

HOUSE BILL 1215

F2

4r3091
CF SB 785

By: **Delegates Bohanan, Barve, Healey, Hixson, Jameson, Kaiser, Murphy,
and Wilson**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2014

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education – 2+2 Transfer Scholarship**

3 FOR the purpose of renaming the Community College Transfer Scholarship to be the
4 2+2 Transfer Scholarship and altering certain elements of the scholarship
5 program; altering the institutions at which the scholarship may be used,
6 qualifications for the scholarship, and the annual amount of the award;
7 specifying that the scholarship may be used for a certain period of time; altering
8 the requirements for maintaining the award; repealing a certain employment
9 obligation associated with the scholarship; requiring certain funds to be
10 transferred from a certain fund for certain purposes under certain
11 circumstances; and generally relating to the 2+2 Transfer Scholarship.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
13 Article – Education
14 Section 10–101(c) and (m) and 18–101(c)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
18 Article – Education
19 Section 18–107(c); and 18–2501 through 18–2506 to be under the amended
20 subtitle “Subtitle 25. HOPE for Nontraditional Students – 2+2 Transfer
21 Scholarship Program”
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

24 BY repealing
25 Article – Education
26 Section 18–2507
27 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

2 BY adding to

3 Article – Education

4 Section 18–2507

5 Annotated Code of Maryland

6 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

9 **Article – Education**

10 10–101.

11 (c) “Commission” means the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

12 (m) “Public senior higher education institution” means:

13 (1) The constituent institutions of the University System of Maryland
14 and the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science;

15 (2) Morgan State University; and

16 (3) St. Mary’s College of Maryland.

17 18–101.

18 (c) “Office” means the Office of Student Financial Assistance.

19 18–107.

20 (c) (1) In this subsection, “Fund” means the Need–based Student
21 Financial Assistance Fund.

22 (2) There is a Need–based Student Financial Assistance Fund.

23 (3) The purpose of the Fund is to allow money appropriated for
24 student financial assistance programs that is not used in a fiscal year to be retained
25 for need–based awards in future fiscal years.

26 (4) The Commission shall administer the Fund.

27 (5) (i) The Fund is a special, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to
28 § 7–302 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

1 (ii) The State Treasurer shall hold the Fund and the
2 Comptroller shall account for the Fund.

3 (6) The Fund consists of:

4 (i) Money distributed to the Fund under subsection (b) of this
5 section; and

6 (ii) Any other money from any other source accepted for the
7 benefit of the Fund.

8 (7) (i) The Fund may be used only for making need-based financial
9 assistance awards to students as provided in §§ 18-301, 18-601, 18-604, 18-706(f),
10 18-1401, 18-14A-01, 18-1501, **18-2507**, and 18-2601 of this title.

11 (ii) The Fund may not be used for administrative expenses.

12 (8) (i) The State Treasurer shall invest the money of the Fund in
13 the same manner as other State money may be invested.

14 (ii) Any investment earnings on the funds in the account shall
15 be paid into the General Fund of the State.

16 (9) Expenditures from the Fund may be made only in accordance with
17 the State budget.

18 Subtitle 25. HOPE for Nontraditional Students – [Community College] **2+2** Transfer
19 Scholarship Program.

20 18-2501.

21 There is a [Community College] **2+2** Transfer Scholarship Program in the State
22 under which scholarships are awarded under this subtitle.

23 18-2502.

24 A [Community College] **2+2** Transfer Scholarship awarded under this subtitle
25 may be used only at a [4-year public or private nonprofit institution of higher
26 education] **PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION** in the State.

27 18-2503.

28 To qualify for a [Community College] **2+2** Transfer Scholarship, an applicant
29 shall:

30 (1) Be a resident of the State;

1 (2) Be a student at a community college in the State;

2 (3) Maintain a cumulative [3.0] **2.5** grade point average on a 4.0 scale
3 while a student at a community college in the State;

4 (4) Have [completed at least 60 credits at a community college in the
5 State or have] earned an associate's degree **FROM A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE**
6 **STATE** by the end of the semester in which the applicant plans to transfer;

7 (5) Be accepted for admission in a degree program at a [4-year public
8 or private nonprofit institution of higher education in the State] **PUBLIC SENIOR**
9 **HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION**;

10 (6) Intend to enroll in a [4-year public or private nonprofit institution
11 of higher education in the State] **PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION**
12 **INSTITUTION** in order to complete a bachelor's degree program;

13 (7) [Enroll] **ON OR AFTER THE FALL SEMESTER OF 2014, ENROLL**
14 as a full-time student in [that 4-year institution] **A PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER**
15 **EDUCATION INSTITUTION BY THE FALL SEMESTER FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF**
16 **THE ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE**;

17 [(8) Have an annual total family income of not more than \$95,000; and]

18 (8) **IN THE CASE OF AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS REQUIRED TO**
19 **REGISTER WITH THE SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM, HAVE COMPLIED WITH THE**
20 **REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT**;

21 (9) **HAVE COMPLETED THE FEDERAL FREE APPLICATION FOR**
22 **FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)**;

23 (10) **HAVE DEMONSTRATED FINANCIAL NEED, DEFINED AS A**
24 **FEDERALLY CALCULATED EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION (EFC) OF \$10,000**
25 **OR LESS AS REPORTED ON THE STUDENT'S FAFSA; AND**

26 [(9)] (11) Accept any other conditions or satisfy any additional criteria
27 that the Commission or the Office may establish.

