

# HOUSE BILL 1415

F1, F2, F5

8lr2277  
CF 8lr2272

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By: **The Speaker (By Request – Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education) and Delegates Kaiser, McIntosh, Jones, A. Washington, Luedtke, and Lierman**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2018

Assigned to: Ways and Means and Appropriations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Department of Education, in collaboration with  
4 certain entities, to establish a certain outreach program; requiring the outreach  
5 program to make use of certain media to implement a certain marketing campaign;  
6 requiring the outreach program to focus recruitment efforts on certain individuals  
7 and certain teacher shortage fields; requiring the Governor to annually appropriate  
8 at least a certain amount for the Department to implement certain requirements;  
9 establishing the Maryland Early Literacy Initiative in the Department; establishing  
10 the purpose of the Initiative; requiring the Initiative to be established in at least a  
11 certain number of counties; requiring the Department to develop and administer the  
12 Initiative; authorizing a certain school, in collaboration with a certain entity, to make  
13 a certain application to the Department for grants under the Initiative under certain  
14 circumstances; authorizing a certain school to coordinate and partner with certain  
15 schools to jointly apply for a grant under the Initiative; requiring an application to  
16 include certain information; requiring the Department to award grants in a certain  
17 priority in a certain circumstance; requiring a certain program to meet certain  
18 requirements; requiring the Governor to annually appropriate a certain amount to  
19 the Department for the Initiative beginning in a certain fiscal year; authorizing the  
20 Department to retain a certain portion of a certain appropriation to hire certain staff  
21 to administer the Initiative; requiring the Department to distribute up to a certain  
22 number of grants for a certain period; limiting the grant amount that may be  
23 awarded to a certain school each year; requiring a grant under the Initiative to be  
24 renewed by the Department under certain circumstances; authorizing a certain  
25 school to apply for and receive certain additional financial assistance for a certain  
26 benefit; requiring the Department to adopt certain regulations on or before a certain  
27 date; requiring the Department to submit a certain report to the Governor and  
28 certain committees of the General Assembly on or before certain dates; requiring the  
29 Governor to annually appropriate a certain amount to the Prekindergarten

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Expansion Fund beginning in a certain fiscal year; requiring the Governor to include  
2 a certain appropriation beginning in a certain fiscal year for grants under the Public  
3 School Opportunities Enhancement Program; requiring a certain grantee to receive  
4 a grant in a certain amount in a certain fiscal year under certain circumstances;  
5 establishing the Learning in Extended Academic Programs (LEAP) grant program;  
6 providing for the purpose of the Program; requiring the Department to notify a  
7 county board with certain information; authorizing a certain school to apply for a  
8 grant under certain circumstances; authorizing a certain school to coordinate and  
9 partner with certain schools to jointly apply for a grant; requiring the application to  
10 provide a certain plan; authorizing a certain school to partner with a certain  
11 nonprofit organization subject to a certain requirement; requiring a certain extended  
12 academic program to include certain programs targeted to certain students;  
13 providing the minimum amount of programming for certain programs; requiring the  
14 Department to review applications and establish procedures to account for certain  
15 schools in counties that participate in a certain federal program; requiring the  
16 Department to prioritize awarding grants to certain applicants and ensure  
17 geographic diversity under certain circumstances; requiring the Governor to include  
18 a certain appropriation beginning in a certain fiscal year for the Program;  
19 authorizing the Department to retain a certain portion of a certain appropriation to  
20 hire certain staff to administer the Program; requiring the Department, in  
21 collaboration with certain schools, to report to the General Assembly on or before  
22 certain dates on certain issues; altering certain eligibility requirements for the  
23 Teaching Fellows for Maryland scholarship program; specifying that certain  
24 individuals are eligible to receive a certain scholarship; altering the number of years  
25 for a certain individual to fulfill a certain service obligation; requiring the Governor  
26 to annually include at least a certain appropriation in the State budget to award  
27 certain scholarships; establishing a Career and Technology Education Innovation  
28 Grant; specifying the purpose of the Grant; requiring the Department to administer  
29 the Grant; authorizing certain county boards to submit a proposal to receive a grant  
30 for a certain career and technology education program; providing the eligibility and  
31 application requirements for a county board to receive a grant; requiring the  
32 Department to establish certain processes and procedures for accepting and  
33 evaluating applications; requiring the Department to make awards in a timely  
34 fashion; requiring the Governor to annually appropriate at least a certain amount  
35 for a certain grant program; authorizing the Department to retain a certain portion  
36 of a certain appropriation to hire certain staff to administer the grant program;  
37 extending the termination date of the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in  
38 Education; extending the date for the Commission to submit a final report; extending  
39 the date for the Department to contract with a certain entity for a certain  
40 independent study; requiring a certain independent study to include certain issues  
41 and make certain recommendations; extending the date for the Department to  
42 submit a final report; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the  
43 Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education.

