

# HOUSE BILL 1403

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6lr1659  
CF SB 1170

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By: Delegates McIntosh, A. Washington, McCray, McKay, Barve, Branch, Brooks, Cullison, Ebersole, Frick, Frush, Glenn, Haynes, Hill, Hixson, Jackson, Jalisi, Jones, Kaiser, Lafferty, Lam, Luedtke, Morhaim, B. Robinson, Valentino-Smith, M. Washington, and P. Young

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2016

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 16, 2016

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 ~~Next-Generation~~ Next Generation Scholars of Maryland

3 FOR the purpose of ~~altering certain criteria for the prequalification of a student for a~~  
4 ~~certain grant program; changing the name of the College Readiness Outreach~~  
5 ~~Program to be the Next-Generation Scholars of Maryland Program; altering the~~  
6 ~~purpose and certain requirements of a certain program; establishing a certain pilot~~  
7 ~~program to be administered in certain school systems; requiring certain services to~~  
8 ~~be provided; mandating certain funding for certain years for the pilot program;~~  
9 altering certain criteria for the prequalification of a student for a Guaranteed Access  
10 Grant; altering the name of the College Readiness Outreach Program to be the Next  
11 Generation Scholars of Maryland Program; altering the purpose and certain  
12 requirements of the Program; requiring the State Department of Education to solicit  
13 certain applications from certain nonprofit organizations and give priority to certain  
14 applications; requiring certain nonprofit organizations to provide certain guidance  
15 and certain services to certain students; establishing the Next Generation Scholars  
16 Pilot Program and providing for the administration of the Pilot Program; requiring  
17 the Governor to make a certain appropriation in the State budget for certain fiscal  
18 years; requiring the ~~State Department of Education~~ Department and the Maryland  
19 Higher Education Commission to submit a certain report on or before a certain date;  
20 and generally relating to the ~~Next-Generation~~ Next Generation Scholars of  
21 Maryland Program.

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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 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
2 Article – Education  
3 Section 18–303 and 18–303.1  
4 Annotated Code of Maryland  
5 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

8 **Article – Education**

9 18–303.

10 (a) Subject to subsection (d) of this section, each recipient of a Delegate Howard  
11 P. Rawlings Educational Excellence Award shall:

12 (1) Be accepted for admission in the regular undergraduate program at an  
13 eligible institution or be enrolled in a 2–year associate degree program in which the course  
14 work is acceptable for transfer credit for an accredited baccalaureate program in an eligible  
15 institution;

16 (2) Be a resident of this State;

17 (3) Demonstrate to the Office a definite financial need; and

18 (4) Accept any other conditions attached to the award.

19 (b) Each recipient of a Guaranteed Access Grant shall:

20 (1) Have attained a grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale or its  
21 equivalent at the end of the first semester of the senior year in high school and have  
22 completed high school or, failing to do so, on the recommendation of the recipient’s high  
23 school principal, provide evidence satisfactory to the Office of extenuating circumstances;

24 (2) Begin college within 1 year of completing high school or, failing to do  
25 so, provide evidence satisfactory to the Office of extenuating circumstances;

26 (3) Be under the age of 22 years at the time of receiving the first award;

27 (4) Have successfully completed a college preparatory program in high  
28 school;

29 (5) Enroll in college as a full–time student;

30 (6) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, have an annual family income  
31 below a poverty index determined by the Commission; and

1 (7) Satisfy any additional criteria the Commission may establish.

2 (c) To determine the annual family income eligibility of an applicant for a  
3 Guaranteed Access Grant, the Office may not consider an amount received by the applicant  
4 as an earned income credit under § 32 of the Internal Revenue Code.

