

Chapter 164

(House Bill 1426)

AN ACT concerning

Education – Blueprint for Maryland’s Future – Alterations

FOR the purpose of authorizing the State Department of Education to award funding for a new Judy Center or Family Support Center for planning and development under a certain circumstance; ~~altering the date by which the Accountability and Implementation Board has to conduct and submit a certain independent evaluation;~~ requiring the State Board of Education, rather than the Accountability and Implementation Board, to approve certain specifications for teachers and administrators relating to time spent in the classroom and time spent on other teacher activities; requiring a nonclassroom teacher who pursues National Board Certification to receive certain funding from the State under certain circumstances; altering certain requirements and funding timelines for the Prekindergarten Expansion Grant Program; ~~altering requirements for the Prekindergarten Expansion Grant Program;~~ requiring each local department of social services or local health department to provide each local school system with certain information; authorizing the State Board of Education and the Accountability and Implementation Board to establish certain limits on courses taken by certain dually enrolled students at certain institutions of higher education; ~~altering the requirements for, and expanding the purpose of, the Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award to include early childhood educators; renaming the Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award to be the Nancy Grasmick School Professional Award;~~ altering the date by which the Career and Technical Education Committee shall establish certain goals; altering the date by which the CTE Committee must report on the progress on obtaining a certain goal; repealing a periodic report on the Geographic Cost of Education Index that was rendered obsolete by the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future; ~~extending the fiscal year for which per pupil funding increases may be limited under a certain circumstance;~~ altering the date by which administration of the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment must be completed and results made available for a certain school year only; and generally relating to the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Education

Section ~~4-122(a)(1), 4-122.1(a)(1), 5-230(a)(1), (6) through (10), and (12), (b), and (d), 5-410(a) and (b), and 7-101.2(a)(1), (6), and (7) and (b)(1) and (2) 6-1002(a), and 7-101.2(b)(1) 8-313(a)(1), 8-3A-09(a)(1), 8-710(a)(1), and 16-305(b)(1)~~

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Education

Section ~~4-122(a)(6) and (b)(2), 4-122.1(a)(5) and (c)(2), 5-103, 5-218(c)(1), 5-230(e), 5-410(e) and (d)(1), 5-230(c), 6-1002(h), 6-1003(a) and (b)(2), 6-1004(b)(4), (c)(4), and (d)(5), 6-1006(b)(3) and (c)(3), 6-1012, 7-101.2(c) and (d), 7-101.2(e)(1), 7-1A-02, 7-205.1(g)(1) and (4), 7-1703(d)(1), 8-309(a)(2), 8-313(a)(5), 8-3A-09(a)(4), 8-507(b)(3), 8-709, 8-710(a)(4), 9.5-1002, 11-105(j)(6), 15-101(b), 16-305(b)(2), 18-1501, 18-1502, 18-1503, and 21-204~~

Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Education
Section 7-205.1(g)(4)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~

~~Article – Tax – Property~~
~~Section 7-512(e), 9-205(i)(1), 9-230(b), and 9-302(i)(2) and (3)~~
~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
~~(2019 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)~~

BY repealing

Chapter 2 of the Acts of the General Assembly of the 2007 Special Session
Section 13

~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~

~~Chapter 36 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2021~~
~~Section 16(d) through (f)~~

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

Article – Education

~~4-122.~~

~~(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

~~(6) “Local current expense per student” means all expenditures made by a county from county appropriations, except State, federal, and other aid, for public elementary and secondary education in the prior fiscal year, divided by the full-time equivalent enrollment, as defined in [§ 5-202(a)] § 5-201 of this article.~~

~~(b) (2) The service providing local education agency shall include a child enrolled as the result of an out-of-county living arrangement in their full-time equivalent enrollment as provided by [§ 5-202(a)(6)] § 5-201 of this article.~~

~~4-122.1.~~

~~(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated:~~

~~(5) "Local current expense per student" means all expenditures made by a county from county appropriations, except State, federal, and other aid, for public elementary and secondary education in the prior fiscal year, divided by the full-time equivalent enrollment, as defined in [§ 5-202(a)] § 5-201 of this article.~~

~~(e) (2) The receiving agency shall include a child enrolled as the result of an informal kinship care relationship in its full-time equivalent enrollment as provided by [§ 5-202(a)] § 5-201 of this article.~~

~~5-103.~~

~~(a) The amount requested in the annual budget of each county board for current expenses for the next school year and that is to be raised by revenue from local sources may not be less than the minimum amount required to be levied under [§ 5-202(d)(1)(i)] § 5-235(A) of this title.~~

~~(b) The county commissioners or county council may provide funds that are more than the amount required by [§ 5-202(d)(1)(i)] § 5-235(A) of this title to support improved and additional programs.~~

~~(e) If a county council or board of county commissioners does not approve the amount requested in the budget that is more than the amount required by [§ 5-202(d)(1)(i)] § 5-235(A) of this title:~~

~~(1) The county council or board of county commissioners:~~

~~(i) May not reduce the amount requested in the budget that is dedicated to satisfying a final court judgment; and~~

~~(ii) Shall indicate in writing, within 15 days after the adoption of the budget, which major categories of the annual budget have been reduced and the reason for the reduction; and~~

~~(2) The county board shall submit to the county governing body, within 30 days after the adoption of the budget, a report indicating how the alterations to the budget will be implemented, accompanied by reasonable supporting detail and analysis.~~

~~5-218.~~

~~(e) (1) In this subsection, “full-time equivalent enrollment” has the meaning stated in [§ 5–202] § 5–201 of this subtitle.~~

5–230.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(6) “Full day” means a period of time during the day that:

(i) Meets the needs of families; and

(ii) Is not less than 7 hours or more than 12 hours per day.