44 BY adding to

45 Article – Education

46 Section 2–306 and 5–216; 7–2001 through 7–2006 to be under the new subtitle

1 “Subtitle 20. Learning in Extended Academic Programs (LEAP)”; and 21–205  
2 Annotated Code of Maryland  
3 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

4 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
5 Article – Education  
6 Section 7–101.2(a)(1), (4), and (6), (b)(1) and (2), and (e), 7–1702(a), 18–2201,  
7 18–2202, 18–2205 through 18–2208, and 18–2210  
8 Annotated Code of Maryland  
9 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article – Education  
12 Section 7–101.2(d), 7–1704, 18–2203, 18–2204, and 18–2209  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
16 Chapter 701 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2016  
17 Section 1(a)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
19 Chapter 701 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2016  
20 Section 1(h) and 4

21 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
22 Chapter 702 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2016  
23 Section 1(a)

24 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
25 Chapter 702 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2016  
26 Section 1(h) and 4

27 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
28 Chapter 715 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2017  
29 Section 2

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

32 **Article – Education**

33 **2–306.**

34 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “OUTREACH PROGRAM” MEANS A COMPREHENSIVE**  
35 **RECRUITMENT AND OUTREACH PROGRAM DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE THE TOP 25%**  
36 **OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FROM EACH LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM TO CONSIDER**

1 PURSUING A MARYLAND PROFESSIONAL TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE.

2 (B) THE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH TEACHER PREPARATION  
3 PROGRAMS AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, COUNTY BOARDS, TEACHERS,  
4 AND OTHER INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS, SHALL ESTABLISH AN OUTREACH  
5 PROGRAM WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT.

6 (C) THE OUTREACH PROGRAM SHALL MAKE USE OF A COMBINATION OF  
7 FREE PUBLIC SERVICE MEDIA AND PAID MEDIA TO IMPLEMENT A STATEWIDE  
8 MARKETING CAMPAIGN TO:

9 (1) IMPROVE THE PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF THE TEACHING  
10 PROFESSION AND ENCOURAGE INDIVIDUALS TO PURSUE A MARYLAND  
11 PROFESSIONAL TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE; AND

12 (2) PROVIDE INFORMATION TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF AVAILABLE  
13 INCENTIVES FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO PURSUE A MARYLAND PROFESSIONAL  
14 TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE, INCLUDING THE TEACHING FELLOWS FOR MARYLAND  
15 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER TITLE 18, SUBTITLE 22 OF THIS  
16 ARTICLE.

17 (D) TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, THE OUTREACH PROGRAM SHALL FOCUS  
18 RECRUITMENT EFFORTS ON:

19 (1) INDIVIDUALS FROM ETHNIC, RACIAL, AND OTHER DEMOGRAPHIC  
20 GROUPS THAT ARE UNDERREPRESENTED IN THE TEACHING PROFESSION IN  
21 MARYLAND; AND

22 (2) TEACHER SHORTAGE FIELDS IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

23 (E) THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPROPRIATE AT LEAST \$250,000 IN THE  
24 ANNUAL STATE BUDGET FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE  
25 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

26 5-216.

27 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
28 INDICATED.

29 (2) "INITIATIVE" MEANS THE MARYLAND EARLY LITERACY  
30 INITIATIVE.

31 (3) "INTERVENTIONIST" MEANS A FULL-TIME, TRAINED

1 PROFESSIONAL WHOSE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY IS TO DELIVER EVIDENCE-BASED  
2 EARLY LITERACY INTERVENTION.

3 (4) "LITERACY PROGRAM" MEANS A LITERACY PROGRAM  
4 IMPLEMENTED BY AN INTERVENTIONIST.

5 (5) "NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION" MEANS A NONPROFIT  
6 ORGANIZATION THAT:

7 (I) IS BASED IN THE STATE;

8 (II) IS INCORPORATED OR REGISTERED UNDER THE LAWS OF  
9 THE STATE;

10 (III) IS EXEMPT FROM FEDERAL INCOME TAX UNDER § 501(C)(3),  
11 (4), OR (6) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE;

12 (IV) IS CURRENT IN THE PAYMENT OF ALL TAX OBLIGATIONS TO  
13 THE STATE OR ANY UNIT OR SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE; AND

14 (V) HAS BEEN IN ACTIVE BUSINESS FOR 3 YEARS OR MORE AT  
15 THE TIME OF THE APPLICATION SUBMITTED UNDER THIS SECTION.

16 (6) "PARTICIPATING STUDENT" MEANS A STUDENT:

17 (I) IN PREKINDERGARTEN THROUGH EIGHTH GRADE; OR

18 (II) A STUDENT WHO PERFORMS BELOW A CERTAIN SCORE, AS  
19 DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT, ON THE ASSESSMENT THE DEPARTMENT USES  
20 TO ASSESS READING LEVEL.

21 (7) "QUALIFYING SCHOOL" MEANS A SCHOOL CATEGORIZED BY THE  
22 LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM AS A TITLE I SCHOOL.

23 (B) (1) THERE IS A MARYLAND EARLY LITERACY INITIATIVE IN THE  
24 DEPARTMENT.

25 (2) THE PURPOSE OF THE INITIATIVE IS TO ASSIST UP TO 50  
26 QUALIFYING SCHOOLS, IN COLLABORATION WITH A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION, TO  
27 IMPLEMENT AN EVIDENCE-BASED LITERACY PROGRAM IN THE SCHOOL TO WORK  
28 WITH PARTICIPATING STUDENTS TO MEET LITERACY PROFICIENCY TARGETS BY THE  
29 END OF EIGHTH GRADE OR OTHER LITERACY TARGETS AS DETERMINED BY THE  
30 DEPARTMENT.

