

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2010 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 387
Ways and Means

(Delegate Stull, *et al.*)

Maryland Teacher Scholarships - Service Obligation - Definition

This bill expands the type of employment that qualifies as a permissible service obligation under the Maryland Teacher Scholarships program to include teaching full-time at a University of Maryland Extension (UME) educational program.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2010, and applies retroactively to any Maryland Teacher Scholarship recipient to whom an award was made on or after June 1, 2001.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Expanding the type of employment that qualifies as a permissible service obligation will not increase the number of awards made nor will it impact the procedure used by the Maryland Higher Education Commission to verify that a recipient is meeting the service obligation.

Local Effect: Local school systems may be able to employ fewer teachers who have received Maryland Teacher Scholarships.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: For each year that a Maryland Teacher Scholarship award is received, a recipient is obliged to teach full-time for one year in a Maryland public elementary or secondary school, or repay the award amount plus interest. The annual award amount ranged from \$1,000 to \$5,000 depending on the type of institution (two-year or four-year)

the student attends and whether the student attends school full-time or part-time. Scholarship recipients must attend an institution of higher education located in Maryland.

Background: The Maryland Teacher Scholarship was established in 1999 as part of the HOPE Scholarship Program to provide scholarships to teacher education students who agreed to work in Maryland public schools following graduation. A phase-out of the HOPE scholarships began in fiscal 2005, and although award renewals have been maintained for those already receiving the scholarships, no HOPE scholarships have been awarded to new recipients since fiscal 2004.

University of Maryland Extension is a statewide, nonformal education system within the University of Maryland, College Park's (UMCP) College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES). The mission of UME is to provide educational outreach in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; sea grant; 4-H youth development; family and consumer sciences; and community, resource, and economic development. UME employs approximately 200 faculty and approximately 200 support staff and contractual employees located at UMCP, UMES, the 23 counties and Baltimore City, and four research and education centers.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

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