

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**Revised**

House Bill 128 (Chairman, Appropriations Committee)  
(Departmental - Higher Education Commission)

Appropriations

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**Higher Education - Educational Excellence Award Program**

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This departmental bill provides that the Maryland Higher Education Commission may carry forward unused funds appropriated for the Educational Excellence Award Program from one fiscal year to the next. Funds carried forward must be used to award scholarships to students during subsequent fiscal years and may not be used for administrative expenses. Currently, any unexpended funds revert back to the general fund.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Decrease in general fund revenues of approximately \$400,000 annually beginning in FY 2000. Corresponding increase in general fund expenditures in subsequent fiscal years.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** The Maryland Higher Education Commission has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment. (The attached assessment does not reflect amendments to the bill.)

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**State Effect:** The fiscal 2000 budget includes a total appropriation of \$33,018,308 for the Educational Excellence Award Program. From fiscal 1996 through 1998, an average of approximately \$400,000 was reverted back to the general fund from this program each year. (Amounts reverted are primarily related to students declining awards.) Accordingly, it is

estimated that general fund revenues would decrease by about \$400,000 annually, with a corresponding increase in general fund expenditures for scholarships in subsequent years.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 4, 1999  
ncs/jr Revised - Enrolled Bill - May 5, 1999

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