1           **(3) THE INITIATIVE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN AT LEAST THREE**  
2 **COUNTIES.**

3           **(4) THE INITIATIVE SHALL BE DEVELOPED AND ADMINISTERED BY**  
4 **THE DEPARTMENT.**

5           **(C) (1) (I) BEGINNING IN THE 2018–2019 SCHOOL YEAR, A**  
6 **QUALIFYING SCHOOL, IN COLLABORATION WITH A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION, MAY**  
7 **APPLY TO THE DEPARTMENT TO RECEIVE A GRANT FOR THE QUALIFYING SCHOOL**  
8 **TO DEVELOP A LITERACY PROGRAM THAT IS IN FURTHERANCE OF THE PURPOSE OF**  
9 **THE INITIATIVE.**

10           **(II) A QUALIFYING SCHOOL MAY APPLY FOR A GRANT ONLY IF**  
11 **THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT ENDORSES THE SCHOOL’S GRANT APPLICATION.**

12           **(III) A QUALIFYING SCHOOL MAY COORDINATE AND PARTNER**  
13 **WITH OTHER QUALIFYING SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTY TO JOINTLY APPLY FOR A**  
14 **GRANT TO DEVELOP A LITERACY PROGRAM AMONG THE PARTNERING QUALIFYING**  
15 **SCHOOLS.**

16           **(2) AN APPLICATION SHALL:**

17           **(I) IDENTIFY THE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT WILL**  
18 **WORK IN COLLABORATION WITH THE QUALIFYING SCHOOL TO IMPLEMENT THE**  
19 **LITERACY PROGRAM;**

20           **(II) INCLUDE A DESCRIPTION OF:**

21                   **1. THE LITERACY PROGRAM TO BE IMPLEMENTED AT**  
22 **THE QUALIFYING SCHOOL; AND**

23                   **2. HOW THE LITERACY PROGRAM WILL MEET THE**  
24 **REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION; AND**

25           **(III) INCLUDE ANY OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE**  
26 **DEPARTMENT.**

27           **(3) IF THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS EXCEEDS THE NUMBER OF**  
28 **AVAILABLE GRANTS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL GIVE PRIORITY IN AWARDING**  
29 **GRANTS TO A LITERACY PROGRAM WITH PARTICIPATING STUDENTS IN**  
30 **PREKINDERGARTEN THROUGH THIRD GRADE.**

1           **(D) A LITERACY PROGRAM DEVELOPED UNDER THE INITIATIVE SHALL:**

2                   **(1) PROVIDE A FULL RANGE OF EARLY LITERACY INTERVENTION**  
3 **SERVICES FOR PARTICIPATING STUDENTS;**

4                   **(2) REQUIRE PARTICIPATING STUDENTS TO RECEIVE DIRECT**  
5 **SERVICES AT LEAST TWICE A WEEK;**

6                   **(3) HAVE CLEAR LITERACY TARGETS AT EACH GRADE LEVEL FOR**  
7 **PARTICIPATING STUDENTS;**

8                   **(4) HAVE BENCHMARK ASSESSMENTS THREE TIMES A YEAR TO**  
9 **IDENTIFY STUDENTS WHO NEED ONE-ON-ONE INTERVENTIONS; AND**

10                   **(5) COLLECT DATA ON STUDENT PROGRESS AT LEAST MONTHLY.**

11           **(E) THE LITERACY PROGRAM DEVELOPED AT A QUALIFYING SCHOOL**  
12 **UNDER THE INITIATIVE SHALL BE IMPLEMENTED BY STAFF HIRED AND SUPERVISED**  
13 **BY THE COLLABORATING NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.**

14           **(F) (1) (I) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR**  
15 **THEREAFTER, THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPROPRIATE IN THE ANNUAL STATE**  
16 **BUDGET \$2,500,000 TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE INITIATIVE.**

17                   **(II) THE DEPARTMENT MAY RETAIN UP TO 3% OF THE**  
18 **APPROPRIATION REQUIRED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH TO**  
19 **HIRE STAFF NECESSARY TO ADMINISTER THE INITIATIVE.**

20                   **(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE UP TO 50 GRANTS FOR A**  
21 **2-YEAR PERIOD.**

22                   **(3) A GRANT MADE TO EACH QUALIFYING SCHOOL MAY NOT EXCEED**  
23 **\$50,000 EACH YEAR.**

24                   **(4) A GRANT MADE UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE RENEWED BY THE**  
25 **DEPARTMENT AFTER A 2-YEAR PERIOD IF THE QUALIFYING SCHOOL PRESENTS**  
26 **EVIDENCE THAT THE QUALIFYING SCHOOL IS:**

27                           **(I) IN COMPLIANCE WITH THIS SECTION; AND**

28                           **(II) MEETING IDENTIFIED TARGETS AND BENCHMARKS.**

29                   **(5) EACH QUALIFYING SCHOOL MAY APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT**

1 DONATIONS, GRANTS, OR OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM A GOVERNMENTAL  
 2 ENTITY, A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION, OR ANY OTHER PRIVATE ORGANIZATION TO  
 3 BENEFIT THE LITERACY PROGRAM.

4 (G) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2018, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT  
 5 REGULATIONS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

6 (H) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2020, AND EVERY 2 YEARS THEREAFTER,  
 7 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT AN EVIDENCE-BASED REPORT SUMMARIZING THE  
 8 STATUS OF EFFORTS UNDER THE INITIATIVE DURING THE 2-YEAR GRANT PERIOD,  
 9 INCLUDING RECOMMENDATIONS TO INCREASE THE SUCCESS OF THE INITIATIVE, TO  
 10 THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT  
 11 ARTICLE, THE SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
 12 COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS.

13 7-101.2.

14 (a) (1) In this section the following terms have the meanings indicated.

15 (4) "Fund" means the Prekindergarten Expansion Fund.

