
House Appropriations Committee

March 10, 2026

**HB 900 - Legislative Scholarship Programs - Eligibility and Use - Real Estate Appraisal
Program****Position: Favorable**

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC), representing Maryland's 16 community colleges, supports **HB 900**. This legislation expands the flexibility of existing legislative scholarship programs by allowing scholarship funds to support students pursuing the Practical Applications of Real Estate Appraisal Program and related licensure requirements.

Maryland's community colleges provide numerous career and workforce training programs that lead directly to professional certification or licensure. These programs offer accessible and affordable pathways for students seeking to enter high-demand professions without necessarily pursuing a traditional four-year degree. Ensuring that financial aid programs recognize and support these workforce-focused educational pathways is essential to meeting the State's evolving labor market needs.

HB 900 appropriately recognizes that many career pathways require specialized training, certification programs, and professional licensure that fall outside of traditional degree structures. Community colleges frequently serve as the entry point for these programs, providing the coursework, instruction, and preparation needed for students to meet professional standards and licensing requirements.

By allowing legislative scholarship funds to support participation in the Practical Applications of Real Estate Appraisal Program, this bill expands educational opportunity while strengthening workforce pipelines in a field that plays an important role in Maryland's housing and real estate sectors. The legislation also reinforces the role of community colleges as flexible providers of career-focused training that responds directly to industry demand. Accordingly, MACC urges the Committee to issue a **FAVORABLE** report on **HB 900**.

Please contact Brad Phillips (bphillips@mdacc.org) or Drew Jabin (djabin@mdacc.org) with questions.