(7) “Judy Center” means a site where comprehensive early childhood education services are provided to young children and their families for the purpose of promoting school readiness through collaboration with participating agencies and programs.

(8) “Judy Center Grant” means a grant that is distributed under subsection (d) of this section.

(9) “Local management board” means a local management board as defined under § 8–101(l) of the Human Services Article.

(10) “Participating agencies and programs” includes:

(i) Public prekindergarten and kindergarten programs;

(ii) Head Start programs;

(iii) Family literacy programs and services;

(iv) Local infants and toddlers programs;

(v) Child care centers and family child care homes;

(vi) Family support centers;

(vii) Healthy family sites;

(viii) Parent involvement programs;

(ix) Early childhood programs affiliated with institutions of higher education; and

(x) Other home visiting, community health, family support services, and child care resource and referral agencies.

(12) “Program” means the Judith P. Hoyer Early Childhood Education Enhancement Program established under this section.

(b) (1) There is a Judith P. Hoyer Early Childhood Education Enhancement Program in the Department.

(2) The purpose of the Program is to promote school readiness through the development and expansion of collaborative approaches to the delivery of high quality, comprehensive, full-day early childhood education programs and family support services.

(c) (1) The Program shall be funded as provided in the State budget.

(2) Funds that are allocated to the Program in the State budget may be used:

(i) To cover the costs incurred by the Department in implementing and administering the Program;

(ii) For Judy Center Grants[, as]:

1. **AS** provided under subsection (d) of this section; **AND**

2. **IF THE DEPARTMENT AWARDS MULTIYEAR FUNDING UNDER SUBSECTION (H) OF THIS SECTION, FOR PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF A JUDY CENTER IN THE FIRST YEAR OF MULTIYEAR FUNDING;**

(iii) For Preschool Services Grants, as provided under subsection (e) of this section;

(iv) For Early Childhood Education Enhancement Grants, as provided under subsection (f) of this section; and

(v) To fund the statewide implementation of the Department’s Early Childhood Assessment System, as provided under subsection (g) of this section.

(3) (i) For each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025, the State shall provide funding for 9 additional Judy Centers per year.

(ii) For each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030, the State shall provide funding for 18 additional Judy Centers per year.

(iii) The Governor shall appropriate, in each of fiscal years 2021 through 2030, \$330,000 for each additional Judy Center required under this paragraph.

(iv) The State shall prioritize increasing the number of Judy Centers in communities with Title I schools.

(d) The Department may distribute a Judy Center Grant to a county board if the county board submits an application to the Department that includes:

(1) A memorandum of understanding between the county board, the participating agencies and programs, and, in the discretion of the county board, the local management board that includes:

(i) The terms of the collaboration to be undertaken by the county board, the participating agencies and programs, and, if applicable, the local management board, including the roles and responsibilities of each of these entities; and

(ii) A plan for establishing ongoing communication between private service providers and public school early education programs; and

(2) Documentation that shows that:

(i) The Department's Early Childhood Assessment System will be implemented at the Center;

(ii) All participating agencies and programs that provide early childhood education services through the Center have voluntarily obtained accreditation or, by the date of the Grant application, have voluntarily initiated and are actively pursuing the process of obtaining accreditation; and

(iii) The Center will provide comprehensive, full-day early childhood education services and family support services.

~~§ 410.~~

~~(a) In addition to its own assessments and tracking of progress, required under § 406 of this subtitle, the Board shall contract with a public or private entity to conduct an independent evaluation of the State's progress in implementing the Blueprint for Maryland's Future and achieving the expected outcomes during the implementation period.~~

~~(b) The independent evaluation shall include an assessment of:~~

~~(1) The use of additional funding to meet the goals of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future;~~

~~(2) Progress toward the goals of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future and whether the goals have been achieved; and~~

~~(3) Any recommendations to alter the goals or strategies employed to reach the goals, including new uses for existing funds or additional funding.~~

~~(e) (1) An entity with which the Board contracts for an independent evaluation shall report its results to the Board on or before:~~

~~(i) [October 1, 2024] DECEMBER 1, 2026; and~~

~~(ii) October 1, 2030.~~

~~(2) The Board shall contract for each independent evaluation as soon as practicable.~~

~~(d) (1) (i) On or before [December 1, 2024] JANUARY 15, 2027, the Board shall, using the first independent evaluation and its own judgment, report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on whether the Blueprint for Maryland's Future is being implemented as intended and achieving the expected outcomes.~~

~~(ii) The Board's report shall include an assessment of the State's progress towards:~~

~~1. Increasing the number of teachers achieving National Board Certification;~~

~~2. Providing full-day prekindergarten programs for 3- and 4-year-olds in accordance with Title 7, Subtitle 1A of this article;~~

~~3. Improving behavioral health services in accordance with § 7-447 of this article; and~~

~~4. Ensuring that students enrolled in public schools meet college and career standards in accordance with § 7-205.1 of this article.~~

~~(iii) The Board's report shall include any legislative or structural corrections necessary to fully implement the Blueprint.~~

~~6-1002.~~

(a) (1) On or before July 1, 2024, each county board shall implement a career ladder that meets the requirements of this subtitle.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, the requirements of this subtitle shall become effective in a county on the date the county board adopts a career ladder under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(h) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, teachers at each level or tier of the career ladder shall teach in the classroom for a minimum percentage of their total working time, as specified in this subtitle.

