
By: **Senators McCabe, Blount, Dyson, Sfikas, and Madden**
Introduced and read first time: February 2, 1999
Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Science and Technology Scholarship - Credit Certificate**
3 **Program - Eligibility**

4 FOR the purpose of making a student who is earning a certain certificate eligible for
5 a Maryland Science and Technology Scholarship; and generally relating to
6 eligibility for a Maryland Science and Technology Scholarship.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Education
9 Section 18-2001 and 18-2002
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - Education**

15 18-2001.

16 In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

17 (1) "Regular undergraduate program" means an academic program of
18 study in an institution of higher education at or below the baccalaureate level leading
19 to either an associate's degree, CREDIT CERTIFICATE, or bachelor's degree.

20 (2) (i) "Service obligation" means employment in the State in an
21 occupation directly related to the eligible program of study as determined by the
22 Maryland Higher Education Commission.

23 (ii) "Service obligation" does not mean paid student internships,
24 paid fellowships, or volunteer service.

25 (iii) "Administration" means the State Scholarship Administration
26 as defined in § 18-101(b) of this title.

1 18-2002.

2 (a) There is a program of Maryland Science and Technology Scholarships in
3 this State that are awarded under this subtitle. The Administration shall annually
4 select secondary school students who have the greatest potential for academic success
5 in higher education and offer a scholarship to each student to be used at a Maryland
6 higher education institution of their choice, if the recipient meets the following
7 qualifications:

8 (1) Qualifies academically as follows:

9 (i) Has a secondary school transcript indicating an overall
10 academic grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent grade
11 point average in core curriculum courses after completion of the first semester of the
12 senior year;

13 (ii) Intends to enroll as a full-time student in an academic program
14 as designated by the Maryland Higher Education Commission; and

15 (iii) Has graduated from a secondary school in Maryland;

16 (2) Is a Maryland resident;

17 (3) Is accepted for admission in a regular undergraduate program at a
18 Maryland higher education institution in the State;

19 (4) Begins attending an eligible Maryland higher education institution
20 within 2 years of completing high school or, failing to do so, provides evidence
21 satisfactory to the State Scholarship Administration of extenuating circumstances;

22 (5) Agrees to the conditions provided in subsection (c) of this section; and

23 (6) Accepts any other conditions attached to the award and satisfies any
24 additional criteria the Commission may establish.

25 (b) (1) The annual scholarship award shall be in the amount of \$1,000 for a
26 student enrolled at a 2-year eligible institution OR A CREDIT CERTIFICATE PROGRAM,
27 or \$3,000 for a student enrolled at a 4-year eligible institution.

28 (2) If accepted by the eligible student, each award may be renewed on an
29 annual basis for a maximum of 3 years after the original award if the recipient:

30 (i) Remains a resident of the State;

31 (ii) Attends a Maryland higher education institution in the State;

32 (iii) Is enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student and takes at
33 least 12 semester hours of courses each semester or its equivalent as determined by
34 the Administration;

1 (iv) Maintains a 3.0 grade point average on an academic year basis
2 or, failing to do so, provides evidence satisfactory to the Administration, of extreme
3 extenuating circumstances;

4 (v) Is making satisfactory progress toward a degree OR
5 CERTIFICATE as determined by the institution; and

6 (vi) Maintains the standards of the institution.

7 (3) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) of this subsection, each
8 recipient of a Maryland Science and Technology Scholarship who is enrolled in a
9 baccalaureate degree program may renew the annual award four times if the
10 recipient is enrolled in an undergraduate academic program that, as determined by
11 the institution, requires 5 years to complete.

12 (4) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) of this subsection, each
13 award may be renewed on an annual basis for a maximum of 2 years for students
14 enrolled in an associate degree program OR A CREDIT CERTIFICATE PROGRAM.

15 (c) A recipient of an award made under this section shall receive the award for
16 each year indicated in which the recipient is eligible if:

17 (1) The recipient signs an agreement at the time of the initial award to:

18 (i) Commence employment in the State within 1 year after
19 completion of undergraduate studies for 1 year for each year that the scholarship was
20 awarded; and

21 (ii) Repay the State the amounts awarded under this subtitle and
22 simple interest equal to the prime rate of interest plus 2 percent calculated from the
23 date of the first payment of the grant award under this subtitle for any portion of the
24 award if the recipient does not:

25 1. Satisfy the degree OR CERTIFICATE requirements of the
26 eligible academic program or fulfill other requirements as provided in this subtitle;
27 and

28 2. Perform the service obligation for 1 year for each year that
29 the recipient has a scholarship awarded under this subtitle; and

30 (2) The service obligation begins after graduation and cannot be fulfilled
31 prior to graduation from an eligible institution.

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
33 June 1, 1999.