5 (d) A student in grade [9] 7 or grade [10] 8 who applies and qualifies for a  
6 Guaranteed Access Grant on the basis of financial need as established by the Commission  
7 shall prequalify for a Guaranteed Access Grant to be used at the time of enrollment in an  
8 institution of higher education by agreeing in writing, as a secondary and undergraduate  
9 student, to:

10 (1) Satisfy the attendance policy of the applicable school;

11 (2) Refrain from substance abuse;

12 (3) Provide information required by the Commission or the State Board of  
13 Education;

14 (4) **APPLY FOR ADMISSION TO AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER**  
15 **EDUCATION DURING THE STUDENT'S SENIOR YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL;**

16 [(4)] (5) Complete and file on a timely basis applications for federal  
17 student aid for each year that the student plans to enroll in postsecondary education;

18 [(5)] (6) Participate in the [College Readiness Outreach] **NEXT**  
19 **GENERATION SCHOLARS OF MARYLAND** Program established in § 18–303.1 of this  
20 subtitle until the student graduates from high school and matriculates at an institution of  
21 higher education; [and

22 [(6)] (7) **MAINTAIN A CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF AT**  
23 **LEAST 2.5 ON A 4.0 SCALE OR ITS EQUIVALENT; AND**

24 (8) Satisfy any other program requirements set by the Office, the  
25 Commission, the State Board of Education, or the State Department of Education.

26 18–303.1.

27 (a) In this section, “Program” means the [College Readiness Outreach Program]  
28 ~~NEXT-GENERATION~~ **NEXT GENERATION SCHOLARS OF MARYLAND PROGRAM.**

29 (b) The [Commission and the] Department, in collaboration with **THE**  
30 **COMMISSION**, county boards of education, county superintendents, and institutions of  
31 higher education, shall [jointly] administer the [College Readiness Outreach]  
32 ~~NEXT-GENERATION~~ **NEXT GENERATION SCHOLARS OF MARYLAND** Program.

1 (c) The Program shall provide guidance AND SERVICES to students who qualify  
 2 for a Guaranteed Access Grant in [9th] **7TH** or [10th] **8TH** grade to assist the students in  
 3 successfully:

4 (1) Completing a college preparatory curriculum;

5 (2) Graduating from high school; [and]

6 (3) Matriculating at an institution of higher education as defined in [§§  
 7 18-305 and 18-308] **§ 18-303** of this subtitle; AND

8 **(4) MAKING TIMELY PROGRESS TO COMPLETE A DEGREE PROGRAM.**

9 (d) [(1)] The [Commission and the] Department shall: [designate statewide and  
 10 regional coordinators for the Program.

11 (2) The statewide and regional coordinators shall:

12 (i) Work with county boards of education and county  
 13 superintendents to provide guidance and one-on-one mentoring to participating students  
 14 in high school; and

15 (ii) **(1)** Publicize the Program through community outreach and  
 16 marketing materials;

17 **(2) AWARD GRANTS TO NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO ADMINISTER**  
 18 **THE PROGRAM;**

19 **(3) SOLICIT APPLICATIONS FROM NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO**  
 20 **ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM IN ~~ONE OR ALL APPLICABLE SCHOOL SYSTEMS~~ AN**  
 21 **ELIGIBLE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM; AND**

22 ~~(3)~~ **(4) GIVE PRIORITY TO APPLICATIONS:**

23 **(I) FROM MARYLAND-BASED NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS;**

24 **AND**

25 **(II) THAT WHICH INCLUDE BUSINESS AND INSTITUTION OF**  
 26 **HIGHER EDUCATION PARTNERS;~~AND~~**

27 ~~(4) AWARD GRANTS TO NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO ADMINISTER~~  
 28 ~~THE PROGRAM.~~

1 (e) [The Commission and the Department may enter into agreements with  
2 existing organizations that provide counseling and mentoring services to fulfill the  
3 requirements of this section.] ~~THE~~ IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS  
4 SECTION, THE SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED TO STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE  
5 PROGRAM SHALL INCLUDE:

6 (1) A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION PLAN;

7 (2) SUMMER WORK OR INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES;

8 (3) FINANCIAL AID LITERACY ASSISTANCE;

9 (4) CAREER INTEREST ASSESSMENTS;

10 (5) MENTORSHIP AND ONE-ON-ONE COUNSELING;

11 (6) VISITS TO COLLEGE CAMPUSES AND WORKPLACES;

12 (7) AN INTENSIVE SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS  
13 ENTERING AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION DIRECTLY FROM HIGH SCHOOL;  
14 AND

15 (8) A PLAN TO MATRICULATE AND GRADUATE FROM AN INSTITUTION  
16 OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

17 (f) [The Commission and the Department may supplement professional mentors  
18 with] ~~IN PROVIDING A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT RECEIVES A GRANT TO~~  
19 PROVIDE THE GUIDANCE AND SERVICES REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS  
20 SECTION, THE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT RECEIVE GRANTS MAY UTILIZE:

21 (1) Postsecondary students receiving work-study assistance at Maryland  
22 institutions of higher education; and

23 (2) Secondary students in 11th and 12th grades who are successfully  
24 completing high school graduation requirements.