16 (6) "Program" means the Prekindergarten Expansion Grant Program.

17 (b) (1) There is a grant program known as the Prekindergarten Expansion  
 18 Grant Program in the State.

19 (2) The purpose of the Program is to broaden the availability of  
 20 prekindergarten and school readiness services throughout the State for children and their  
 21 families in coordination with the following programs:

22 (i) The publicly funded prekindergarten program established under  
 23 § 7-101.1 of this article; and

24 (ii) The Judith P. Hoyer Early Childhood Education Enhancement  
 25 Program established under § 5-217 of this subtitle.

26 [(d) (1) Funds for the Program shall be as provided in the State budget.]

27 (D) (1) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2020 AND FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR  
 28 THEREAFTER, THE GOVERNOR SHALL ANNUALLY APPROPRIATE TO THE FUND AN  
 29 AMOUNT THAT IS AT LEAST EQUAL TO THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF ALL FUNDS RECEIVED  
 30 BY THE PROGRAM IN THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR.

31 (2) [The amount of State funds provided for the Program each fiscal year  
 32 shall be at least as much as was appropriated in the prior fiscal year.]



1 (3)] The Governor may provide funds to the Department to administer the  
2 Program.

3 (e) Grants awarded under this section may not be used:

4 (1) To supplant existing funding for prekindergarten services; or

5 (2) For capital improvements.

6 7-1702.

7 (a) There is a Public School Opportunities Enhancement Program.

8 7-1704.

9 (a) For fiscal year 2018, the Governor shall include in the annual budget bill an  
10 appropriation of \$2,500,000 to the Program.

11 (b) **(1)** For fiscal [years] YEAR 2019 [through 2021, the Governor shall include  
12 in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$7,500,000 to the Program] **AND EACH**  
13 **FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL**  
14 **BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE AMOUNT OF GRANT**  
15 **AWARDS IN THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR.**

16 **(2) A GRANTEE THAT REMAINS ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM SHALL**  
17 **RECEIVE A GRANT IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE GRANT**  
18 **AMOUNT IN THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.**

19 **SUBTITLE 20. LEARNING IN EXTENDED ACADEMIC PROGRAMS (LEAP).**

20 **7-2001.**

21 **(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**  
22 **INDICATED.**

23 **(B) “ELIGIBLE SCHOOL” MEANS A SCHOOL IN WHICH AT LEAST 90% OF**  
24 **STUDENTS QUALIFY FOR THE FEDERAL FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEAL PROGRAM.**

25 **(C) “EXTENDED ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING” MEANS AN ACADEMIC**  
26 **PROGRAM OFFERED BEFORE THE SCHOOL DAY, AFTER THE SCHOOL DAY, OR IN THE**  
27 **SUMMER FOR A SCHOOL WITH A HIGH CONCENTRATION OF STUDENTS IN**  
28 **KINDERGARTEN THROUGH EIGHTH GRADE LIVING IN POVERTY AND AT RISK OF**  
29 **FALLING BEHIND ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS.**

1 (D) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE LEARNING IN EXTENDED ACADEMIC  
2 PROGRAMS (LEAP) GRANT PROGRAM.

3 7-2002.

4 (A) THERE IS A LEARNING IN EXTENDED ACADEMIC PROGRAMS (LEAP)  
5 GRANT PROGRAM.

6 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE A GRANT TO AN  
7 ELIGIBLE SCHOOL TO PROVIDE EXTENDED ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING THAT HAS A  
8 POSITIVE MEASURABLE IMPACT ON THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AND OVERALL  
9 WELL-BEING OF STUDENTS WHO ARE AT RISK OF FALLING BEHIND ACADEMIC  
10 REQUIREMENTS.

11 (C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOTIFY A COUNTY BOARD WITH THE NAMES  
12 OF SCHOOLS THAT ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A GRANT UNDER THE PROGRAM.

13 (D) (1) (I) AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL MAY APPLY TO THE DEPARTMENT TO  
14 RECEIVE A GRANT TO DEVELOP EXTENDED ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING THAT IS IN  
15 FURTHERANCE OF THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM.

16 (II) AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL MAY APPLY FOR A GRANT ONLY IF  
17 THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT ENDORSES THE SCHOOL'S GRANT APPLICATION.

18 (III) AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL MAY COORDINATE AND PARTNER  
19 WITH OTHER ELIGIBLE SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTY TO JOINTLY APPLY FOR A GRANT  
20 TO DEVELOP EXTENDED ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING AMONG THE PARTNERING  
21 ELIGIBLE SCHOOLS.

22 (2) THE APPLICATION SHALL PROVIDE A DETAILED PLAN FOR  
23 PROVIDING EXTENDED ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING.

24 (3) (I) AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL MAY PARTNER WITH A NONPROFIT  
25 ORGANIZATION TO PROVIDE EXTENDED ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING.

26 (II) IF AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL PARTNERS WITH A NONPROFIT  
27 ORGANIZATION, THE APPLICATION SHALL PROVIDE THE NAME OF THE  
28 ORGANIZATION AND THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE ORGANIZATION TO PROVIDE THE  
29 EXTENDED ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING.

30 7-2003.

31 (A) AN EXTENDED ACADEMIC PROGRAM SHALL INCLUDE BEFORE OR AFTER

1 SCHOOL OR SUMMER PROGRAMS TARGETED TO STUDENTS WHO ARE AT RISK OF  
2 FALLING BEHIND ON ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS.

