

Chapter 113

(Senate Bill 966)

AN ACT concerning

Education – High School Diploma by Examination

FOR the purpose of altering the eligibility requirement for obtaining a high school diploma by examination by repealing a certain waiting period; repealing the authority of the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation to waive a certain withdrawal requirement; and generally relating to the eligibility requirements for an individual to obtain a high school diploma by examination.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Labor and Employment
Section 11–808
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2008 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

Article – Labor and Employment

11–808.

(a) An individual may obtain a high school diploma by examination as provided in this section if the individual:

- (1) has not obtained a high school diploma;
- (2) has resided in this State or on a federal reservation in this State for at least 3 months, provided that the Secretary may waive the residence requirement if the Secretary considers the waiver justified;
- (3) is 16 years old or older; and
- (4) has withdrawn from a regular full-time public or private school program [for at least 3 months, provided that the Secretary may waive the withdrawal requirement if the Secretary considers the waiver justified].

(b) The Department shall offer examinations to individuals who are pursuing a high school diploma under this subtitle at least twice each year at places throughout the State that are reasonably convenient for the applicants.

- (c) The examination shall:
 - (1) be offered in appropriate high school subject areas; and
 - (2) be of a comprehensive nature as determined by the State Board of Education.
- (d) An individual who fails an examination may repeat taking the examination.
- (e) A member of the armed forces may earn a Maryland high school diploma by taking the examinations furnished by the United States Armed Forces Institute and given by the appropriate service officer.
- (f) The diploma shall be awarded in accordance with the regulations adopted by the Secretary and the State Board of Education.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2010.

Approved by the Governor, April 13, 2010.