(2) The percentages referenced in paragraph (1) of this subsection shall become effective in phases over an 8-year period beginning July 1, 2025, as specified by a county board on approval of the [Accountability and Implementation Board] STATE BOARD.

(3) The following teachers shall be given priority for working time outside the classroom as the percentages referenced in paragraph (1) of this subsection are phased in:

(i) Newly licensed teachers, particularly new teachers in low-performing schools or schools that have a high concentration of students living in poverty; and

(ii) Teachers in schools that:

1. Are low-performing;

2. Have a high concentration of students living in poverty; or

3. Have large achievement gaps between subpopulations of students.

6-1003.

(a) Beginning with teachers listed under [§ 6-1002(f)(3)] § 6-1002(H)(3) of this subtitle, as specified by the [State Board] COUNTY BOARD, a teacher on level one, two, or three of the career ladder shall:

(1) Teach in the classroom on average 60% of the teacher's working time;
and

(2) Spend the remaining time on other teacher activities, including:

(i) Improving instruction;

(ii) Identifying, working with, and tutoring students who need additional help;

(iii) Working with the most challenging students;

(iv) Working with students living in concentrated poverty; and

(v) Leading or participating in professional learning.

(b) (2) Beginning with teachers listed under [§ 6-1002(f)(3)] § 6-1002(H)(3) of this subtitle, as specified by the ~~State Board~~ COUNTY BOARD, an assistant principal shall:

(i) Participate in classroom activity involving direct interactions with students for at least 20% of their working hours; and

(ii) Spend a portion of the remaining time on other teacher related activities, including:

1. Setting priorities for the subject level departments or grade levels of the school; and

2. Fulfilling specialized roles, such as head of professional development.

6-1004.

(b) (4) Beginning with teachers listed under [§ 6-1002(f)(3)] § 6-1002(H)(3) of this subtitle as specified by the ~~State Board~~ COUNTY BOARD, a lead teacher shall:

(i) Teach in the classroom on average 50% of the teacher's working time; and

(ii) Spend the remaining time on other teacher activities, including:

1. Mentoring newer and struggling teachers and teachers who are pursuing NBC; and

2. Leading workshops and demonstrations at the school level.

(c) (4) Beginning with teachers listed under [§ 6-1002(f)(3)] § 6-1002(H)(3) of this subtitle as specified by the ~~State Board~~ COUNTY BOARD, a distinguished teacher shall:

(i) Teach in the classroom on average 40% of the teacher's working time; and

(ii) Spend the remaining time on other teacher activities, including:

1. Mentoring lead teachers; and

2. Leading workshops and demonstrations at the school and district level.

(d) (5) Beginning with teachers listed under [§ 6–1002(f)(3)] § 6–1002(H)(3) of this subtitle as specified by the ~~[State Board]~~ COUNTY BOARD, a professor distinguished teacher shall teach in a classroom on average 20% of the teacher’s working time.

6–1006.

(b) (3) Beginning with teachers listed under [§ 6–1002(f)(3)] § 6–1002(H)(3) of this subtitle as specified by the ~~[State Board]~~ COUNTY BOARD, a licensed principal is encouraged to teach in the classroom for at least 10% of the principal’s working hours.

(c) (3) Beginning with teachers listed under [§ 6–1002(f)(3)] § 6–1002(H)(3) of this subtitle as specified by the ~~[State Board]~~ COUNTY BOARD, a distinguished principal is encouraged to teach in a classroom for at least 10% of the principal’s working hours.

6–1012.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “NONCLASSROOM TEACHER” MEANS A POSITION IN A SCHOOL FOR WHICH, IF THE INDIVIDUAL EARNS NBC, THE INDIVIDUAL IS ELIGIBLE TO JOIN THE CAREER LADDER, INCLUDING:

- (1) ADMINISTRATORS;**
- (2) ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS;**
- (3) INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALISTS; AND**
- (4) PRINCIPALS.**

[(a)] (B) (1) Except as provided under paragraph (2) of this subsection, each teacher **OR NONCLASSROOM TEACHER** who pursues NBC shall receive from the State an amount equal to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards fees associated with the initial completion and renewal of NBC.

(2) Each teacher **AND NONCLASSROOM TEACHER** may only receive payment under this subsection for one retake of each assessment on the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

[(b)] (C) Each county shall pay to the State one-third of the cost for each teacher **OR NONCLASSROOM TEACHER** who receives funds under subsection **[(a)] (B)** of this section to pursue NBC.

~~[(c)] (D)~~ (1) A teacher **OR A NONCLASSROOM TEACHER** who does not complete all the requirements for assessment by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards shall reimburse the State the full amount of the funds received under subsection ~~[(a)] (B)~~ of this section.

