

SENATE BILL 4

F2

(PRE-FILED)

2lr0491
CF HB 24

By: **Senator Hester**

Requested: September 16, 2021

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2022

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Cybersecurity Scholarship Program – Alterations and Maryland Cybersecurity**
3 **Loan Assistance Repayment Program – Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of altering certain criteria for the Cybersecurity Public Service
5 Scholarship Program, including increasing the number of years a recipient may hold
6 an award, expanding the qualifying positions for a scholarship recipient to fulfill a
7 work obligation, and establishing criteria for part-time students to be eligible for the
8 scholarship, hold an award, and fulfill a work obligation; requiring the State
9 Department of Education to provide information on the Program to high school
10 students who participate in career and technology programs related to cybersecurity;
11 establishing the Maryland Cybersecurity Loan Assistance Repayment Program; and
12 generally relating to the Cybersecurity Public Service Scholarship Program and the
13 Maryland Cybersecurity Loan Assistance Repayment Program.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Education
16 Section 18–3501, 18–3503, 18–3504, 18–3505, and 18–3506 to be under the amended
17 subtitle “Subtitle 35. Cybersecurity Public Service Scholarship and Loan
18 Assistance Repayment Program”
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
22 Article – Education
23 Section 18–3502
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

26 BY adding to
27 Article – Education

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Section 18–3504.1
2 Annotated Code of Maryland
3 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

6 **Article – Education**

7 Subtitle 35. Cybersecurity Public Service Scholarship AND **LOAN ASSISTANCE**
8 **REPAYMENT** Program.

9 18–3501.

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

11 (b) “Eligible institution” means a public or private nonprofit institution of higher
12 education in the State that:

13 (1) Possesses a certificate of approval from the Commission; or

14 (2) Is approved under operation of law.

15 (c) **“HIGHER EDUCATION LOAN” MEANS A LOAN OBTAINED FOR TUITION,**
16 **EDUCATION EXPENSES, OR LIVING EXPENSES FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE,**
17 **UNDERGRADUATE OR GRADUATE STUDY, OR A NONDEGREE CERTIFICATION OR**
18 **APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, THAT LEADS TO A DEGREE, REGISTERED**
19 **APPRENTICESHIP, OR CERTIFICATION IN CYBERSECURITY.**

20 (D) “Program” means the Cybersecurity Public Service Scholarship Program.

21 (E) **“REPAYMENT PROGRAM” MEANS THE MARYLAND CYBERSECURITY**
22 **LOAN ASSISTANCE REPAYMENT PROGRAM.**

23 18–3502.

24 (a) There is a scholarship program known as the Cybersecurity Public Service
25 Scholarship Program in the State.

26 (b) The purpose of the Program is to support students who are pursuing an
27 education in programs that are directly relevant to cybersecurity.

28 18–3503.

29 (a) The Office shall administer the Program.

1 (b) An individual may apply to the Office for a scholarship under this subtitle if
2 the individual:

3 (1) Is eligible for in-State tuition;

4 (2) **[Is] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION,**
5 **IS** a student who **[is]:**

6 **(I) IS** enrolled full-time at an eligible institution in an approved
7 degree or certificate program that is directly relevant to cybersecurity; **AND**

8 **[(3)] (II)** Is within **[2] 3** years of graduation from the individual's degree
9 or certificate program;

10 **[(4)] (3)** Has maintained a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0
11 on a 4.0 scale; and

12 **[(5)] (4)** (i) Has not received a federal CyberCorps Scholarship for
13 Service; or

14 (ii) Has applied for but has not received a federal CyberCorps
15 Scholarship for Service.

16 (c) A scholarship award under this subtitle may be used at any eligible institution
17 to pay for education expenses as defined by the Office, including:

18 (1) Tuition and mandatory fees; and

19 (2) Room and board.

20 (d) A scholarship recipient shall maintain a grade point average of at least 3.0 on
21 a 4.0 scale.

22 (e) **[Each] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION,**
23 **EACH** recipient of a scholarship under this subtitle may hold the award for **[2] 3** years of
24 full-time study.

25 **(F) (1) BEGINNING WITH THE 2023-2024 PROGRAM APPLICATION**
26 **PERIOD, A PART-TIME STUDENT MAY APPLY TO THE OFFICE FOR A SCHOLARSHIP**
27 **UNDER THIS SUBTITLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE**
28 **OFFICE.**

29 **(2) EACH RECIPIENT OF A SCHOLARSHIP UNDER THIS SUBTITLE MAY**
30 **HOLD THE AWARD FOR 6 YEARS IF THE RECIPIENT:**

1 (I) IS A PART-TIME STUDENT;

2 (II) CONTINUES TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR IN-STATE TUITION UNDER
3 THIS ARTICLE; AND

4 (III) CONTINUES TO BE A STUDENT AT THE INSTITUTION AND
5 TAKES AT LEAST 6 SEMESTER HOURS OF COURSES EACH SEMESTER LEADING TO A
6 DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE THAT IS DIRECTLY RELEVANT TO CYBERSECURITY.

