

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Revised

House Bill 1347 (Delegate McIntosh. *et al.*)

Ways and Means

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**Maryland Technology Academy and Maryland Technology Academy Pilot Program**

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This bill establishes a Maryland Technology Academy within the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) for the purpose of providing teachers with intensive learning opportunities on how to use technology to impact student learning. MSDE is required to establish guidelines for the application and selection of participants and to provide funding for the academy. For fiscal 1999 only, the academy would operate as a pilot program.

This bill takes effect July 1, 1998.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures would increase by \$40,000 in FY 1999 for the pilot program, which MSDE advises could be absorbed within existing resources. Beginning in FY 2000, when the program becomes fully operational, general fund expenditures could increase by \$350,000 annually, based on 125 teachers participating in the program. Revenues would not be affected.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**State Effect:** The proposed Maryland Technology Academy would consist of three- to five-week summer sessions whereby school teachers would learn how to use technology in the classroom. The academy would also establish appropriate conferences, study groups, and peer coaching sessions for teachers who have completed the academy in order for them to continue to learn about the uses and impact of technology in the classroom.

The technology academy would operate as a pilot program in fiscal 1999 with approximately 15 teachers participating in the program. The cost of the pilot program is estimated at \$40,000 in fiscal 1999. This includes \$8,000 for administrative and start-up expenses; \$9,000 for technical and specialist fees; and \$23,000 for materials, supplies, housing, food service, and travel expenses. Although there are no funds specifically budgeted for the pilot program, MSDE advises that existing funds could be utilized for this purpose in fiscal 1999.

**Exhibit 1** shows a break down of the projected costs for 125 and 250 participants when the program is fully operational. Assuming 125 teachers participate in the program, State expenditures could increase by \$350,000 each year. If 250 teachers participate, the cost would be \$611,550.

**Exhibit 1**  
**Maryland Technology Academy - Projected Costs**

Expenses	125 Participants	250 Participants
Salaries/Benefits/Administration <sup>1</sup>	\$62,000	\$62,000
Technical/Specialist Fees	\$72,750	\$145,500
Laboratories/Classrooms	\$10,000	\$10,000
Travel	\$10,000	\$20,000
Communications	\$9,450	\$9,450
Materials/Supplies	\$82,000	\$164,000
Housing/Food Services	\$100,300	\$200,600
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$346,500</b>	<b>\$611,550</b>
<b>Cost Per Participant</b>	<b>\$2,772</b>	<b>\$2,446</b>

<sup>1</sup>Administrative expenses include \$35,000 for a part-time coordinator, \$5,000 in clerical support, \$15,000 for interns and assistants, and \$7,000 in general operations.

MSDE advises that the academy's projected costs for 125 participants would total \$500,000. This includes \$21,000 in additional administrative expenses, \$125,000 in stipends for participants, and \$7,500 for substitute reimbursements. The Department of Legislative Services advises that these expenses would not be needed to develop and operate the academy.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland State Department of Education, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:**

First Reader - March 19, 1998

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Revised - House Third Reader - April 1, 1998

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