(2) The State shall reimburse the county the amount received under subsection ~~[(b)] (C)~~ of this section on receipt of the reimbursement from a teacher **OR NONCLASSROOM TEACHER** under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(3) The provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection do not apply to a teacher **OR NONCLASSROOM TEACHER** who completes all the requirements for assessment by the National Board ~~[of] FOR~~ Professional Teaching Standards but does not obtain NBC.

7-101.2.

(b) (1) There is a grant program known as the Prekindergarten Expansion Grant Program in the State.

(c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, before approving qualified providers for prekindergarten services to receive a grant under this section, a qualified provider shall certify to the Department that for each classroom funded under this section the provider will:

(i) Maintain a student-to-classroom personnel ratio of no more than 10 to 1 with a maximum of 20 children per classroom;

(ii) Provide in each classroom at least one teacher [certified in early childhood education by the State] and at least one teacher's aide who [has at least a high school degree] **MEET THE HIGH STAFF QUALIFICATIONS OF § 7-1A-04(A)(1)(I) OF THIS TITLE;**

(iii) Operate an educational program for:

1. 5 days per week;

2. 180 days per year, in accordance with the public school calendar established by the local school board; and

3. A. For half-day programs, at least 2.5 hours per day;

or

B. For full-day programs, at least 6.5 hours per day; and

(iv) To receive a grant under this section, meet the requirements of § 7-1A-04 of this title.

(2) Before approving qualified providers who are Montessori schools or Montessori programs for prekindergarten services to receive a grant under this section, a qualified provider shall certify to the Department that for each classroom funded under this section the provider will:

(i) Meet the requirements under paragraph (1)(iii) of this subsection;

(ii) Maintain a student-to-classroom personnel ratio of no more than 10 to 1, with a maximum of 20 students per classroom if all of the students are under the age of 5 years;

(iii) Maintain a student-to-classroom personnel ratio of no more than 14 to 1, with a maximum of 28 students per classroom if some of the students are at least 5 years old; and

(iv) Require a classroom teacher to:

1. Hold a bachelor's degree in any field; and

2. Hold a Montessori credential issued by:

A. The Association Montessori Internationale;

B. The American Montessori Society; or

C. A program accredited by the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education.

(d) (1) (i) Beginning in fiscal year 2020 through fiscal year [2025] 2029, the Governor shall annually appropriate to the Fund an amount that is at least equal to the total amount of all funds received by the Program in the prior fiscal year.

(ii) Beginning in fiscal year [2026] 2030, the funds appropriated to the Fund shall be consolidated into the publicly funded full-day prekindergarten program established in Subtitle 1A of this title.

(2) The Governor may provide funds to the Department to administer the Program.

~~7-101.2.~~

~~(a) (1) In this section the following terms have the meanings indicated.~~

~~(6) "Program" means the Prekindergarten Expansion Grant Program.~~

~~(7) "Qualified provider" means:~~

~~(i) If partnering with a county board under a memorandum of understanding, a State accredited or nationally accredited child care program or a nonpublic school approved by the Department to provide prekindergarten services; and~~

~~(ii) A county board.~~

~~(b) (1) There is a grant program known as the Prekindergarten Expansion Grant Program in the State.~~

~~(2) The purpose of the Program is to broaden the availability of high quality prekindergarten and school readiness services throughout the State for children and their families in coordination with the expansion of publicly funded full day prekindergarten under the Blueprint for Maryland's Future established under Subtitle 1A of this title.~~

~~(c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, before approving qualified providers for prekindergarten services to receive a grant under this section, a qualified provider shall certify to the Department that for each classroom funded under this section the provider will:~~

~~(i) Maintain a student to classroom personnel ratio of no more than 10 to 1 with a maximum of 20 children per classroom;~~

~~(ii) Provide in each classroom at least one teacher certified in early childhood education by the State **OR ONE TEACHER WITH A BACHELOR'S DEGREE WHO PLANS TO PURSUE A STATE CERTIFICATION FOR TEACHING IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION** and at least one teacher's aide who has at least a high school degree;~~

~~(iii) Operate an educational program for:~~

~~1. 5 days per week;~~

~~2. 180 days per year, in accordance with the public school calendar established by the local school board; and~~

~~3. A. For half-day programs, at least 2.5 hours per day;~~

~~or~~

~~B. For full-day programs, at least 6.5 hours per day; and~~

~~(iv) To receive a grant under this section, meet the requirements of § 7-1A-04 of this title.~~

7-1A-02.

(a) (1) A local department of social services or a local health department shall provide a parent or guardian with oral and written notice that their child may be eligible for publicly funded prekindergarten programs if the parent or guardian:

(i) Applied for economic services with the local department of social services or the local health department; and

(ii) Has a child who will be 3 or 4 years old by September 1 of the next academic year.

(2) The notice required under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall include:

(i) Contact information for the enrollment office of the local school system and the Division of Early Childhood Development in the Department; and

(ii) Information on the existence of the child care scholarship for before and after full-day prekindergarten programming and the possibility of eligibility for State aid.

(3) On or before December 1 of each year, each local department of social services and each local health department shall report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, on the number of parents who were given a notification and subsequently enrolled their child in a publicly funded prekindergarten program.