7 (3) THE OFFICE SHALL DETERMINE AN AWARD AMOUNT THAT IS
8 APPROPRIATELY PRORATED FOR THE PART-TIME STATUS OF THE STUDENT.

9 (4) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2023, THE OFFICE SHALL ADOPT
10 REGULATIONS TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM FOR PART-TIME STUDENTS.

11 (G) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAM
12 TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATE IN CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY
13 EDUCATION PROGRAMS RELATED TO CYBERSECURITY.

14 18-3504.

15 (a) (1) [For] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS
16 SUBSECTION, FOR 1 year for each year that the recipient receives a scholarship under this
17 subtitle, a scholarship recipient shall:

18 [(1)] (I) Work [for a unit of State government] IN THE STATE in the
19 cybersecurity field FOR A:

20 1. A. LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY;

21 B. PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL; OR

22 C. COMMUNITY COLLEGE; OR

23 2. UNIT OF:

24 A. STATE GOVERNMENT;

25 B. COUNTY GOVERNMENT; OR

26 C. CITY OR MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT; or

27 [(2)] (II) Teach [in a public high school] in the State in an education
28 program that is directly relevant to cybersecurity IN:

1 1. **A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL; OR**

2 2. **A COMMUNITY COLLEGE.**

3 **(2) (I) SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE**
4 **OFFICE SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2023,**
5 **ESTABLISHING A WORK OBLIGATION, APPROPRIATELY PRORATED, FOR A**
6 **SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT WHO RECEIVES A SCHOLARSHIP AS A PART-TIME**
7 **STUDENT.**

8 **(II) THE WORK OBLIGATION FOR A PART-TIME STUDENT MAY**
9 **NOT EXCEED 3 YEARS.**

10 (b) In accordance with § 18–112 of this title, a scholarship recipient shall repay
11 the Commission the funds received under this subtitle if the recipient does not:

12 (1) Earn credit as a full-time student as defined in regulations adopted by
13 the Office for the Program **OR AS A PART-TIME STUDENT AS REQUIRED IN § 18–3503(F)**
14 **OF THIS SUBTITLE;**

15 (2) Complete an approved degree **OR CERTIFICATE** program that is
16 directly relevant to cybersecurity at an eligible institution; and

17 (3) Perform the work obligation required under subsection (a) of this
18 section.

19 (c) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a recipient shall begin repayment
20 at any time during the period that the recipient is no longer performing the work obligation
21 required under subsection (a) of this section.

22 (d) Except as otherwise provided in this section, repayment shall be made to the
23 State within 6 years after the repayment period begins and shall follow a repayment
24 schedule established by the Office.

25 (e) The Office may waive or defer repayment in the event of disability or extended
26 sickness that prevents the recipient from fulfilling the work obligation required under
27 subsection (a) of this section.

28 **18–3504.1.**

29 **(A) THERE IS A MARYLAND CYBERSECURITY LOAN ASSISTANCE**
30 **REPAYMENT PROGRAM.**

31 **(B) THE OFFICE SHALL ADMINISTER THE REPAYMENT PROGRAM.**

1 **(C) THE REPAYMENT PROGRAM SHALL ASSIST IN THE REPAYMENT OF A**
2 **HIGHER EDUCATION LOAN OWED BY A PERSON WHO:**

3 **(1) IS EMPLOYED IN THE STATE IN THE CYBERSECURITY FIELD WITH**
4 **A:**

5 **(I) UNIT OF:**

6 **1. STATE GOVERNMENT;**

7 **2. COUNTY GOVERNMENT; OR**

8 **3. CITY OR MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT;**

9 **(II) LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY;**

10 **(III) COMMUNITY COLLEGE; OR**

11 **(IV) PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION;**

12 **(2) RECEIVED A DEGREE, REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP, OR**
13 **CERTIFICATION IN CYBERSECURITY;**

14 **(3) IS NOT CURRENTLY SERVING OUT THE TERMS OF THE PUBLIC**
15 **SERVICE WORK REQUIREMENT UNDER THE PROGRAM; AND**

16 **(4) SATISFIES ANY OTHER CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE OFFICE.**

17 18–3505.

18 Funds for the Program **AND THE REPAYMENT PROGRAM** shall be as provided in
19 the annual budget of the Commission by the Governor.

20 18–3506.

21 (a) The Office shall adopt regulations to implement this subtitle.

22 (b) The regulations adopted under subsection (a) of this section shall:

23 (1) Identify the programs that meet the requirements of § 18–3503(b)(2) of
24 this subtitle; [and]

1 (2) Define the number of credits a scholarship recipient must earn as a
2 [full-time] student; AND

3 (3) ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR THE REPAYMENT PROGRAM,
4 INCLUDING:

5 (I) THE APPLICATION PROCESS;

6 (II) THE PROCESS FOR DELIVERING LOAN REPAYMENT;

7 (III) A SYSTEM TO PRIORITIZE APPLICANTS IF THE REPAYMENT
8 PROGRAM IS OVERSUBSCRIBED; AND

9 (IV) A MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF LOAN REPAYMENT AVAILABLE
10 UNDER THE REPAYMENT PROGRAM.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
12 1, 2022.