

SENATE BILL 465

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SB 535/15 – EHE

6lr1191

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

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2016

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Community Colleges – Tuition Waiver for Disabled Individuals – Requirements**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing certain requirements for receiving an exemption from the
4 payment of tuition at community colleges for certain disabled individuals; and
5 generally relating to tuition waivers for disabled individuals at community colleges.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

7 Article – Education

8 Section 16–106(c)

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Education**

14 16–106.

15 (c) (1) Any resident of this State who is out of the work force by reason of total
16 and permanent disability who enrolls at a community college in a class that has at least 10
17 regularly enrolled students:

18 (i) Is exempt from payment of tuition:

19 1. For up to 6 credits per semester or up to 12 credits per
20 semester if the individual is enrolled in classes as part of a degree or a certificate program
21 designed to lead to employment; or

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 2. For continuing education instruction designed to lead to
2 employment, including life skills instruction; and

3 (ii) Shall be counted in computing full-time equivalent enrollment
4 under § 16–305 of this title.

5 (2) In order to receive this exemption, an individual who meets the
6 requirements of paragraph (1) of this subsection shall provide the community college with
7 certification from the Social Security Administration, the Railroad Retirement Board, or in
8 the case of a former federal employee, from the individual's federal retirement or pension
9 authority of the individual's:

10 (i) Total and permanent disability; and

11 (ii) Receipt of disability or retirement benefits based on a standard
12 that is at least as stringent as the standard applied by the Social Security Act.

13 (3) Certification from the Social Security Administration of an individual's
14 receipt of disability or retirement benefits under either Title II or Title XVI of the federal
15 Social Security Act shall satisfy the requirement in paragraph (2)(ii) of this subsection.

16 (4) (i) In order to receive this exemption, an individual who meets the
17 requirements of paragraph (1) of this subsection and is enrolled in a degree or certificate
18 program shall submit a timely application for any State or federal student financial aid,
19 other than a student loan, for which the student may qualify.

20 [(ii) Any student financial aid, other than a student loan, received by
21 the student shall be applied first to pay the student's tuition.

22 (iii) Under this exemption, the waiver shall apply to the difference, if
23 any, between the charge for tuition and the financial aid award, not including a student
24 loan, that the student receives.

25 (iv)] **(II)** On request, the community college shall assist any
26 individual required to submit an application for State or federal student financial aid under
27 this paragraph.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
29 1, 2016.