(B) EACH LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES OR A LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE TO EACH LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM THE NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR EACH PARENT OR GUARDIAN PROVIDED NOTICE UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.

[(b)] (C) The requirements set forth in § 7–101(b) of this title regarding the domicile of a child and the residency of the child’s parent or guardian shall apply to prekindergarten programs established by county boards as required by this subtitle.

7–205.1.

(g) (1) [Beginning] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION, BEGINNING in the 2023–2024 school year, each county board shall provide all students who meet the CCR standard required under subsection (c) of this section with access to the following post college and career readiness (post–CCR) pathways, at no cost to the student or the student’s parents, including the cost of any fees:

(i) A competitive entry college preparatory program, chosen by the county board, consisting of:

1. The International Baccalaureate Diploma Program;
2. The Cambridge AICE Diploma Program; or
3. A comparable program consisting of Advanced Placement courses specified by the College Board;

(ii) A program that allows a student, through an early college program or dual enrollment at a student's high school and an institution of higher education to earn:

1. An associate degree; or
2. At least 60 credits toward a bachelor's degree; and

(iii) A robust set of career and technology education programs that are recommended by the CTE Skills Standards Advisory Committee and approved by the CTE Committee and that allow students to complete:

1. A credit or noncredit certificate or license program, course, or sequence of courses, including a program, course, or courses taken through dual enrollment under § 15–127 of this article, at a secondary or postsecondary institution, through an Advanced Placement course at a secondary institution, or through an apprenticeship sponsor that leads to an industry recognized occupational–credential or postsecondary certificate;

2. A registered apprenticeship program approved by the Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning within the Maryland Department of Labor; or

3. A youth apprenticeship program, under Title 18, Subtitle 18 of this article.

(4) ~~THE~~ TO PHASE IN EXPANSION OF DUAL ENROLLMENT TO MAXIMIZE THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO CAN EARN THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF DUAL ENROLLMENT CREDITS CONSISTENT WITH THE PHASED INCREASES IN SCHOOL FUNDING, FOR FISCAL YEARS 2025 THROUGH 2027, THE STATE BOARD AND THE ACCOUNTABILITY AND IMPLEMENTATION BOARD, IN CONSULTATION WITH EACH LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM, MAY LIMIT THE NUMBER AND TYPES OF COURSES THAT A STUDENT DUALY ENROLLED AT THE STUDENT'S PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL AND AT AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION MAY ENROLL IN DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR AT THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION AS PART OF THE POST-CCR PATHWAY IN

ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION AND § 15-127 OF THIS ARTICLE.

~~[(4)] (5)~~ (i) The State Board shall adopt regulations to carry out this subsection.

(ii) The regulations shall include standards that:

1. Guarantee, to the extent practicable, statewide uniformity in the quality of the post-CCR pathways;

2. Meet the requirements of paragraph (1) of this subsection;
and

3. Require high school graduation credit to be awarded for any programs administered in accordance with this subsection.

~~7-1703.~~

~~(d) (1) To qualify for a grant awarded in accordance with this subtitle, a grantee shall provide the services listed in subsection (c) of this section in a county in which at least 50% of public school students as a percentage of full-time equivalent students as defined in [§ 5-202] § 5-201 of this article qualify for a free lunch under the National School Lunch Program.~~

~~8-309.~~

~~(a) (2) Each county governing body shall include a child sent to the Maryland School for the Blind under paragraph (1) of this subsection in the full-time equivalent enrollment used for calculating the required local funds appropriated under [§ 5-202(d)] § 5-235 of this article.~~

~~8-313.~~

~~(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

~~(5) "Target per pupil foundation amount" means the figure calculated for each fiscal year by the Department in accordance with [§ 5-202] § 5-201 of this article.~~

~~8-3A-09.~~

~~(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

~~(4) "Target per pupil foundation amount" means the figure calculated for each fiscal year by the Department in accordance with [§ 5-202] § 5-201 of this article.~~

~~§ 507.~~

~~(b) A county board shall reimburse the Department of Juvenile Services or the Department of Human Services the amount of the basic cost calculated under subsection (a) of this section for each child who was domiciled in the county prior to the placement if:~~

~~(3) The child was included in the full-time equivalent enrollment of the county as calculated under [§ 5-202] § 5-201 of this article.~~

~~§ 700.~~

~~(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

~~(2) "Cost per pupil" means the amount of money spent by a county board for the operating expenses of public education in the county from county and State sources divided by the full-time equivalent enrollment of the county as defined in [§ 5-202(a)] § 5-201 of this article.~~

~~(3) "State sources" means funds provided to a county board in accordance with [§§ 5-202, 5-207, 5-208, 5-209, and 5-210] §§ 5-213, 5-214, 5-216, 5-218, 5-222, 5-224, AND 5-225 of this article.~~

~~(b) Students participating in a program shall be included in the enrollment of the county in which the student is domiciled for the purposes of calculating State aid under [§§ 5-202, 5-207, 5-208, 5-209, and 5-210] §§ 5-213, 5-214, 5-216, 5-218, 5-222, 5-224, AND 5-225 of this article.~~

~~(c) (1) To support the cost of instructional programming for a program, each county board shall pay to the Department an amount equal to 85% of the cost per pupil for each student who participates in a program but is domiciled in the county.~~

~~(2) Each county governing body shall include a student participating in a program in the full-time equivalent enrollment used for calculating the required local funds appropriated under [§ 5-202(d)] § 5-235 of this article.~~

~~(d) The Department shall disburse the funds received in accordance with this section to the program.~~

~~§ 710.~~

~~(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

~~(4) "Per pupil foundation amount" means the figure calculated for each fiscal year by the Department in accordance with [§ 5-202] § 5-201 of this article.~~

9.5–1002.

