A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Community College Tuition and Residency Waivers – Funding

FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor, beginning in a certain fiscal year, to include in the annual State budget for the Maryland Higher Education Commission an appropriation of a certain amount to fund State–mandated community college tuition and residency waivers; and generally relating to community college funding for State–mandated tuition and residency waivers.

BY adding to

Article – Education
Section 16–322
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

16–322.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “QUALIFYING STUDENT” MEANS A COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT WHO RECEIVES A TUITION OR RESIDENCY WAIVER AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

(1) A FOSTER CARE RECIPIENT OR AN UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH UNDER § 15–106.1 OF THIS ARTICLE;

(2) A UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES ACTIVE DUTY MEMBER, THE SPOUSE OR CHILD OF AN ARMED FORCES ACTIVE DUTY MEMBER, A UNITED STATES

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
ARMED FORCES VETERAN WHO HAS BEEN HONORABLY DISCHARGED, OR A MEMBER
OF THE NATIONAL GUARD UNDER § 15–106.4 OF THIS ARTICLE;

(3) THE SON OR DAUGHTER OF A STATE OR LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY
EMLOYEE UNDER § 15–106.7 OF THIS ARTICLE;

(4) A SENIOR CITIZEN UNDER § 16–106(B) OF THIS TITLE;

(5) AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY UNDER § 16–106(C) OF THIS
TITLE;

(6) A STUDENT ENROLLED IN AN EDUCATION PROGRAM LEADING TO
LICENSE IN NURSING UNDER § 16–310(A)(4) OF THIS SUBTITLE;

(7) A PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER UNDER § 16–310(A)(6) OF THIS
SUBTITLE; OR

(8) A STUDENT ENROLLED IN AN INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM THAT
THE COMMISSION DESIGNATES AS A HEALTH MANPOWER SHORTAGE PROGRAM
UNDER § 16–310(D) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(B) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE
GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL FOR THE COMMISSION
AN APPROPRIATION OF $10,000,000 TO FUND STATE–MANDATED TUITION AND
RESIDENCY WAIVERS FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES.

(C) THE COMMISSION SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE APPROPRIATION REQUIRED
UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION TO EACH BOARD OF TRUSTEES BASED ON
THE NUMBER OF ENROLLED QUALIFYING STUDENTS AT EACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
IN PROPORTION TO THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ENROLLED QUALIFYING STUDENTS, AS
dETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION.

(D) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT ANY REGULATIONS OR GUIDELINES
NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.

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