

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

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 11, 2014

CHAPTER _____

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

2 BY repealing

3 Article – Education

4 Section 18–2507

5 Annotated Code of Maryland

6 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Education

9 Section 18–2507

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Education**

15 10–101.

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

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

18 ~~(1) The constituent institutions of the University System of Maryland~~
19 ~~and the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science;~~

20 ~~(2) Morgan State University; and~~

21 ~~(3) St. Mary’s College of Maryland.~~

22 18–101.

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

24 18–107.

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

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

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

1 (4) The Commission shall administer the Fund.

2 (5) (i) The Fund is a special, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to
3 § 7–302 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

4 (ii) The State Treasurer shall hold the Fund and the
5 Comptroller shall account for the Fund.

6 (6) The Fund consists of:

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

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

11 (7) (i) The Fund may be used only for making need–based financial
12 assistance awards to students as provided in §§ 18–301, 18–601, 18–604, 18–706(f),
13 18–1401, 18–14A–01, 18–1501, **18–2507**, and 18–2601 of this title.

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

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

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

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

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

23 18–2501.

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

26 18–2502.

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

30 18–2503.

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

3 (1) Be a resident of the State;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 (9) **HAVE COMPLETED THE FEDERAL FREE APPLICATION FOR**
25 **FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)**;

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

29 [(9)] (11) Accept any other conditions or satisfy any additional criteria
30 that the Commission or the Office may establish.

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

4 (2) **FOR A STUDENT WHO ENROLLS IN A SCIENCE, TEACHING,**
 5 **ENGINEERING, COMPUTER SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS, OR NURSING PROGRAM AT**
 6 **A ~~PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION~~ 4-YEAR PUBLIC OR**
 7 **PRIVATE NONPROFIT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE, THE**
 8 **ANNUAL AMOUNT OF THE 2+2 TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED UNDER THIS**
 9 **SUBTITLE SHALL BE \$2,000.**

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

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

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

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

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

24 [(iv)] (4) Maintain the standards of the eligible institution that
 25 the individual attends.

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

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

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

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

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

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

9 2. Maintain State residency and satisfy the employment
10 obligation required under this paragraph.

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

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

17 1. Was employed out of State at the time the recipient
18 received the Scholarship;

19 2. Continues employment with the same employer while
20 receiving the Scholarship; and

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

23 18-2505.

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

27 18-2506.

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

30 [18-2507.

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

1 18-2507.

2 (A) FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM SHALL BE AS PROVIDED IN THE
3 STATE BUDGET.

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

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

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.