(a) A family support center shall be known as a “Patty Center”.

(b) A family support center shall provide parents and their children with a hospitable and constructive environment and services that:

- (1) Improve parenting skills;
- (2) Develop the family as a functioning unit; and
- (3) Promote the growth and development of their children.

(c) (1) (i) For fiscal year 2021, the State shall provide funding for six additional centers.

(ii) For each of fiscal years 2022 through 2029, the State shall provide funding for three additional centers per fiscal year.

(2) The Governor shall appropriate in each of fiscal years 2021 through 2030 \$330,000 for each additional center required under this subsection.

(d) The Department shall select the location for the centers funded under subsection (c) of this section.

(E) (1) A FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER MAY RECEIVE MULTIYEAR FUNDING.

(2) IF A FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER RECEIVES MULTIYEAR FUNDING, FUNDING MAY BE USED FOR PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE FIRST YEAR OF FUNDING FOR THE FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER.

~~11–105.~~

~~(i) (6) The amount of the grant shall be a percentage of total design and construction costs, including site acquisition and development costs, as follows:~~

~~(i) For a regional community college established under § 16–202 of this article, 75 percent; or~~

~~(ii) For a public junior or community college that is not a regional community college, the greater of:~~

~~1. A percentage equal to that percentage of the foundation program that the State pays to the petitioning jurisdiction under [§ 5–202(b)] § 5–213 of this article up to a maximum of 70 percent; or~~

~~2. 50 percent.~~

~~15-101.~~

~~(b) (1) Each public institution of higher education may accept, for special admission any student who has:~~

~~(i) Completed the seventh grade; and~~

~~(ii) A scholastic aptitude test combined score of 1,200 or an equivalent score on a nationally accepted college entrance examination.~~

~~(2) This subsection does not affect the State or local share of aid provided [pursuant to § 5-202] UNDER TITLE 5, SUBTITLE 2 of this article to the secondary school in which the student is enrolled.~~

~~16-305.~~

~~(b) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated:~~

~~(2) "Assessed valuation of real property" means assessed valuation of real property as determined for purposes of the State aid calculated under [§ 5-202] § 5-201 of this article.~~

~~18-1501.~~

~~(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated:~~

~~(B) "EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR" MEANS AN EMPLOYEE AT AN ELIGIBLE PREKINDERGARTEN PROVIDER AS DEFINED UNDER § 7-1A-01 OF THIS ARTICLE WHO:~~

~~(1) IS A TEACHER HOLDING, AT A MINIMUM:~~

~~(i) STATE CERTIFICATION FOR TEACHING IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION; OR~~

~~(ii) A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN ANY FIELD AND WHO IS PURSUING RESIDENCY THROUGH THE MARYLAND APPROVED ALTERNATIVE PREPARATION PROGRAM, WHICH INCLUDES EARLY CHILDHOOD COURSEWORK, CLINICAL PRACTICE, AND EVIDENCE OF PEDAGOGICAL CONTENT KNOWLEDGE; OR~~

~~(2) IS A TEACHING ASSISTANT HOLDING, AT A MINIMUM:~~

~~(i) A CHILD DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE CERTIFICATE; OR~~

~~(H) AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE.~~

~~[(b)](C) (1) "Eligible field of employment" means, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, employment in the State by an organization, institution, association, society, or corporation that is exempt from taxation under § 501(c)(3) or (4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.~~

~~(2) "Eligible field of employment" includes employment by the State or any local government in the State, but does not include being employed as a judicial clerk in any court.~~

~~(3) "ELIGIBLE FIELD OF EMPLOYMENT" MEANS, FOR AN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR, EMPLOYMENT AT AN ELIGIBLE PREKINDERGARTEN PROVIDER, AS DEFINED IN § 7-1A-01 OF THIS ARTICLE, THAT RECEIVES FUNDING UNDER § 7-101.2 OF THIS ARTICLE.~~

~~[(e)](D) "Higher education loan" means any loan for undergraduate or graduate study that is obtained for tuition, educational expenses, or living expenses from:~~

~~(1) A college or university, government, or commercial source; or~~

~~(2) An organization, institution, association, society, or corporation that is exempt from taxation under § 501(c)(3) or (4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.~~

~~[(d)](E) (1) "Mental health professional" means an individual who provides mental health services in public schools and is employed by:~~

~~(i) A county school system; or~~

~~(ii) A local health department to provide school health services through an agreement with a county board.~~

~~(2) "Mental health professional" includes a school psychologist, resource psychologist, psychologist coordinator, social worker, social worker supervisor, school counselor, or mental health coordinator.~~

~~[(e)](F) "Program" means the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program.~~

~~18-1502.~~

~~(a) There is a program of loan assistance repayment known as the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program in the State.~~

