

Department of Fiscal Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE  
Revised

Senate Bill 78 (Senator Hollinger)  
Economic and Environmental Affairs

Referred to Ways and Means

Senior Institutions of Higher Education - Requirement for Immunizations

This amended bill provides that students at a "senior institution of higher education" must submit a record of immunization before they can be enrolled. The record of immunization must be in accord with regulations adopted by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH). The records must be made available for review by a health officer on an as needed basis. The bill provides for certain exemptions from the immunization requirement.

The bill takes effect July 1, 1996.

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures could increase by \$79,400 in FY 1997. Future year expenditures increase as a result of annualization and inflation. Special fund revenues could increase by an indeterminate but minimal amount.

(in dollars)	FY 1997	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
SF Revenues	---	---	---	---	---
GF Expenditures	79,400	95,700	101,400	103,000	109,500
Net Effect	(\$79,400)	(\$95,700)	(\$101,400)	(\$103,000)	(\$109,500)

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

**Local Effect:** None. The bill's requirements could be handled by existing budgeted resources.

Fiscal Analysis

**State Revenues:** The University of Maryland System Administration indicates that State special fund revenues could decrease by an estimated \$161,800 in fiscal 1997 as a result of students who might otherwise have attended Maryland institutions but cannot attend due to the bill's immunization requirements. This applies in particular to foreign students who may

not be able to comply with the requirement to submit immunization records.

The Department of Fiscal Services advises, however, that although some students may be excluded from attending Maryland higher education institutions as a result of the bill's requirements, that this will not necessarily result in a revenue loss, particularly after the first year of implementation when the institutions have had an opportunity to advise prospective students of the immunization requirement. It is probable that other students with access to immunization records could take the place of those who are excluded due to the bill's provisions. In addition, it is possible that prospective students without records could be immunized by university health services for a small fee, which could increase special fund revenues by an indeterminate amount. Any such increase is assumed to be minimal.

**State Expenditures:** Some higher education institutions, such as Morgan State University and St. Mary's College, already have mandatory immunization requirements. For institutions that don't already have immunization requirements, general fund expenditures (within the University of Maryland System) could increase by an estimated \$79,400 in fiscal 1997, which reflects the 90-day start-up delay. This estimate reflects the cost of hiring one Administrative Specialist, one Typist Clerk, and one part-time (40%) Manager to screen the immunization records of new students. It includes salaries of \$47,846, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs, and ongoing operating expenses.

Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$67,400
Other Operating Expenses	<u>12,000</u>
<b>Total FY 1997 State Expenditures</b>	<b>\$79,400</b>

Future year expenditures reflect (1) full salaries with 3.5% annual increases and 3% employee turnover; and (2) 2% annual increases in ongoing operating expenses.

**Additional Comments:** The Independent Colleges and Universities advise that fiscal 1997 expenditures for private colleges and universities could increase by an estimated \$135,000. None of the private higher education institutions currently have an immunization monitoring program. This estimate reflects the cost of hiring one part-time worker in each institution to screen the immunization records of new students and includes salaries of \$10,000 per position, with a 90-day start-up delay. The Department of Fiscal Services notes that the \$135,000 estimate is a maximum cost scenario in that it's likely that some institutions can absorb additional immunization monitoring program duties by using existing staff.

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**Information Source(s):** Department of Fiscal Services, University of Maryland System Administration, St. Mary's College, Maryland Higher Education Commission, Maryland Independent Colleges and Universities, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Community Health Surveillance Administration), Morgan State University

**Fiscal Note History:**

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First Reader - January 16, 1996

Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 19, 1996

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