28 18-2504.

29 (a) (1) [The] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS**
30 **SUBSECTION, THE** annual amount of the [Community College] **2+2 Transfer**
31 **Scholarship** awarded under this subtitle shall be [**\$3,000**] **\$1,000**.

1 **(2) FOR A STUDENT WHO ENROLLS IN A SCIENCE, TEACHING,**
2 **ENGINEERING, COMPUTER SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS, OR NURSING PROGRAM AT**
3 **A PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION, THE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF**
4 **THE 2+2 TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE**
5 **\$2,000.**

6 (b) A [Community College] 2+2 Transfer Scholarship may be used for tuition
7 and mandatory fees **FOR 3 YEARS OF STUDY, OR SIX SEMESTERS OF STUDY,**
8 **WHICHEVER IS LONGER.**

9 (c) [(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, to] **TO** retain a
10 [Community College] 2+2 Transfer Scholarship, the recipient shall:

11 [(i)] **(1)** Remain a resident of the State;

12 [(ii)] **(2)** Continue to be enrolled as an undergraduate student
13 in a degree program at a [4-year public or private nonprofit institution of higher
14 education in the State] **PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION;**

15 [(iii)] **(3)** Maintain a [3.0] **2.5** grade point average on a 4.0
16 scale each academic year the individual is enrolled at a [4-year public or private
17 nonprofit institution of higher education in the State] **PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER**
18 **EDUCATION INSTITUTION** or provide evidence satisfactory to the Office of
19 extenuating circumstances; and

20 [(iv)] **(4)** Maintain the standards of the eligible institution that
21 the individual attends.

22 **(2)** A recipient of a Community College Transfer Scholarship awarded
23 under this subtitle shall receive the award for each year that the recipient is eligible if
24 the recipient signs an agreement at the time of the initial award to:

25 (i) Remain a resident of the State and:

26 1. Except as provided in paragraph (3)(ii) of this
27 subsection, continue full-time employment in the State after completion of
28 undergraduate studies for 1 year for each year that the Scholarship was awarded; or

29 2. Except as provided in paragraph (3)(ii) of this
30 subsection, commence full-time employment in the State within 1 year after
31 completion of undergraduate studies and thereafter continue employment in the State
32 for 1 year for each year that the Scholarship was awarded; and

33 (ii) Repay the State the amounts awarded under this subtitle as
34 set forth in § 18-112 of this title for any portion of the award if the recipient does not:

1 1. Satisfy the degree requirements of the eligible
2 institution or fulfill other requirements as provided in this subtitle; and

3 2. Maintain State residency and satisfy the employment
4 obligation required under this paragraph.

5 (3) (i) The residency and employment obligation required by
6 paragraph (2) of this subsection begins after graduation and cannot be fulfilled prior to
7 graduation from an eligible institution.

8 (ii) A recipient of a Community College Transfer Scholarship
9 awarded under this subtitle may fulfill the employment obligation required under
10 paragraph (2)(i)1 and 2 of this subsection out of State if the recipient:

11 1. Was employed out of State at the time the recipient
12 received the Scholarship;

13 2. Continues employment with the same employer while
14 receiving the Scholarship; and

15 3. Continues employment with the same employer after
16 completion of the recipient's undergraduate studies.]

17 18-2505.

18 On or before July 1 of each year, the Office shall send to each member of the
19 Maryland General Assembly a list of individuals in each legislative district to whom
20 [Community College] 2+2 Transfer Scholarships are awarded.

21 18-2506.

22 The Office shall publicize the availability of [Community College] 2+2 Transfer
23 Scholarships under this subtitle.

24 [18-2507.

25 Funds for the Community College Transfer Scholarship Program established
26 under this subtitle shall be as provided in the annual budget of the Office.]

27 18-2507.

28 (A) FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM SHALL BE AS PROVIDED IN THE
29 STATE BUDGET.

1 **(B) IF THE STATE BUDGET DOES NOT INCLUDE AT LEAST \$2,000,000**
2 **FOR THE 2+2 TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IN ANY FISCAL YEAR, FUNDS**
3 **SHALL BE TRANSFERRED FROM THE NEED-BASED STUDENT FINANCIAL**
4 **ASSISTANCE FUND, ESTABLISHED UNDER § 18-107 OF THIS TITLE, IN AN**
5 **AMOUNT THAT PROVIDES A TOTAL OF AT LEAST \$2,000,000 TO MAKE AWARDS**
6 **UNDER THE 2+2 TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM EACH YEAR.**

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
8 July 1, 2014.