3 (B) (1) IF AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL PROPOSES A SUMMER PROGRAM, THE  
4 LENGTH OF THE DAILY PROGRAM SHALL BE AT LEAST 4 HOURS FOR A MINIMUM OF  
5 30 DAYS.

6 (2) IF AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL PROPOSES A BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL  
7 PROGRAM, THE PROGRAM SHALL PROVIDE AT LEAST 8 HOURS OF ACADEMIC  
8 PROGRAMMING EACH WEEK THAT SCHOOL IS IN SESSION.

9 7-2004.

10 (A) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW APPLICATIONS TO ENSURE  
11 THAT THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE PROGRAM ARE MET.

12 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH PROCEDURES TO ACCOUNT  
13 FOR ELIGIBLE SCHOOLS IN COUNTIES THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE UNITED STATES  
14 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISION.

15 (B) IF SUFFICIENT FUNDS ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO FUND ALL QUALIFYING  
16 APPLICATIONS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PRIORITIZE AWARDED GRANTS TO  
17 APPLICANTS THAT PROVIDE EXTENDED ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING TO STUDENTS IN  
18 KINDERGARTEN THROUGH THIRD GRADE, AND ENSURE GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY  
19 AMONG THE GRANTEEES.

20 7-2005.

21 (A) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2019 AND FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR  
22 THEREAFTER, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN  
23 APPROPRIATION OF AT LEAST \$5,000,000 TO THE PROGRAM.

24 (B) THE DEPARTMENT MAY RETAIN UP TO 3% OF THE APPROPRIATION  
25 REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION TO HIRE STAFF NECESSARY TO ADMINISTER THE  
26 PROGRAM.

27 7-2006.

28 ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2018, AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE  
29 DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH ELIGIBLE SCHOOLS THAT RECEIVE A  
30 GRANT UNDER THE PROGRAM, SHALL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN  
31 ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE SENATE  
32 EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND THE

1 **HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE**  
2 **PROGRAM, INCLUDING AN EVALUATION OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAMS**  
3 **AND SERVICES FUNDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.**

4 18–2201.

5 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

6 (b) “Eligible institution” means a:

7 (1) Public senior higher education institution in the State that possesses a  
8 certificate of approval from the Commission and has a department, school, or college of  
9 education; or

10 (2) Private nonprofit institution of higher education in the State that  
11 possesses a certificate of approval from the Commission, has a department, school, or  
12 college of education, and agrees to provide a matching grant to an undergraduate or  
13 graduate student, as appropriate, who receives a Teaching Fellows for Maryland  
14 scholarship in the lesser of:

15 (i) 100% of the annual cost of tuition and mandatory fees at the  
16 University of Maryland, College Park Campus; or

17 (ii) 50% of the cost of tuition and mandatory fees at the private  
18 nonprofit institution of higher education.

19 (c) “Office” means the Office of Student Financial Assistance as defined in §  
20 18–101(c) of this title.

21 (d) (1) “Service obligation” means to teach full time in the State as a teacher  
22 in a Maryland public school or a public prekindergarten program that has at least 50% of  
23 its students eligible for free or reduced price meals (FRPM).

24 (2) “Service obligation” does not mean employment as teaching assistants,  
25 volunteer service, paid fellowships, or internships.

26 18–2202.

27 There is a program of Teaching Fellows for Maryland scholarships that are awarded  
28 under this subtitle for students who pledge to work as public school or public  
29 prekindergarten teachers in the State upon completion of their studies at schools that have  
30 at least 50% of the students in the school eligible for free or reduced price meals (FRPM).

31 18–2203.

32 (a) The Office shall annually select eligible students and offer a scholarship to  
33 each student selected to be used at an eligible institution of their choice.

1 (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, a recipient of the Teaching  
2 Fellows for Maryland scholarship shall:

3 (i) Be a Maryland resident or have graduated from a Maryland high  
4 school;

5 (ii) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, be accepted  
6 for admission or currently enrolled at an eligible institution as a full-time or part-time  
7 undergraduate or graduate student pursuing a course of study or program in an academic  
8 discipline leading to a Maryland professional teacher's certificate;

9 (iii) **1. HAVE ACHIEVED AT LEAST:**

10 [1.] **A.** For a student currently enrolled in high school,  
11 [have earned] an overall grade point average of [at least] 3.3 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent  
12 after completion of the first semester of the senior year; [or]

13 [2.] **B.** For a student currently enrolled as a full-time  
14 undergraduate student, [have maintained] a **CUMULATIVE** grade point average of [at  
15 least] 3.3 on a 4.0 scale and [have been making] satisfactory progress toward a degree in  
16 an academic discipline leading to a Maryland professional teacher's certificate;

17 [(iv) Have achieved a score of at least:]

18 [1.] **C.** **A SCORE OF 500** on the reading and math portions  
19 of the SAT, with a combined score of at least 1100 on the reading and math portions of the  
20 SAT;

21 [2.] **D.** A composite ACT score of 25; or

22 [3.] **E.** **A SCORE OF 50%** on the GRE; **AND**

23 **2. HAVE DEMONSTRATED AN EXCEPTIONAL**  
24 **DEDICATION TO OR APTITUDE FOR TEACHING;**

25 [(v)] **(IV)** Sign a letter of intent to perform the service obligation  
26 upon completion of the recipient's required studies;

27 [(vi)] **(V)** Accept any other conditions attached to the award; and

28 [(vii)] **(VI)** Satisfy any additional criteria the Commission may  
29 establish.

