform the duties of the service placement to the satisfaction of the  
18 participating organization and the Department;

19 (3) participate in Program-wide events as determined by the Department;

20 (4) be paid [\$15 per hour or] **AT LEAST** the **APPLICABLE COUNTY OR**  
21 State minimum wage, whichever is greater, for mandatory work hours or mandatory  
22 Program activities; and

23 (5) on completion of the Program, be notified of all available post-Program  
24 opportunities, including registered apprenticeships.

25 (d) The Department shall promote and publicize the availability of the MSY  
26 Pathway opportunities to:

27 (1) historically black colleges and universities, as defined in § 3-207 of the  
28 State Finance and Procurement Article;



1 (2) community colleges;

2 (3) trade schools;

3 (4) faith-based institutions;

4 (5) youth who are disconnected from school or work; and

5 (6) employers and nonprofit organizations with potential service  
6 placements for the MSY Pathway under this section.

7 (e) (1) There is a Maryland Service Year Option Pathway Fund.

8 (2) The purpose of the MSY Pathway Fund is to:

9 (i) provide stipends to corps participants with a service placement  
10 in the [MSY Pathway] **PROGRAM** under this section;

11 (ii) provide Program completion awards to corps participants who  
12 have completed the Program;

13 (iii) cover expenses incurred by the Department, including expenses  
14 incurred to study the potential use of the Program as a workforce development tool in the  
15 State;

16 (iv) cover expenses incurred to study how alumni of the Program  
17 could be better positioned to meet the current and future needs of employers in the State;

18 (v) provide funding for the MSY Pathway under this section to  
19 match gifts or grants received by the Department for the MSY Pathway Fund; and

20 (vi) assist in the creation of additional corps programs under §  
21 21–207 of this subtitle.

22 (3) The Department shall administer the MSY Pathway Fund.

23 (4) Except as provided in paragraph (10) of this subsection, the MSY  
24 Pathway Fund is a continuing, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to § 7–302 of the State  
25 Finance and Procurement Article.

26 (5) (i) The State Treasurer shall hold the MSY Pathway Fund  
27 separately and shall invest the money in the MSY Pathway Fund in the same manner as  
28 other State money may be invested.

29 (ii) Any investment earnings of the MSY Pathway Fund shall be  
30 credited to the Fund.

1                   (6)    The Comptroller shall separately account for each source for the MSY  
2 Pathway Fund.

3                   (7)    The Department:

4                   (i)     may accept any gift or grant from any person for the MSY  
5 Pathway Fund;

6                   (ii)    shall use any gift or grant that it receives for the reasons stated  
7 under paragraph (2) of this subsection; and

8                   (iii)  shall deposit any gift or grant that it receives for the MSY  
9 Pathway Fund with the State Treasurer.

10                  (8)    The MSY Pathway Fund consists of:

11                  (i)     money appropriated under subsection (f) of this section;

12                  (ii)    gifts or grants received by the Department for the MSY Pathway  
13 Fund;

14                  (iii)  investment earnings of the MSY Pathway Fund; and

15                  (iv)   any other money from any other source accepted for the benefit  
16 of the MSY Pathway Fund.

17                  (9)    The MSY Pathway Fund may be used only for the purposes described  
18 in paragraph (2) of this subsection.

19                  (10) (i)    Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, any  
20 unspent State appropriation of the MSY Pathway Fund shall revert to the General Fund  
21 of the State at the end of the fiscal year.

22                  (ii)    For fiscal years 2024 through 2026, any unspent portion of the  
23 MSY Pathway Fund may not be transferred or revert to the General Fund of the State but  
24 shall remain in the MSY Pathway Fund to be used for the purposes specified in this  
25 subtitle.

26                  (11)  [(i)]   Beginning with fiscal year [2024] **2026**, at the end of each fiscal  
27 year, the Department shall [prepare an annual report of] **INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL**  
28 **REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER § 21-205(G) OF THIS SUBTITLE INFORMATION ON** the  
29 MSY Pathway Fund that includes:

30                               [1.] **(I)**     an accounting of all financial receipts and  
31 expenditures to and from the MSY Pathway Fund; and

32                               [2.] **(II)**    the following information:

1 [A.] 1. the total number of corps participants  
2 disaggregated by demographic categories;

3 [B.] 2. the total annual cost of the MSY Pathway  
4 disaggregated by the source of the funds;

5 [C.] 3. corps participant transition after Program  
6 completion into higher education, postsecondary education, full-time employment,  
7 registered apprenticeships, and any other post-Program opportunity;

8 [D.] 4. the number of corps participants employed by State  
9 or local government agencies after completion of the Program; and

10 [E.] 5. to the extent practicable, what former corps  
11 participants are doing 1 year, 2 years, and 5 years after completing the Program.

12 [(ii) The Department shall submit a copy of the report to the General  
13 Assembly in accordance with § 2-1257 of this article.]

14 (12) The MSY Pathway Fund may be subject to an audit by the Legislative  
15 Auditor.

16 (f) (1) The Governor shall include in the annual budget bill an appropriation  
17 to the MSY Pathway Fund of:

18 (i) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2024;

19 (ii) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2025;

20 (iii) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2026; and

21 (iv) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2027 and each fiscal year thereafter.

22 (2) It is the intent of the General Assembly that appropriations made under  
23 paragraph (1) of this subsection are in addition to any federal funding received for State  
24 service or volunteer programming.

25 (3) Appropriations made under paragraph (1) of this subsection and other  
26 funding received by the Department for the MSY Pathway under this section shall be used  
27 to:

28 (i) provide stipends to corps participants with a service placement  
29 in the [MSY Pathway] **PROGRAM** under this section;

1 (ii) provide Program completion awards to corps participants who  
2 have completed the Program;

3 (iii) cover expenses incurred by the Department, including expenses  
4 incurred in marketing and recruitment; and

5 (iv) cover programmatic expenses to expand service opportunities  
6 throughout the State, including expanding the Chesapeake Conservation Corps Program,  
7 as provided under §§ 8–1913 through 8–1924 of the Natural Resources Article.

8 21–209.

9 On or before December 1 each year, the Department shall report to the Governor  
10 and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of this article, the General Assembly regarding:

11 (1) the number and amount of stipends awarded under the Program;

12 (2) the businesses, nonprofit organizations, or government agencies with  
13 which corps participants are placed;

14 (3) the institutions, if any, that award academic credit for a corps  
15 participant's service; **AND**

16 (4) the number and amount of Program completion awards awarded under  
17 the Program]; and

18 (5) the postsecondary educational institutions at which corps participants  
19 use their Program completion awards].

20 21–301.

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

22 (b) “Corps” means the Maryland Service Corps.

23 (c) [“Council” means the Governor’s Volunteer Council.

24 (d)] “Office” means the Governor’s Office on Service and Volunteerism.

25 21–302.

26 There is a Governor’s Office on Service and Volunteerism within the [Governor’s  
27 Office of Community Initiatives] **DEPARTMENT.**

28 [21–306.

1 (a) The Executive Fellows Program is established to provide an opportunity for  
2 individuals from the private sector with demonstrated leadership and managerial potential  
3 to participate in State government.

4 (b) Criteria or guidelines for the recruitment, selection, and assignment of  
5 executive fellows shall be developed in consultation with representatives of the business  
6 community and appropriate State units.

7 (c) A committee shall be appointed by the Governor to select qualified applicants  
8 to participate in the Executive Fellows Program.]

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
10 1, 2025.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.