

HOUSE BILL 966

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By: **Delegate Solomon**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2022

Assigned to: Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 11, 2022

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education – Academic Credit for Prior Learning Examinations – Policies**
3 **and Procedures**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring each public institution of higher education, on or before a
5 certain date, to develop and implement policies and procedures for awarding
6 academic credit for prior learning examinations; requiring each public institution of
7 higher education and the Maryland Higher Education Commission to post certain
8 policies and procedures on their websites; and generally relating to awarding credit
9 for prior learning examinations at public institutions of higher education.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Education

12 Section 15–134

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Education**

18 **15–134.**

19 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “PRIOR LEARNING EXAMINATION” INCLUDES**
20 **ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM EXAMINATIONS, INTERNATIONAL**

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 **BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA PROGRAM EXAMINATIONS, CAMBRIDGE ADVANCED**
2 **INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION DIPLOMA PROGRAM**
3 **EXAMINATIONS, AND COLLEGE-LEVEL EXAMINATION PROGRAM EXAMINATIONS.**

4 **(B) (1) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2022, EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF**
5 **HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**
6 **FOR AWARDING ACADEMIC CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING EXAMINATIONS.**

7 **(2) THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH**
8 **(1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL:**

9 **(I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS**
10 **SUBSECTION, ACCEPT FOR AWARDING ACADEMIC CREDIT:**

11 **1. A MINIMUM SCORE OF 3 ON ADVANCED PLACEMENT**
12 **EXAMINATIONS; AND**

13 **2. A MINIMUM SCORE OF 50 ON COLLEGE-LEVEL**
14 **EXAMINATION PROGRAM EXAMINATIONS;**

15 **(II) DETERMINE THE MINIMUM REQUIRED SCORE FOR**
16 **AWARDING ACADEMIC CREDIT ON THE CAMBRIDGE ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL**
17 **CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION DIPLOMA PROGRAM EXAMINATION AND THE**
18 **INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA PROGRAM EXAMINATION THAT IS**
19 **COMPARABLE TO THE MINIMUM SCORES UNDER ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH;**

20 **(III) INDICATE THE MANNER IN WHICH ACADEMIC CREDIT FOR**
21 **PRIOR LEARNING EXAMINATIONS WILL BE AWARDED FOR GENERAL EDUCATION**
22 **REQUIREMENTS, MAJOR REQUIREMENTS, AND ELECTIVE REQUIREMENTS; AND**

23 **(IV) INCLUDE PROCEDURES RELATED TO THE TRANSFER OF**
24 **ACADEMIC CREDITS AWARDED FROM PRIOR LEARNING EXAMINATIONS TO ANOTHER**
25 **PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**

26 **(3) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION**
27 **MAY REQUIRE A HIGHER SCORE ON A PRIOR LEARNING EXAMINATION THAN LISTED**
28 **IN PARAGRAPH (2)(I) OF THIS SUBSECTION IF THE CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER OF**
29 **THE PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDES EVIDENCE TO THE**
30 **COMMISSION THAT THE HIGHER SCORE IS NECESSARY FOR A STUDENT TO BE**
31 **SUCCESSFUL IN A PARTICULAR COURSE.**

32 **(C) (1) EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL:**

1 (I) PUBLICLY POST THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
2 REQUIRED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION ON THE PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF
3 HIGHER EDUCATION’S WEBSITE UNDER THE “ADMISSIONS” CATEGORY; AND

4 (II) SUBMIT THE POLICY AND PROCEDURES TO THE
5 COMMISSION.

6 (2) THE COMMISSION SHALL POST EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF
7 HIGHER EDUCATION’S POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ON THE COMMISSION’S
8 WEBSITE.

9 (D) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31 EACH YEAR, EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION
10 OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION AND, IN ACCORDANCE
11 WITH § 2–1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
12 ON THE FOLLOWING METRICS RELATED TO THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING
13 ACADEMIC YEAR:

14 (1) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS AWARDED ACADEMIC CREDIT
15 FOR PRIOR LEARNING EXAMINATIONS;

16 (2) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ACADEMIC CREDITS AWARDED TO
17 STUDENTS FOR PRIOR LEARNING EXAMINATIONS;

18 (3) THE NUMBER OF ACADEMIC CREDITS AWARDED TO
19 MATRICULATING STUDENTS FOR PRIOR LEARNING EXAMINATIONS AND, OF THOSE
20 CREDITS:

21 (I) THE NUMBER OF CREDITS APPLIED TOWARD MAJOR
22 REQUIREMENTS; AND

23 (II) THE NUMBER OF CREDITS APPLIED TOWARD ELECTIVE
24 REQUIREMENTS; AND

25 (4) ANY OTHER INFORMATION THE COMMISSION OR THE GENERAL
26 ASSEMBLY REQUESTS.

27 (E) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS
28 SECTION.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
30 1, 2022.