30 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of this subsection, an individual who,  
31 at the time the individual is scheduled to matriculate at an eligible institution, will have

1 been employed as a teaching assistant at a public school or public prekindergarten program  
2 in the State for at least 2 years:

3 (i) May apply for a Teaching Fellows for Maryland scholarship  
4 under this subtitle; and

5 (ii) Is eligible to hold a Teaching Fellows for Maryland scholarship  
6 as a full-time or part-time undergraduate or graduate student.

7 **(3) A RECIPIENT OF THE TEACHING FELLOWS FOR MARYLAND**  
8 **SCHOLARSHIP MAY BE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS ENROLLED OR PLANS TO ENROLL AT**  
9 **AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION AS A FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME UNDERGRADUATE OR**  
10 **GRADUATE STUDENT WHO:**

11 **(I) CHANGES MAJORS TO PURSUE A COURSE OF STUDY OR**  
12 **PROGRAM IN AN ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE LEADING TO A MARYLAND PROFESSIONAL**  
13 **TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE; OR**

14 **(II) SEEKS TO CHANGE CAREERS TO PURSUE A COURSE OF**  
15 **STUDY OR PROGRAM IN AN ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE LEADING TO A MARYLAND**  
16 **PROFESSIONAL TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE.**

17 (c) A recipient of the Teaching Fellows for Maryland scholarship may not hold a  
18 Maryland professional teacher's certificate.

19 (d) (1) Applicants who are secondary school students shall provide a high  
20 school transcript after completion of the first semester of their senior year.

21 (2) Applicants who are currently enrolled in an eligible institution shall  
22 provide the most recent college transcript, or if not applicable, the applicant may submit a  
23 final high school transcript.

24 (3) Applicants who are not currently enrolled in an eligible institution, but  
25 who are high school graduates, shall provide a final high school transcript.

26 (4) Applicants who are high school graduates and are not currently  
27 enrolled in an eligible institution, but have completed some courses at an eligible  
28 institution, shall provide the most recent college transcript.

29 (5) Applicants who are not currently enrolled in an eligible institution, but  
30 who are college graduates, shall provide a final college transcript.

31 18-2204.

32 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the recipient of a Teaching  
33 Fellows for Maryland scholarship shall repay the Commission the funds received as set

1 forth in § 18–112 of this title if the recipient does not:

2 (1) Satisfy the degree requirements of the eligible course of study or  
3 program or fulfill other requirements as provided in this subtitle;

4 (2) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, perform the service obligation  
5 to teach in a public school or a public prekindergarten program that has at least 50% of its  
6 students eligible for free or reduced price meals (FRPM) for **A PERIOD OF:**

7 **(I) FOR A RECIPIENT WHO RECEIVED A SCHOLARSHIP AS AN**  
8 **UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT, 1 year for each year that the recipient has a scholarship**  
9 **awarded under this subtitle; and**

10 **(II) FOR A RECIPIENT WHO RECEIVED A SCHOLARSHIP AS A**  
11 **GRADUATE STUDENT, AT LEAST 2 YEARS; AND**

12 (3) Become professionally certified to teach in the State of Maryland within  
13 the time period specified by the Commission in consultation with the Maryland Department  
14 of Education.

15 (b) If a recipient is unable to perform the service obligation required under this  
16 subtitle because there are no available positions in a public school or public  
17 prekindergarten program that has at least 50% of its students eligible for free or reduced  
18 price meals (FRPM), the recipient may work in any public school or public prekindergarten  
19 program in the State.

20 (c) The Office shall forgive a recipient of a Teaching Fellows for Maryland  
21 scholarship for 2 years of an award if:

22 (1) The recipient has taken the teacher certification examination, approved  
23 by the State Board of Education, in 2 consecutive years; and

24 (2) The recipient fails to pass the teacher certification examination within  
25 the time period specified by the Commission in accordance with subsection (a)(3) of this  
26 section.

27 18–2205.

28 (a) The annual scholarship award shall be:

29 (1) At a public senior higher education institution in the State that has a  
30 department, school, or college of education, 100% of the equivalent annual tuition,  
31 mandatory fees, and room and board of a resident undergraduate student or graduate  
32 student, as appropriate, at the public senior higher education institution; or

33 (2) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, at a private nonprofit  
34 institution of higher education in the State that has a department, school, or college of

1 education, an amount equal to:

2 (i) The lesser of:

3 1. 100% of the equivalent annual tuition and mandatory fees  
4 of a resident undergraduate student or graduate student, as appropriate, at the University  
5 of Maryland, College Park Campus; or

6 2. 50% of the equivalent annual tuition and mandatory fees  
7 of a resident undergraduate or graduate student, as appropriate, at the eligible private  
8 nonprofit institution of higher education; and

9 (ii) 100% of the room and board of a resident undergraduate student  
10 or graduate student, as appropriate, at the eligible private nonprofit institution of higher  
11 education in the State.

12 (b) A private nonprofit institution of higher education shall provide a matching  
13 scholarship award in an amount equal to the award calculated in subsection (a)(2)(i) of this  
14 section.

15 18–2206.

16 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, each recipient of a  
17 Teaching Fellows for Maryland scholarship may renew the award three times if the  
18 recipient:

19 (1) Continues to be a resident of the State or graduated from a high school  
20 in the State;

21 (2) Continues to be a full–time or part–time undergraduate or graduate  
22 student at an eligible institution as determined by the Office;

23 (3) Has achieved a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.3 on a 4.0  
24 scale and maintains this minimum cumulative grade point average throughout the  
25 remainder of this award, or failing to do so, provides evidence of extenuating circumstances;

26 (4) In the judgment of the institution, is making satisfactory progress  
27 toward a degree; and

28 (5) Maintains the standards of the institution.

