

**Department of Legislative Services**

Maryland General Assembly

2001 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

**Revised**

House Bill 1127 (Delegate D'Amato, *et al.*)

Ways and Means

Economic and Environmental Affairs

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**Higher Education - Part-Time Grant Program - Dual Enrollment Students**

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This bill expands the eligibility for the Part-Time Grant Program to allow students who are simultaneously enrolled in a State secondary school and an institution of higher education to receive the grant. Institutions that participate in the grant program must establish criteria for awarding grants to dually enrolled students.

The bill is effective July 1, 2001.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The Maryland Higher Education Commission advises that proposed fiscal 2002 funding for the Part-Time Grant Program of \$1.8 million could support awards for part-time students and dually enrolled students.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The Part-Time Grant Program provides grants to students taking at least six but no more than 11 hours of courses each semester. Recipients must be Maryland residents and must demonstrate a definite financial need. Funds for the program are allocated by the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) to institutions of higher education based on the number of part-time students with demonstrated financial

need who are enrolled at the institution. Grants are distributed to students by the institutions based on guidelines established by MHEC.

**State Expenditures:** The proposed fiscal 2002 budget includes \$1.8 million for the Part-Time Grant Program, an increase of \$1 million over the fiscal 2001 legislative appropriation. MHEC advises that this amount could fund grants for dually enrolled students and part-time students with a financial need. Grants awards range from \$200 to \$1,000, and the average grant award in fiscal 2000 was \$426. Assuming the average award is stable, 4,225 students could receive grants in fiscal 2002.

It is assumed that institutions of higher education could establish criteria for awarding grants to dually enrolled students with existing resources.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader – February 23, 2001  
ef/jr Revised – House Third Reader – March 26, 2001

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