

SENATE BILL 183

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1998 Regular Session  
8r0945

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By: **Senators Hogan, Madden, Hollinger, Kasemeyer, Boozer, Currie, Neall,  
Lawlah, and Middleton**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 1998  
Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education - Computer Science, Information and Biotechnology -**  
3 **Scholarships**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a State scholarship for a certain amount of aid for  
5 students majoring in certain fields at certain schools; establishing the criteria  
6 for renewing the State scholarship; establishing State matching scholarships for  
7 a certain amount of aid for students majoring in certain fields at certain schools;  
8 defining certain terms; establishing eligibility for financial assistance;  
9 establishing obligations of recipients of financial assistance; requiring the  
10 Higher Education Commission to adopt regulations to administer the  
11 scholarships; providing the funds for the scholarships in the Higher Education  
12 Commission's budget; and generally relating to scholarships in the areas of  
13 computer science and information technology.

14 BY adding to  
15 Article - Education  
16 Section 18-708  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

21 **Article - Education**

22 18-708.

23 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
24 INDICATED.

25 (2) (I) "ELIGIBLE BUSINESS" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL, CORPORATION,  
26 PARTNERSHIP, SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP, JOINT VENTURE, OR OTHER LEGAL ENTITY  
27 THROUGH WHICH COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY IS CONDUCTED.

1 (II) "ELIGIBLE BUSINESS" DOES NOT INCLUDE THE STATE, ANY  
2 SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, OR ANY FOREIGN  
3 GOVERNMENT.

4 (3) "ELIGIBLE FIELD" MEANS STUDY OR EMPLOYMENT IN COMPUTER  
5 SCIENCE, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, DATA SYSTEMS ENGINEERING, OR  
6 BIOTECHNOLOGY DESIGNATED BY THE COMMISSION AS HAVING A SIGNIFICANT  
7 SHORTAGE OF QUALIFIED GRADUATES OR LABOR.

8 (4) "ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION" MEANS A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE INSTITUTION  
9 OF HIGHER EDUCATION LOCATED IN THE STATE THAT:

10 (I) IS APPROVED TO OPERATE BY THE COMMISSION; AND

11 (II) HAS A DEGREE OR DIPLOMA PROGRAM IN AN ELIGIBLE FIELD.

12 (5) "ELIGIBLE STUDENT" MEANS A STATE RESIDENT WHO IS ENROLLED  
13 IN A MAJOR COURSE OF STUDY LEADING TO A DEGREE OR DIPLOMA PROGRAM IN AN  
14 ELIGIBLE FIELD AT AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.

15 (6) "TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE MATCHING SCHOLARSHIP" MEANS  
16 FUNDS PAID DIRECTLY TO AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION, IN AN AMOUNT MATCHING  
17 ALL OR PART OF A SCHOLARSHIP OFFERED BY AN ELIGIBLE BUSINESS, FOR THE  
18 COST OF BASIC INSTRUCTIONAL CHARGES, FEES, ROOM, BOARD, OR OTHER RELATED  
19 EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES.

20 (7) "TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE SCHOLARSHIP" MEANS FUNDS PAID  
21 DIRECTLY TO AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION FOR THE COST OF BASIC INSTRUCTIONAL  
22 CHARGES, FEES, ROOM, BOARD, OR OTHER RELATED EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES.

23 (B) (1) A TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE SCHOLARSHIP MAY BE AWARDED  
24 UNDER THIS SUBSECTION TO AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT WHO:

25 (I) HAS A GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF AT LEAST 3.0 ON A 4.0 SCALE  
26 OR ITS EQUIVALENT;

27 (II) IS SELECTED BY THE ADMINISTRATION BASED ON FINANCIAL  
28 NEED CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION;

29 (III) IS SELECTED BY THE ADMINISTRATION BASED ON  
30 COMPETITIVE ACADEMIC CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION; AND

31 (IV) SIGNS A PROMISSORY NOTE GUARANTEEING THAT AFTER  
32 GRADUATION THE RECIPIENT WILL WORK IN THE STATE FOR 2 YEARS IN AN  
33 ELIGIBLE FIELD OR WILL REPAY THE AMOUNT OF FUNDS RECEIVED PLUS INTEREST.

34 (2) A SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE IN  
35 THE AMOUNT OF \$3,000 PER ACADEMIC YEAR.

1 (3) A TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE SCHOLARSHIP SHALL BE RENEWABLE  
2 ON AN ANNUAL BASIS, IF THE RECIPIENT:

3 (I) MAINTAINS A GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF AT LEAST 3.0 ON A 4.0  
4 SCALE OR ITS EQUIVALENT;

5 (II) REMAINS ELIGIBLE BASED ON COMPETITIVE FINANCIAL NEED  
6 CRITERIA;

7 (III) REMAINS ELIGIBLE BASED ON COMPETITIVE ACADEMIC  
8 CRITERIA;

9 (IV) REMAINS AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT; AND

10 (V) MAKES SATISFACTORY PROGRESS TOWARD A DEGREE OR  
11 DIPLOMA IN AN ELIGIBLE FIELD ACCORDING TO THE STANDARDS OF THE ELIGIBLE  
12 INSTITUTION ATTENDED.

13 (C) (1) A TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE MATCHING SCHOLARSHIP MAY BE  
14 AWARDED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION TO AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT WHO:

15 (I) HAS A GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF AT LEAST 3.0 ON A 4.0 SCALE  
16 OR ITS EQUIVALENT;

17 (II) IS SELECTED BY THE ADMINISTRATION BASED ON FINANCIAL  
18 NEED CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION;

19 (III) IS SELECTED BY THE ADMINISTRATION BASED ON  
20 COMPETITIVE ACADEMIC CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION; AND

21 (IV) SIGNS A PROMISSORY NOTE GUARANTEEING THAT AFTER  
22 GRADUATION THE RECIPIENT WILL WORK IN THE STATE FOR 2 YEARS IN AN  
23 ELIGIBLE FIELD OR REPAY THE AMOUNT OF FUNDS RECEIVED PLUS INTEREST.

24 (2) A SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED BY THE ADMINISTRATION UNDER THIS  
25 SUBSECTION SHALL MATCH UP TO THE FIRST \$1,000 OF A SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED  
26 BY AN ELIGIBLE BUSINESS FOR AN ACADEMIC YEAR.

27 (3) A TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE MATCHING SCHOLARSHIP SHALL BE  
28 RENEWABLE ON AN ANNUAL BASIS, IF THE RECIPIENT:

29 (I) MAINTAINS A GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF AT LEAST 3.0 ON A 4.0  
30 SCALE OR ITS EQUIVALENT;

31 (II) REMAINS ELIGIBLE BASED ON COMPETITIVE FINANCIAL NEED  
32 CRITERIA;

33 (III) REMAINS ELIGIBLE BASED ON COMPETITIVE ACADEMIC  
34 CRITERIA;

35 (IV) REMAINS AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT;

1                   (V)       MAKES SATISFACTORY PROGRESS TOWARD A DEGREE OR  
2 DIPLOMA IN AN ELIGIBLE FIELD ACCORDING TO THE STANDARDS OF THE ELIGIBLE  
3 INSTITUTION ATTENDED; AND

4                   (VI)      IS AWARDED A SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR  
5 BY AN ELIGIBLE BUSINESS.

6       (D)       THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO ADMINISTER THE  
7 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED UNDER THIS SECTION.

8       (E)       THE GOVERNOR SHALL PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE SCHOLARSHIPS  
9 AWARDED UNDER THIS SECTION IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE COMMISSION.

10      SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
11 July 1, 1998.