29 (b) Each recipient of the Teaching Fellows for Maryland scholarship may renew  
30 the annual award four times if the recipient is enrolled in a course of study that, as  
31 determined by the institution, requires 5 years to complete.

32 18–2207.



1 A Teaching Fellows for Maryland scholarship may be used for tuition, mandatory  
2 fees, and room and board at any eligible institution.

3 18-2208.

4 If an eligible institution has enrolled at least 15 recipients of a Teaching Fellows for  
5 Maryland scholarship, the eligible institution shall develop and implement an enriched  
6 honors program of education that is responsive to exceptional dedication and merit-based  
7 accomplishment in the study of education and preparation for the teaching profession.

8 18-2209.

9 The Governor annually shall include [funds] **AT LEAST \$2,000,000** in the State  
10 budget for the Commission to award scholarships under this subtitle.

11 18-2210.

12 The Office of Student Financial Assistance shall:

13 (1) Publicize the availability of Teaching Fellows for Maryland  
14 scholarships; and

15 (2) To the extent practicable, award scholarships under this subtitle in a  
16 manner that reflects ethnic, gender, racial, and geographic diversity.

17 **21-205.**

18 (A) (1) **IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**  
19 **INDICATED.**

20 (2) **“CTE” MEANS CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION.**

21 (3) **“GRANT” MEANS THE CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**  
22 **INNOVATION GRANT.**

23 (B) (1) **THERE IS A CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION INNOVATION**  
24 **GRANT.**

25 (2) **THE PURPOSE OF THE GRANT IS TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO COUNTY**  
26 **BOARDS TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A CTE CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK THAT IS**  
27 **INNOVATIVE AND INCLUDES BEST PRACTICES THAT ARE USED BY THE BEST CTE**  
28 **PROGRAMS AROUND THE WORLD.**

29 (3) **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE GRANT.**

1           **(C) (1) (I) A COUNTY BOARD MAY SUBMIT A PROPOSAL TO THE**  
2 **DEPARTMENT TO RECEIVE A GRANT FOR A CTE PROGRAM THAT IS IN**  
3 **FURTHERANCE OF THE PURPOSE OF THE GRANT.**

4                           **(II) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A GRANT, A COUNTY BOARD SHALL**  
5 **FORM A PARTNERSHIP WITH A COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND AN INDUSTRY PARTNER**  
6 **IN DEVELOPING AN INNOVATIVE CTE PROGRAM TO ENSURE THAT THE PROGRAM:**

7                           1.   **IS OF HIGH QUALITY;**

8                           2.   **IS ALIGNED WITH THE SKILLS NEEDED BY**  
9 **EMPLOYERS;**

10                          3.   **WILL LEAD TO AN INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED LICENSE**  
11 **OR CERTIFICATE;**

12                          4.   **CREATES INTERNSHIP OR APPRENTICESHIP**  
13 **OPPORTUNITIES; AND**

14                          5.   **PREPARES STUDENTS TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPETE**  
15 **IN A GLOBAL ECONOMY.**

16                   **(2) AN APPLICATION SHALL INCLUDE:**

17                           **(I) A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED CURRICULUM**  
18 **FRAMEWORK;**

19                           **(II) A BUSINESS PLAN THAT INCLUDES THE ESTIMATED TOTAL**  
20 **COST OF IMPLEMENTING THE PROPOSED CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK; AND**

21                           **(III) ANY OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE**  
22 **DEPARTMENT.**

23                   **(3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH PROCESSES AND**  
24 **PROCEDURES FOR ACCEPTING AND EVALUATING APPLICATIONS.**

25                   **(4) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE AWARDS IN A TIMELY FASHION.**

26           **(D) (1) THE GOVERNOR SHALL ANNUALLY APPROPRIATE AT LEAST**  
27 **\$2,000,000 IN THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE GRANT**  
28 **PROGRAM.**

29                   **(2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY RETAIN UP TO 3% OF THE**

1 APPROPRIATION REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION TO HIRE STAFF NECESSARY  
2 TO ADMINISTER THE GRANT PROGRAM.

3 **Chapter 701 of the Acts of 2016**

4 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
5 That:

6 (a) (1) There is a Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education.

7 (2) The Commission shall review the findings of the Study on Adequacy of  
8 Funding for Education in the State of Maryland that is to be completed on or before  
9 December 1, 2016, and provide recommendations on preparing students in the State to  
10 meet the challenges of a changing global economy, to meet the State's workforce needs, to  
11 be prepared for postsecondary education and the workforce, and to be successful citizens in  
12 the 21st century.

13 (h) (1) On or before December 31, 2016, the Commission shall provide a  
14 preliminary report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance  
15 with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the Senate Education, Health, and  
16 Environmental Affairs Committee, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the House  
17 Committee on Ways and Means, and the House Appropriations Committee.

18 (2) On or before December 31, [2017] **2018**, the Commission shall provide  
19 a final report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with  
20 § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the Senate Education, Health, and  
21 Environmental Affairs Committee, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the House  
22 Committee on Ways and Means, and the House Appropriations Committee.

