

# SENATE BILL 464

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SB 534/15 – EHE

6lr1196

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By: **Senators Madaleno, Benson, Currie, Ferguson, Guzzone, Kagan, Kelley, King, Klausmeier, Middleton, Pinsky, Rosapepe, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2016

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education – College Admissions Outreach Program for High–Achieving**  
3 **Students – Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the College Admissions Outreach Program for  
5 High–Achieving Students; requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission  
6 and the Maryland State Department of Education, in collaboration with certain  
7 educational officials, agencies, and organizations, to jointly administer the Program;  
8 requiring the Program to provide certain information on the college admissions  
9 process to certain students free of charge, collaborate with a certain nonprofit entity  
10 to identify certain students and to make certain students' contact information  
11 available to certain institutions of higher education, develop and implement a certain  
12 system to provide certain institutions of higher education with access to a certain  
13 student contact list, and establish a certain grant program; requiring the  
14 Commission and the Department to adopt certain regulations; requiring the  
15 Commission to submit a certain report to certain committees of the General  
16 Assembly on or before a certain date; defining certain terms; and generally relating  
17 to the College Admissions Outreach Program for High–Achieving Students.

18 BY adding to

19 Article – Education

20 Section 18–303.2

21 Annotated Code of Maryland

22 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

23 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

24 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

25 **Article – Education**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **18-303.2.**

2 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
3 INDICATED.

4 (2) "ELIGIBLE STUDENT" MEANS A STUDENT WHO:

5 (I) IS IN THE 10TH, 11TH, OR 12TH GRADE AT A HIGH SCHOOL  
6 IN THE STATE;

7 (II) IS ACADEMICALLY HIGH ACHIEVING; AND

8 (III) HAS AN ANNUAL FAMILY INCOME BELOW A POVERTY INDEX  
9 DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION.

10 (3) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS OUTREACH  
11 PROGRAM FOR HIGH-ACHIEVING STUDENTS.

12 (B) THE COMMISSION AND THE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH  
13 COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION, COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS, AND INSTITUTIONS  
14 OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SHALL JOINTLY ADMINISTER THE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS  
15 OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR HIGH-ACHIEVING STUDENTS.

16 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO ENCOURAGE MORE  
17 LOW-INCOME STUDENTS TO ENROLL IN AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
18 THAT IS A GOOD ACADEMIC AND FINANCIAL FIT FOR THE STUDENT.

19 (D) THE PROGRAM SHALL:

20 (1) PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO EACH ELIGIBLE  
21 STUDENT AT NO COST TO THE STUDENT:

22 (I) INFORMATION ON COLLEGE ADMISSIONS AND COLLEGE  
23 APPLICATION FEE WAIVERS; AND

24 (II) MATERIAL ENCOURAGING STUDENTS TO APPLY TO AT  
25 LEAST FOUR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION DURING THE STUDENT'S  
26 APPLICATION PROCESS;

27 (2) COLLABORATE WITH THE COLLEGE BOARD, COUNTY BOARDS OF  
28 EDUCATION, AND COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS TO IDENTIFY STUDENTS ELIGIBLE  
29 FOR THE PROGRAM AND MAKE THE CONTACT INFORMATION OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS  
30 AVAILABLE TO THE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT AGREE TO THE  
31 PROVISIONS OF ITEM (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION;

1           **(3) DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM THAT ALLOWS PUBLIC AND**  
2 **PRIVATE NONPROFIT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE THAT DO**  
3 **NOT ALLOW OPEN ACCESS TO THEIR INSTITUTIONS TO ACCESS THE LIST OF**  
4 **ELIGIBLE STUDENTS COMPILED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER ITEM (2) OF THIS**  
5 **SUBSECTION IF THE INSTITUTION AGREES TO SUBMIT TO AND GET APPROVED BY**  
6 **THE COMMISSION A PROMOTION PLAN THAT:**

7                   **(I) ADMITS ELIGIBLE STUDENTS WITHOUT AN APPLICATION;**  
8 **OR**

9                   **(II) 1. MARKETS DIRECTLY TO ELIGIBLE STUDENTS**  
10 **IDENTIFIED UNDER ITEM (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO ENCOURAGE THESE**  
11 **STUDENTS TO APPLY TO AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION; AND**

12                               **2. DESCRIBES IN DETAIL THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER**  
13 **EDUCATION’S STREAMLINED APPLICATION PROCESS FOR ELIGIBLE STUDENTS; AND**

14           **(4) ESTABLISH A GRANT PROGRAM THAT MAKES AN AWARD TO AN**  
15 **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM IN**  
16 **ACCORDANCE WITH ITEM (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR EACH ELIGIBLE STUDENT**  
17 **WHO ENROLLS IN THE INSTITUTION USING EITHER OF THE ADMISSION PROCESSES**  
18 **DESCRIBED IN ITEM (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION AND WHO GRADUATES FROM THAT**  
19 **INSTITUTION.**

20           **(E) FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAM SHALL BE AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE**  
21 **BUDGET.**

22           **(F) (1) THE COMMISSION AND THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT**  
23 **REGULATIONS TO DEFINE A “HIGH-ACHIEVING STUDENT”.**

24                   **(2) THE COMMISSION AND THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT ANY**  
25 **OTHER REGULATIONS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.**

26           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before November 1,  
27 2016, the Maryland Higher Education Commission shall submit a report to the Senate  
28 Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Committee on  
29 Ways and Means, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, on the  
30 Commission’s plan, developed in collaboration with each of the 4–year institutions of higher  
31 education in the State in accordance with § 18–303.2 of the Education Article, to inform  
32 students who attend public high schools in which at least 75% of the student population is  
33 enrolled in the National School Lunch Program about the College Admissions Outreach  
34 Program for High–Achieving Students.

1           SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
2 1, 2016.