

HOUSE BILL 1090

O1, F2

5lr3000

By: **Delegate Solomon**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2025

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Food Supplement Benefits – Students – Eligibility**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Human Services to provide food
4 supplement benefits to certain students enrolled in an institution of higher education
5 in the State who meet certain work study requirements; requiring the Maryland
6 Higher Education Commission to add a certain question to the Maryland College Aid
7 Processing System application; and generally relating to food supplement benefits
8 for students.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Human Services
11 Section 5–502
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

14 BY adding to
15 Article – Human Services
16 Section 5–503.1
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – Human Services**

22 5–502.

23 Except as provided in [**§ 5–503**] **§§ 5–503 AND 5–503.1** of this subtitle, if any
24 provision of this subtitle conflicts with any federal law, the federal law shall prevail.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **5-503.1.**

2 (A) **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE FOOD SUPPLEMENT BENEFITS TO A**
3 **STUDENT WHO:**

4 (1) **IS A RESIDENT OF THE STATE;**

5 (2) **IS ENROLLED IN AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE**
6 **STATE;**

7 (3) **IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN A STATE- OR FEDERALLY**
8 **FINANCED WORK STUDY PROGRAM FOR AT LEAST ONE SEMESTER DURING AN**
9 **ACADEMIC YEAR; AND**

10 (4) **PARTICIPATES IN A WORK STUDY PROGRAM FOR AN AVERAGE OF**
11 **20 HOURS PER WEEK THROUGHOUT A SEMESTER.**

12 (B) **A STUDENT ELIGIBLE FOR FOOD SUPPLEMENT BENEFITS UNDER**
13 **SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL REMAIN ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS FOR AN**
14 **ENTIRE ACADEMIC YEAR REGARDLESS OF THE LENGTH OF ANY BREAK DURING THE**
15 **ACADEMIC YEAR.**

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

17 (a) On or before August 1, 2025, the Maryland Higher Education Commission
18 shall add to the Maryland College Aid Processing System application a question regarding
19 whether, in the previous 6 months, the applicant has missed a meal because of an inability
20 to afford the meal.

21 (b) The Maryland Higher Education Commission may not require a student to
22 answer the question required under subsection (a) of this section in the affirmative in order
23 for the student to be eligible for financial aid.

24 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
25 1, 2025.