SENATE BILL 456

F2, J2, J5 CF HB 265

By: Senator McKay and Augustine Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2025 Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment and Einenes
Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment and Finance Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: February 25, 2025
CHAPTER
AN ACT concerning
Dental Services – Qualification for Maryland Dent–Care Program and Study or Use of Dental Online Credentialing
FOR the purpose of altering the eligibility criteria for Higher Education Loan Assistant Grants under the Maryland Dent–Care Program; requiring the Maryland Insurance Administration to submit a report to certain committees of the General Assembly of the use of online credentialing systems by dental insurance carriers; and generally relating to dental services.
BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments, Article – Education Section 18–101(a) and (c) Annotated Code of Maryland (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Education Section 18–2404, 18–2405, and 18–2406 Annotated Code of Maryland (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLANI That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

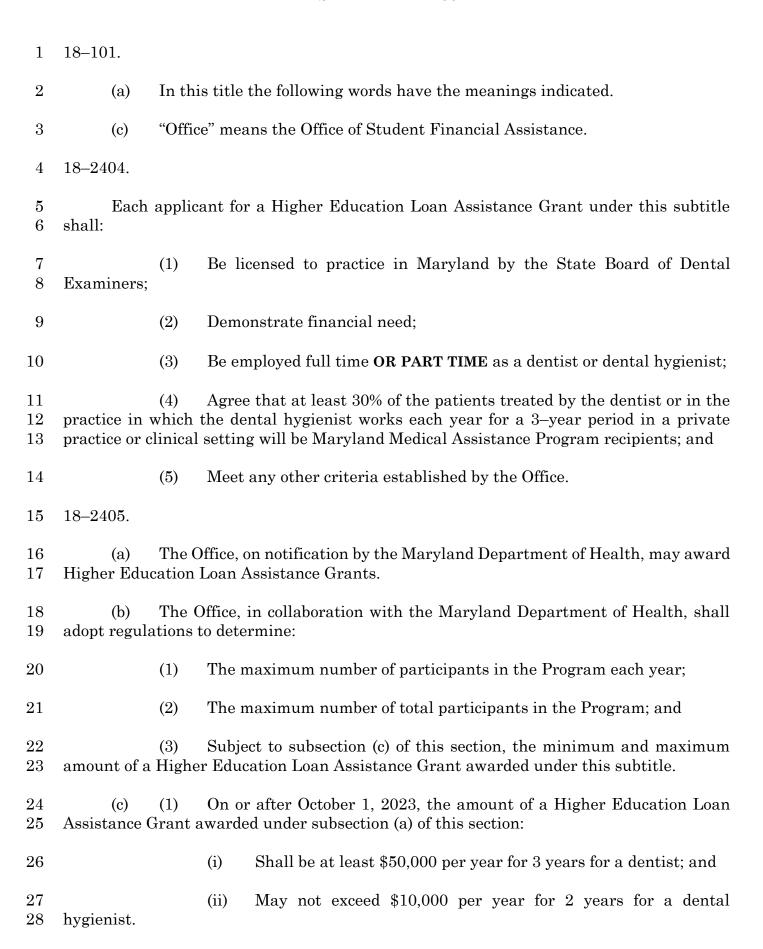
<u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to bill.

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Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Article - Education





- 1 (2) The Office, in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Health, 2 shall periodically evaluate the minimum and maximum grant amounts determined under 3 subsection (b)(3) of this section.
- 4 (3) THE OFFICE, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE MARYLAND 5 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, SHALL ESTABLISH PRORATED HIGHER EDUCATION 6 LOAN ASSISTANCE GRANT AMOUNTS FOR PART-TIME DENTISTS AND PART-TIME 7 DENTAL HYGIENISTS.
- 8 18-2406.
- 9 Each recipient of a Higher Education Loan Assistance Grant under this subtitle may 10 hold the grant for up to 3 years if the recipient:
- 11 (1) Continues to be employed full time **OR PART TIME** as a dentist or dental hygienist; and
- 13 (2) Continues to treat Maryland Medical Assistance Program recipients as 14 at least 30% of all patients treated:
- 15 (i) By the dentist in a private practice or clinical setting authorized 16 under the Program; or
- 17 (ii) In the private practice or clinical setting in which the dental 18 hygienist works.
- 19 <u>SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before December 1,</u> 20 2025, the Maryland Insurance Administration shall:
- 21 (1) study whether dental insurance carriers are using an online 22 credentialing system, as defined in § 15–112 of the Insurance Article, to process uniform 23 credentialing forms; and
- 24 (2) report its findings and recommendations to the Senate Finance
 25 Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee, in accordance
 26 with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, including any recommendations to expand
 27 utilization of an online credentialing system to process uniform credentialing forms among
 28 dental insurance carriers.
- SECTION $\frac{3}{2}$. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 30 July 1, 2025.