~~(b) The Office of Student Financial Assistance shall assist in the repayment of the amount of any higher education loan owed by an individual who:~~

~~(1) (i) Receives a graduate, professional, or undergraduate degree from:~~

~~1. A college or university in the State of Maryland;~~

~~2. A school of law; or~~

~~3. For a mental health professional, any accredited college or university; or~~

~~(ii) Receives a Resident Teacher Certificate (RTC) from the Department after completing an alternative teaching preparation program approved by the State Superintendent;~~

~~(2) Obtains eligible employment;~~

~~(3) Receives an income that is less than the maximum eligible total income levels established by the Office, including any additional sources of income; and~~

~~(4) Satisfies any other criteria established by the Office.~~

~~(c) Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, the Office shall assist in the repayment of the amount of any higher education loan owed by [a]:~~

~~(1) [Public] A PUBLIC school teacher in the State who:~~

~~(i) Has taught in Maryland for at least 2 years:~~

~~1. In science, technology, engineering, fine arts, or math subjects;~~

~~2. In a school in which at least the following percentages of the students are enrolled in the free and reduced price lunch program in the State:~~

~~A. 75% through June 30, 2025; and~~

~~B. 55% beginning July 1, 2025; or~~

~~3. In a school that:~~

~~A. Had Title I status during the 2018–2019 school year;~~

~~B. Lost Title I status after the 2018–2019 school year; and~~

~~€. Participates in the United States Department of Agriculture Community Eligibility Provision; and~~

~~(ii) Has received a performance evaluation rating for the most recent year available in the county in which the teacher taught; [or]~~

~~(2) [Mental] A MENTAL health professional who has provided mental health services in a public school for at least 2 years as an employee of:~~

~~(i) A county school system; or~~

~~(ii) A local health department through an agreement with a county board; OR~~

~~(3) AN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR WHO IS EMPLOYED FOR AT LEAST 2 YEARS BY AN ELIGIBLE PREKINDERGARTEN PROVIDER, AS DEFINED IN § 7-1A-01 OF THIS ARTICLE, THAT RECEIVES FUNDING UNDER § 7-101.2 OF THIS ARTICLE.~~

~~(d) (1) A grant awarded under subsection (c) of this section shall be known as the Nancy Grasmick [Public] School Professional Award.~~

~~(2) A recipient of a Nancy Grasmick [Public] School Professional Award shall be known as a Nancy Grasmick [Public] School Professional Scholar.~~

~~(e) An applicant for assistance in the repayment of a commercial loan shall demonstrate to the Office that the commercial loan was used for tuition, educational expenses, or living expenses for graduate or undergraduate study.~~

~~(f) Assistance in the repayment of a loan from an entity set forth in § 18-1501(c)(2) of this subtitle shall require the approval of the Office.~~

~~(g) Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, the Office shall assist in the repayment of the amount of any higher education loan owed by a licensed clinical alcohol and drug counselor, a licensed clinical marriage and family therapy counselor, or a licensed clinical professional counselor whose practice is located in a high-need geographic area of the State as determined by the Maryland Department of Health.~~

~~18-1503.~~

~~(a) The Office of Student Financial Assistance shall adopt regulations to establish:~~

~~(1) The maximum starting income for eligibility in the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program;~~

~~(2) The maximum total income for eligibility in the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program, including any additional sources of income;~~

~~(3) That priority for participation in the Program shall be given to an individual who:~~

~~(i) Graduated from an institution of higher education in the last 3 years;~~

~~(ii) Is a resident of the State;~~

~~(iii) Is employed on a full-time basis; and~~

~~(iv) 1. Provides, as the principal part of the individual's employment, legal services to low-income residents in the State who cannot afford legal services, nursing services in nursing shortage areas in the State as defined in § 18-802 of this title, or other services in an eligible field of employment in which there is a shortage of qualified practitioners to low-income or underserved residents or areas of the State; or~~

~~2. For teacher [and], mental health professional, AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR applicants only, qualifies for a Nancy Grasmick [Public] School Professional Award;~~

~~(4) A limit on the total amount of assistance provided by the Office of Student Financial Assistance in repaying the loan of an eligible individual, based on the individual's total income and outstanding higher education loan balance;~~

~~(5) A procedure and schedule for the monthly or annual payment of the amount of loan assistance provided by the Office of Student Financial Assistance to the eligible individual, as appropriate to assist an eligible individual in meeting loan forgiveness program requirements;~~

~~(6) A requirement that an eligible individual apply to federal loan forgiveness programs for which the individual may qualify;~~

~~(7) A requirement that an eligible individual notify the Office of Student Financial Assistance if the individual receives other loan repayment assistance; and~~

~~(8) An annual review of the eligibility of each individual participating in the Program.~~

~~(b) The Office of Student Financial Assistance shall adopt any other regulations necessary to implement this subtitle.~~

(a) (1) On or before ~~[December 1, 2022]~~ **JUNE 1, 2024**, the CTE Committee shall establish, for each school year between the 2023–2024 school year and the 2030–2031 school year, inclusive, statewide goals that reach 45% by the 2030–2031 school year, for the percentage of high school students who, prior to graduation, complete the high school level of a registered apprenticeship or ~~an~~ **ANOTHER** industry–recognized occupational credential.

