

SENATE BILL 82

F2, F1
SB 455/24 – EEE

(PRE-FILED)

5lr1593

By: **Senator A. Washington**

Requested: October 31, 2024

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **College Preparatory Programs and College Admissions Applications – Fees –**
3 **Prohibition**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a county board of education from charging fees to certain
5 students related to enrollment in or completion of certain college preparatory
6 programs; prohibiting public institutions of higher education from charging certain
7 high school graduates any fees associated with certain college admissions
8 applications; and generally relating to fees for college preparatory programs and
9 college applications.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – Education
12 Section 7–205.1(g)(1) and 15–101
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
16 Article – Education
17 Section 7–205.1(g)(4)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

20 BY adding to
21 Article – Education
22 Section 7–213
23 Annotated Code of Maryland
24 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



Article – Education

7–205.1.

(g) (1) Subject to paragraph (4) of this subsection[, beginning in the 2023–2024 school year] **AND § 7–213 OF THIS SUBTITLE**, 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.

1 (4) To phase in expansion of dual enrollment to maximize the number of
2 students who can earn the maximum number of dual enrollment credits consistent with
3 the phased increases in school funding, for fiscal years 2025 through 2027, the State Board
4 and the Accountability and Implementation Board, in consultation with each local school
5 system, may limit the number and types of courses that a student dually enrolled at the
6 student's public high school and at an institution of higher education may enroll in during
7 the school year at the institution of higher education as part of the post-CCR pathway in
8 accordance with paragraph (1) of this subsection and § 15-127 of this article.

9 **7-213.**

10 **A COUNTY BOARD MAY NOT CHARGE A STUDENT OR A STUDENT'S PARENTS**
11 **ANY FEES RELATED TO THE ENROLLMENT IN OR COMPLETION OF:**

12 **(1) THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA PROGRAM; OR**

13 **(2) A COMPARABLE PROGRAM CONSISTING OF ADVANCED**
14 **PLACEMENT COURSES SPECIFIED BY THE COLLEGE BOARD.**

15 15-101.

16 (a) Each public institution of higher education shall accept for admission any
17 graduate of an approved public high school:

18 (1) Who is certified by [his] THE high school principal, based on standards
19 of the State Board of Education, as qualified to pursue a course of study at the institution;
20 or

21 (2) Who meets the admission standards of the institution.

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

24 (i) Completed the seventh grade; and

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

27 (2) This subsection does not affect the State or local share of aid provided
28 pursuant to § 5-202 of this article to the secondary school in which the student is enrolled.

29 **(C) A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION MAY NOT CHARGE A**
30 **GRADUATE OF AN APPROVED PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL IN THE STATE ANY FEES**
31 **ASSOCIATED WITH AN APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION AT THE INSTITUTION.**

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
2 1, 2025.