

MARYLAND REGISTER

Proposed Action on Regulations

Transmittal Sheet PROPOSED OR REPROPOSED Actions on Regulations	Date Filed with AELR Committee	TO BE COMPLETED BY DSD
	08/28/2015	Date Filed with Division of State Documents
		Document Number
		Date of Publication in MD Register

1. Desired date of publication in Maryland Register: 10/2/2015

2. COMAR Codification

Title Subtitle Chapter Regulation

13B 08 08 .01-.06

3. Name of Promulgating Authority

Maryland Higher Education Commission

4. Name of Regulations Coordinator

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5. Name of Person to Call About this Document

Mark Blom

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6. Check applicable items:

- New Regulations

Amendments to Existing Regulations

 Date when existing text was downloaded from COMAR online: .

Repeal of Existing Regulations

Recodification

Incorporation by Reference of Documents Requiring DSD Approval

Reproposal of Substantively Different Text:

: Md. R
(vol.) (issue) (page nos) (date)

Under Maryland Register docket no.: --P.

7. Is there emergency text which is identical to this proposal:

Yes - No

8. Incorporation by Reference

Check if applicable: Incorporation by Reference (IBR) approval form(s) attached and 18 copies of documents proposed for incorporation submitted to DSD. (Submit 18 paper copies of IBR document to DSD and one copy to AELR.)

9. Public Body - Open Meeting

- OPTIONAL - If promulgating authority is a public body, check to include a sentence in the Notice of Proposed Action that proposed action was considered at an open meeting held pursuant to State Government Article, §10-506(c), Annotated Code of Maryland.

OPTIONAL - If promulgating authority is a public body, check to include a paragraph that final action will be considered at an open meeting.

10. Children's Environmental Health and Protection

Check if the system should send a copy of the proposal to the Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council.

11. Certificate of Authorized Officer

I certify that the attached document is in compliance with the Administrative Procedure Act. I also certify that the attached text has been approved for legality by Mark Blom, Assistant Attorney General, (telephone #410-767-3311) on august 28, 2015. A written copy of the approval is on file at this agency.

Name of Authorized Officer

Mark Blom

Title

Principal Counsel

Telephone No.

410-767-3311

Date

August 28, 2015

Title 13B
B MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

Subtitle 08 FINANCIAL AID

13B.08.08 Graduate and Professional Scholarship Program

Authority: Education Article §§ 11-105(u), 18-204(c), and 18-2601; Annotated Code of Maryland

Notice of Proposed Action

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The Maryland Higher Education Commission proposes to adopt new regulations 01-.06 under COMAR 13B.08.08 (Graduate and Professional Scholarship Program).

This action was considered at a public meeting of the Maryland Higher Education Commission held on June 24, 2015.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this action is to is to adopt agency regulations to implement the Graduate and Professional Scholarship Program authorized by § 18-2601 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

Comparison to Federal Standards

There is no corresponding federal standard to this proposed action.

Estimate of Economic Impact

The proposed action has no economic impact.

Economic Impact on Small Businesses

The proposed action has minimal or no economic impact on small businesses.

Impact on Individuals with Disabilities

The proposed action has no impact on individuals with disabilities.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Comments may be sent to Donna Thomas, Director Office of Student Financial Assistance, Maryland Higher Education Commission, 6 N. Liberty St, 10th Floor Baltimore, Md 21201, or call 410-767-3109, or email to donnae.thomas@maryland.gov, or fax to 410-332-0250. Comments will be accepted through November 2, 2015. A public hearing has not been scheduled.

Economic Impact Statement Part C

A. Fiscal Year in which regulations will become effective: FY 2016

B. Does the budget for the fiscal year in which regulations become effective contain funds to implement the regulations?

Yes

C. If 'yes', state whether general, special (exact name), or federal funds will be used:

General

D. If 'no', identify the source(s) of funds necessary for implementation of these regulations:

E. If these regulations have no economic impact under Part A, indicate reason briefly:

These regulations concern a program which is already being administered by funds already appropriated by the general assembly.

