

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2024 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader - Revised**

Senate Bill 101

(Senator McCray)

Budget and Taxation

Rules and Executive Nominations

**University of Baltimore - Schaefer Center for Public Policy - Funding and Staffing Requirement**

This bill requires the Governor, for fiscal 2025 through 2027, to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$1.5 million to the Schaefer Center for Public Policy at the University of Baltimore (UBalt). The bill also adds the Schaefer Center as the primary entity required to staff the Apprenticeship 2030 Commission and delays the reporting deadline for the Apprenticeship 2030 Commission by a year to December 1, 2024. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.**

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures increase by \$1.525 million in FY 2025 and by \$1.5 million in FY 2026 and 2027. The FY 2025 budget, as passed by the General Assembly, includes \$1.525 million in general funds for the Schaefer Center, of which \$25,000 is for one-time staffing of the Apprenticeship 2030 Commission. Otherwise, the three-year funding of \$1.5 million a year is assumed to reflect new funding for the Schaefer Center. As discussed below, additional funding may be needed in the out-years. University System of Maryland higher education revenues and expenditures increase correspondingly. **This bill establishes a mandated appropriation for FY 2026 and 2027.**

| (\$ in thousands) | FY 2025   | FY 2026   | FY 2027   | FY 2028 | FY 2029 |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|
| Higher Ed Rev.    | \$1,525   | \$1,500   | \$1,500   | -       | -       |
| GF Expenditure    | \$1,525   | \$1,500   | \$1,500   | -       | -       |
| Higher Ed Exp.    | \$1,525   | \$1,500   | \$1,500   | -       | -       |
| Net Effect        | (\$1,525) | (\$1,500) | (\$1,500) | (\$-)   | (\$-)   |

*Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate increase; (-) = indeterminate decrease*

**Local Effect:** Local agencies may benefit from additional support for public-sector management training and placement of interns.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

## Analysis

**Current Law:** The Schaefer Center for Public Policy does not receive regular dedicated State funding in statute; however, fiscal 2023 and 2024 center operations were funded through a combination of general fund and supplemental appropriations.

### *Apprenticeship 2030 Commission*

Chapter 168 of 2023 established the Apprenticeship 2030 Commission. The purpose of the commission is to examine and make recommendations to reduce skill shortages in high-demand occupations and provide affordable training for career pathways for young people by:

- expanding registered apprenticeships in industry sectors with skill shortages;
- growing the number of registered apprentices to at least 60,000 by 2030; and
- reaching the Blueprint for Maryland's Future goal for 45% of high school graduates completing the high school level of a registered apprenticeship.

The Department of Legislative Services (DLS), with the assistance of staff from the State agencies represented on the commission, must provide staff for the commission. By December 1, 2023, the commission must report its finding and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly.

The Apprenticeship 2030 Commission met four times in 2023 and published the required report, titled the [\*Interim Report of the Apprenticeship 2030 Commission\*](#).

**State Fiscal Effect:** The bill requires \$1.5 million in funding for the Schaefer Center over a three-year period. Although discretionary for fiscal 2025, the fiscal 2025 budget, as passed by the General Assembly, includes full funding, which is not contingent on this bill. Funding in fiscal 2026 and 2027 is mandated. Even though the Schaefer Center had been expected to receive \$400,000 in fiscal 2025, at UBalt's discretion (consistent with funding provided to it in fiscal 2023 and 2024), this analysis assumes UBalt expends those monies – likely for other purposes given the funding in the budget. Accordingly, there is no offset from the \$1.5 million provided under the bill and the funding under current practice.

In addition, the Schaefer Center assumes primary responsibility for staffing the Apprenticeship 2030 Commission. Accordingly, other agencies (including DLS) may benefit from a minimal redirection of resources. Nevertheless, they must all continue to be involved in the staffing effort. This analysis assumes that, given the new staffing requirement and the need to prepare a report under the bill, costs increase minimally for the Schaefer Center. Even so, any such costs total, at most, \$25,000 for fiscal 2025 only.

and are fully covered by the funding for this purpose included in the fiscal 2025 budget as passed by the General Assembly.

Thus, general fund expenditures increase by \$1.525 million in fiscal 2025 and \$1.5 million in fiscal 2026 and 2027 under the bill. UBalt higher education revenues and expenditures increase correspondingly.

DLS also advises that additional funding for the Schaefer Center may be necessary in the out-years – through a direct general fund appropriation and/or more support from UBalt. According to the center, the funding under the bill is to support staff salaries and benefits (for instructors, faculty researchers, fellows, graduate and doctoral students, and NextGen assistant interns), operating expenses, travel and training expenses, contractual services (e.g., administrative software, advertising, and association dues), and equipment. Accordingly, at least a portion of those expenditures may be ongoing.

To the extent that such funding results in additional support for public-sector management training and placement of more interns, other State agencies may benefit. For example, the center advises that, from December 2022 through December 2023, the program placed 125 students in paid internships in 64 positions at 44 host sites – which included State, county, and municipal government agencies as well as nonprofit organizations.

**Additional Comments:** The bill technically delays the existing reporting requirement for the Apprenticeship 2030 Commission by one year. However, as the reporting requirement has already been met, the bill is actually establishing a final reporting requirement – which is consistent with the commission titling its report as an interim report and the recommendations therein related to completing additional work.

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### **Additional Information**

**Recent Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

**Designated Cross File:** HB 348 (Delegate Smith) - Appropriations.

**Information Source(s):** University System of Maryland; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:**  
km/ljm

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Third Reader - April 8, 2024

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