23 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
24 1, 2016. It shall remain effective for a period of [2] **3** years and, at the end of May 31, [2018]  
25 **2019**, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated  
26 and of no further force and effect.

27 **Chapter 702 of the Acts of 2016**

28 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
29 That:

30 (a) (1) There is a Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education.

31 (2) The Commission shall review the findings of the Study on Adequacy of  
32 Funding for Education in the State of Maryland that is to be completed on or before  
33 December 1, 2016, and provide recommendations on preparing students in the State to  
34 meet the challenges of a changing global economy, to meet the State's workforce needs, to  
35 be prepared for postsecondary education and the workforce, and to be successful citizens in  
36 the 21st century.

1 (h) (1) On or before December 31, 2016, the Commission shall provide a  
2 preliminary report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance  
3 with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the Senate Education, Health, and  
4 Environmental Affairs Committee, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the House  
5 Committee on Ways and Means, and the House Appropriations Committee.

6 (2) On or before December 31, [2017] **2018**, the Commission shall provide  
7 a final report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with  
8 § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the Senate Education, Health, and  
9 Environmental Affairs Committee, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the House  
10 Committee on Ways and Means, and the House Appropriations Committee.

11 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
12 1, 2016. It shall remain effective for a period of [2] **3** years and, at the end of May 31, [2018]  
13 **2019**, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated  
14 and of no further force and effect.

#### 15 Chapter 715 of the Acts of 2017

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

17 (a) (1) On or before [July] **SEPTEMBER** 1, 2018, the State Department of  
18 Education, in consultation with the Department of Budget and Management and the  
19 Department of Legislative Services, shall contract with a public or private entity to conduct  
20 an independent study of the individualized education program (IEP) process in the State,  
21 including the procedures relating to the identification, evaluation, and educational  
22 placement of a child, the provision of a free and appropriate education, and the dispute  
23 resolution procedures provided under § 8-413 of the Education Article.

24 (2) The entity that conducts the study shall seek input from special  
25 education teachers, special education advocates, and special education organizations.

26 (b) At a minimum, the study shall:

27 (1) review and assess how local school systems spend their special  
28 education funds and allocate their teaching and family support services staff;

29 (2) review and assess the effectiveness of special education family support  
30 services provided by local school system staff members;

31 (3) review and assess how local school systems utilize technical assistance  
32 provided by the State Department of Education to local school systems to assist parents in  
33 understanding their rights and responsibilities in the IEP process;

34 (4) identify best practices for retaining special education teachers;

1           (5) identify and highlight the best practices currently utilized by the State  
2 Department of Education staff, local system staff, and other State agency staff as part of  
3 the IEP process in the State; [and]

4           **(6) REVIEW AND ASSESS METHODOLOGIES USED BY**  
5 **TOP-PERFORMING COUNTRIES TO ESTIMATE THE COSTS OF PROVIDING AN**  
6 **ADEQUATE EDUCATION TO STUDENTS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION;**

7           **(7) REVIEW AND ASSESS METHODOLOGIES USED AND CONSIDERED BY**  
8 **STATES THAT USE A SPECIAL EDUCATION WEIGHT FOR ESTIMATING THE COSTS OF**  
9 **AN ADEQUATE EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION, INCLUDING**  
10 **WHETHER THE STATES USE:**

11                   **(I) SINGLE OR MULTIPLE WEIGHTS;**

12                   **(II) A WEIGHT BASED ON INDIVIDUAL OR CLUSTERS OF**  
13 **DISABILITIES; OR**

14                   **(III) A WEIGHT BASED ON LEVELS OF SEVERITY AMONG**  
15 **DISABILITIES;**

16           **(8) REVIEW AND ASSESS AVAILABLE INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL**  
17 **DATA AND STUDIES ON THE CURRENT COSTS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION ACROSS THE**  
18 **SPECTRUM OF DISABILITIES AND LEVELS OF SEVERITY; AND**

19           **[(6)] (9) make recommendations for:**

20                   (i) ensuring that special education funds are being spent cost  
21 effectively;

22                   (ii) ensuring that local school systems are effectively allocating their  
23 teaching and family support services staff to improve the education achievement of special  
24 education students;

25                   (iii) clarifying and simplifying the IEP process to enable parents and  
26 guardians to more easily understand their rights and responsibilities in the process; [and]

27                   (iv) modifying the administrative goals, objectives, and strategies of  
28 teachers and IEP teams to make them more efficient and cost effective in their delivery of  
29 services to special education students, including potential reductions in caseloads and  
30 recordkeeping;

31           **(V) THE APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF FUNDING THAT IS ADEQUATE**  
32 **FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN MARYLAND IN THE CONTEXT OF THE PRIMARY**  
33 **AND SECONDARY STATE EDUCATION FORMULAS; AND**

1                   **(VI) ANY WEIGHTS THAT MAY CORRESPOND WITH THE**  
2 **RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF FUNDING THAT SHOULD BE USED FOR STUDENTS IN**  
3 **SPECIAL EDUCATION IN THE FORMULAS AND THE RATIONALES FOR SELECTING A**  
4 **SPECIFIC WEIGHT.**

5           (c)     The Governor shall include sufficient funds in the State budget for the  
6 appropriate fiscal years for the State Department of Education to cover the costs of  
7 conducting the study.

8           (d)     On or before [July] **SEPTEMBER** 1, 2019, the State Department of Education  
9 shall report the findings and recommendations of the study, in accordance with § 2-1246  
10 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly.

11           **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June**  
12 **1, 2018.**