(2) To the extent practicable, the CTE Committee shall ensure that the largest number of students achieve the requirement of this subsection by completing a high school level of a registered apprenticeship program approved by the Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning within the Maryland Department of Labor.

(b) On or before December 1 each year, beginning in ~~[2022]~~ **2024**, the CTE Committee shall report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly, and the Accountability and Implementation Board on the progress, by high school, toward attaining the goals established by the CTE Committee in accordance with subsection (a) of this section.

~~Article Tax Property~~

~~7-512.~~

~~(e) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the assessment of any property exempted under this section shall be included in the assessable base of Cecil County for the purpose of computing any State aid to education under ~~[§ 5-202]~~ **§ 5-201** of the Education Article or other payments of State aid to the county that by law are based on the assessment of property.~~

~~9-205.~~

~~(i) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, to the extent that a county grants a tax credit under this section for manufacturing personal property described in § 7-225 of this article, the personal property may not be treated as taxable personal property for the purpose of computing any payments of State aid to education under ~~[§ 5-202]~~ **§ 5-201** of the Education Article or other payments of State aid to counties or municipal corporations that by law are based on the assessment of property.~~

~~9-230.~~

~~(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, to the extent that a county grants a personal property tax credit for the machinery and equipment of a new electricity generation facility or the machinery and equipment of an existing electricity generation facility, the machinery and equipment may not be treated as taxable personal property for the purpose of computing any payments of State aid to education under ~~[§ 5-202]~~ **§ 5-201**~~

~~of the Education Article or other payments of State aid to counties or municipal corporations that by law are based on the assessment of property.~~

~~9-302.~~

~~(i) (2) To the extent that a tax credit or exemption is granted under this subsection for machinery and equipment used in manufacturing, assembling, processing, or refining products for sale, the property may not be treated as taxable personal property for the purpose of computing any payments of State aid to education under ~~[\S 5-202] § 5-201~~ of the Education Article or other payments of State aid to counties or municipal corporations that by law are based on the assessment of property.~~

~~(3) To the extent that a tax credit or exemption is granted under this subsection for machinery and equipment that is used in the generation of electricity for a facility that started generating electricity prior to June 1, 2000, the property may not be treated as taxable personal property for the purpose of computing any payments of State aid to education under ~~[\S 5-202] § 5-201~~ of the Education Article or other payments of State aid to counties or municipal corporations that by law are based on the assessment of property.~~

Chapter 2 of the Acts of the 2007 Special Session

[SECTION 13. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) The Geographic Cost of Education Index (GCEI) Adjustment established in § 5-202(f) of the Education Article shall be updated every 3 years beginning September 2009 using the most current data available and the same methodology set forth in the report entitled “Adjusting for Geographic Differences in the Cost of Education Provision in Maryland (December 31, 2003).”

(b) The State Department of Education shall:

(1) submit the proposed updated GCEI Adjustment to the Governor and General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, by September 1 of the year in which it is updated; and

(2) recommend legislation in the first legislative session following submission of the updated GCEI Adjustment that codifies the adjustment and requires that the GCEI adjustment be used to adjust State aid in the fiscal year that begins on July 1 of that year.]

Chapter 36 of the Acts of 2021

SECTION 16. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

~~(d) In the independent evaluation and report to be submitted to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before [December 1, 2024] JANUARY 15, 2027, as required under § 5-410(d)(1) of the Education Article as enacted by this Act, the Accountability and Implementation Board shall report whether the Blueprint for Maryland's Future is being implemented as intended and is achieving expected outcomes.~~

~~(e) (1) If the Accountability and Implementation Board does not report that the Blueprint for Maryland's Future is being implemented as intended and is achieving expected outcomes in accordance with subsection (d) of this section, then:~~

~~(i) notwithstanding any other provision of law, per pupil increases in major education aid required under this Act for fiscal year [2026] 2028 and each year thereafter shall be limited to the rate of inflation as defined in § 5-201(h) of the Education Article as enacted by this Act;~~

~~(ii) notwithstanding any other provision of law, any additional funding increases required under this Act shall be limited to the rate of inflation as defined in § 5-201(h) of the Education Article as enacted by this Act; and~~

~~(iii) subject to subsection (f) of this section and notwithstanding any other provision of law, local school systems are not required to meet the additional requirements of this Act that begin in fiscal year [2026] 2028 and each fiscal year thereafter.~~

~~(2) If the Accountability and Implementation Board reports that the Blueprint for Maryland's Future is not being implemented as intended and is not achieving expected outcomes, it is the intent of the General Assembly that the General Assembly shall take immediate action to adjust the formula and policies under this Act to achieve the goals of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future in order to fulfill the General Assembly's commitment to provide the resources, supports, and funding to fully implement the Blueprint for Maryland's Future.~~

~~(f) A local school system shall continue to fund the requirements of this Act in effect prior to fiscal year [2026] 2028.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That ~~this Act shall take effect June 1, 2024,~~ notwithstanding the provisions of § 7-210(a)(2) of the Education Article, for the 2024-2025 school year only, administration of the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment to all kindergartners may be completed after October 10 and the results may be made available more than 45 days after the administration has been completed.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2024.

Approved by the Governor, April 25, 2024.