25 (g) [(1) Funds] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (H) OF THIS**  
26 **SECTION, FUNDS** for the Program shall be as provided in the State budget.

27 [(2) To the extent that funds are provided, the State shall provide 50 percent  
28 of the costs associated with the local administration and one-on-one mentoring  
29 components of the Program, except that in a county that meets the requirements of a  
30 “qualified distressed county” under § 1-101 of the Economic Development Article the State  
31 shall provide 75 percent of the costs.]

1 (H) (1) FOR FISCAL ~~YEAR~~ YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2023, THE GOVERNOR  
 2 SHALL ANNUALLY INCLUDE \$5,000,000 IN GENERAL FUNDS IN THE STATE BUDGET  
 3 ~~ANNUALLY~~ FOR A ~~NEXT-GENERATION~~ NEXT GENERATION SCHOLARS PILOT  
 4 PROGRAM.

5 (2) THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL BE ~~TO BE~~ ADMINISTERED IN A  
 6 LOCAL SCHOOL ~~SYSTEMS~~ SYSTEM IN WHICH AT LEAST 50% OF THE STUDENTS AS A  
 7 PERCENTAGE OF FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT STUDENTS AS DEFINED IN § 5-202 OF  
 8 THIS ARTICLE ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A FREE LUNCH UNDER THE NATIONAL  
 9 SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM IN THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR.

10 [(h)] (i) The [Commission and the] Department may adopt regulations  
 11 necessary to implement this section.

12 (J) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2022, THE COMMISSION AND THE  
 13 DEPARTMENT SHALL ~~SUBMIT A REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM~~  
 14 ~~AND THE PILOT PROGRAM~~ TO THE ~~GOVERNOR~~ GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE  
 15 WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,  
 16 ~~INCLUDING~~ ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM AND THE PILOT  
 17 PROGRAM, INCLUDING:

18 (1) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS FROM EACH LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM  
 19 WHO WERE PREQUALIFIED FOR THE GUARANTEED ACCESS GRANT DURING EACH  
 20 YEAR OF THE PROGRAM;

21 (2) THE RACE, DISABILITY STATUS, AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
 22 LEARNER STATUS OF EACH PARTICIPATING STUDENT WHO PREQUALIFIED FOR THE  
 23 GUARANTEED ACCESS GRANT EACH YEAR OF THE PROGRAM;

24 ~~(2)~~ (3) THE PROGRESS OF EACH PARTICIPATING STUDENT  
 25 THROUGH THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION, INSTITUTION OF  
 26 HIGHER EDUCATION MATRICULATION AND RETENTION RATES, AND, IF APPLICABLE,  
 27 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION GRADUATION RATES;

28 ~~(3)~~ (4) THE AMOUNT AND QUALITY OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY  
 29 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO PARTICIPATING STUDENTS, INCLUDING THE USE  
 30 OF COLLEGE WORK-STUDY STUDENTS AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AS MENTORS  
 31 AND COUNSELORS;

32 ~~(4)~~ (5) THE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT RECEIVED GRANTS  
 33 UNDER THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING ANY OTHER ENTITIES THAT PROVIDED SERVICES  
 34 SUCH AS INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, AND  
 35 LOCAL SCHOOLS OR LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS;

1           ~~(5)~~ (6)       THE AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL AID, IN ADDITION TO THE  
2 GUARANTEED ACCESS GRANT, THAT PARTICIPATING STUDENTS RECEIVED EACH  
3 YEAR THAT ~~THEY~~ THE STUDENTS WERE ENROLLED IN AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER  
4 EDUCATION; AND

5           ~~(6)~~ (7)       FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE SUCCESS OF  
6 THE PROGRAM AND PILOT PROGRAM AND WHETHER FUNDING FOR THE PILOT  
7 PROGRAM SHOULD BE CONTINUED OR EXPANDED.

8           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
9 1, 2016.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.