

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2018 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**First Reader**

Senate Bill 1008 (Senator Jennings)  
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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**Higher Education - Delegate Scholarships - Qualifications**

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This bill requires an applicant for a delegate scholarship, unless the individual is on active duty with the U.S. military, to be a resident of the State and, at the time of initial application, a resident of the legislative district from which the applicant seeks an award. An individual who is on active duty with the U.S. military must be domiciled in the State and, at the time of the applicant's initial application, be domiciled in the legislative district from which the applicant seeks an award. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018.**

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures increase by \$6,000 in FY 2019 for one-time contractual costs associated with updating the Maryland Higher Education Commission's (MHEC) scholarship system. Restricting eligibility for delegate scholarships does not alter spending as delegates (and senators) receive a set amount of scholarship money to award, which is not changed by the bill. Revenues are not affected.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None

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## Analysis

### Current Law/Background:

#### *Delegate Scholarships*

During a term in office, each delegate may award the equivalent of four four-year, full-time scholarships or two part-time scholarships for each full-time scholarship available. A delegate may select scholarship recipients on any basis he or she considers appropriate. The annual amount of a scholarship for any one recipient may not exceed the tuition and mandatory fees at the University System of Maryland institution with the highest annual tuition and fees, not including the University of Maryland University College and University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus. A scholarship award may be used to pay tuition and mandatory fees at a Maryland institution of postsecondary education or, when the desired program of study or appropriate accommodations are not available in Maryland, an out-of-state institution. Instead of awarding the scholarships himself or herself, a delegate may authorize MHEC to award funding to eligible applicants under the Delegate Howard P. Rawlings Educational Excellence Awards Program.

A delegate scholarship may be used at an in-state institution of higher education whose primary campus is located in Maryland and whose authority to grant degrees is conferred in Maryland for a program of undergraduate, graduate, or professional studies. If the applicant will be studying in an academic area that is not available in the State, specified active duty U.S. military members or, under certain circumstances where the applicant is disabled, the scholarship may be used at an accredited undergraduate, graduate, or professional studies institution outside the State. In addition, the scholarship may be used at out-of-state institutions of higher education if the applicant is an individual who is on active duty with the U.S. military and domiciled in the State. The scholarship may also be used at a private career school within the State that is approved by MHEC and accredited by a national accrediting association that is approved by the U.S. Department of Education.

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### Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland Higher Education Commission; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 5, 2018  
mm/rhh

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