F. If these regulations have minimal or no economic impact on small businesses under Part B, indicate the reason and attach small business worksheet.

These regulations do not impact small businesses.

G. Small Business Worksheet:

Attached Document:

Title 13B

MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

SUBTITLE 08 FINANCIAL AID

Chapter 08 Graduate and Professional Scholarship Program

Authority: Education Article, §§11-105(u), 18-204(c) and 18-2601; Annotated Code of Maryland

.01 Purpose.

The purpose of the Graduate and Professional Scholarship Program is to provide financial assistance to full-time and part-time graduate/professional students in the fields of medicine, dentistry, law, pharmacy, nursing, social work, and veterinary medicine to individuals who have demonstrated financial need.

.02 Student and Institutional Eligibility.

A. To be eligible for the Graduate and Professional Scholarship Program an individual shall:

(1) be a Maryland resident;

(2) demonstrate financial need; and

(3) be enrolled as a degree-seeking student, either part-time or full-time, and attend one of the schools in §B of regulation 02.

B. An applicant shall be enrolled in one of the following programs:

- (1) University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Law, Pharmacy, or Social Work;
- (2) University of Baltimore School of Law;
- (3) The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine;
- (4) The Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine;
- (5) Any institution in the State offering a master's degree in Nursing or Social Work; or
- (6) Any institution in the State offering a first professional degree in Pharmacy.

.03 Institutional Allocations.

A. The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) shall allocate to each eligible institution a share of the total funds provided for the program in proportion to its share of Maryland graduate and professional students who are enrolled in the eligible programs.

B. The allocation shall be based on the average of the enrollments for the preceding two years. An institution that becomes eligible to participate in the scholarship program due to a recent addition of an eligible graduate or professional program at their institution, shall have its enrollments calculated using an estimated fall enrollment projection for that year. After two years of enrollments, the institution's allocation shall be calculated based on the average of the enrollments for the preceding two years.

C. The OSFA shall notify institutions of the amount of their allocation and shall distribute funds to each institution no later than August 30.

D. In the event the institution fails to submit all required information under regulation 06., funding allocated to the institution within that year will be subject to one of the following:

- (1) Reduction of subsequent years funding according to the preceding years allocated amount; or
- (2) A one year lapse of funding in the subsequent year.

.04 Student Awards.

A. The institutional financial aid office will identify students who are eligible for an award.

B. The minimum award is \$1,000 per academic year and the maximum award is \$5,000 per academic year.

C. A student may not receive an award for longer than eight semesters regardless of enrollment status.

D. Awards shall be based on the financial need of the student. Students are required to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Each institution may determine an appropriate methodology for determining financial need; however, this methodology should include consideration of the information provided on the FAFSA.

E. The award may be used toward the costs of tuition and mandatory fees, room and board, and other educational expenses.

.05 Renewal Conditions

To maintain eligibility for a Graduate and Professional Scholarship, the recipient must continue to demonstrate financial need for each year that the award is sought and meet all other eligibility criteria in regulation .02.

.06 Audit.

A. Each participating institution must submit to the Office of Student Financial Assistance by August 15 each year the following information:

- (1) The amount of funds and number of recipients awarded a Graduate and Professional Scholarship;
- (2) The allocation of awards and funds by each degree program;
- (3) The total number of eligible students with financial need; and
- (4) The methodology used to determine the financial need of the students receiving awards under the program.

B. All financial books, records and documents pertaining to this program shall, at all reasonable times, be opened to inspection, review and audit by the Office of Student Financial Assistance, the State Auditor, or their authorized representatives. The institution shall retain such financial books, records, and documents for 5 years after the close of a fiscal year.

C. Institutions shall include this program in any independent audit conducted for the institution on financial aid programs.

