SENATE BILL 79

By: Senator Bailey
Requested: September 8, 2021
Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2022
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Higher Education – Senatorial Scholarships – Program Accreditation

FOR the purpose of authorizing each Senator to award not more than a certain percentage
of funds available under the Senatorial Scholarship Program to applicants planning
to attend certain accredited institutions outside the State, provided that the
applicant will be studying in an academic area that is not offered in a program that
is accredited by a national accrediting association approved by the United States
Department of Education in any institution in the State; and generally relating to
the Senatorial Scholarship Program.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Education
Section 18–405
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

18–405.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, a senatorial scholarship
may be used only at any community college or undergraduate, graduate, or professional
school in the State.

(b) A senatorial scholarship may be used:

If the curriculum is approved by the Commission, at a degree granting
institute of higher education, a hospital diploma school for training registered nurses, or
to attend a private postsecondary proprietary institution that is accredited by a national
accrediting association approved by the United States Department of Education as a
full-time student; and

(2) For educational expenses as defined by the Office, including:

(i) Tuition and mandatory fees; and

(ii) Room and board.

(c) If on-campus housing is available, a senatorial scholarship may not be used
to pay for off-campus housing.

(d) Each Senator may award not more than [10 percent] 10% of the funds
available under this subtitle to applicants planning to attend accredited undergraduate,
graduate, or professional institutions outside the State, provided the applicant:

(1) Will be studying in an academic area that is not [available] OFFERED
IN A PROGRAM THAT IS ACCREDITED BY A NATIONAL ACCREDITING ASSOCIATION
APPROVED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN ANY
INSTITUTION in the State;

(2) Is a hearing impaired person who will be studying at an institution
outside the State that makes special provisions for hearing impaired students, and
comparable special provisions are not available to the applicant at an institution in the
State; or

(3) Is an individual who is on active duty with the United States military
who is domiciled in this State.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has
been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to
each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is
enacted.