

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2025 Session

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

House Bill 1090

(Delegate Solomon)

Appropriations

Education, Energy, and the Environment

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**Maryland Higher Education Commission - Maryland College Aid Processing System - Applications**

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This bill requires, by August 1, 2025, the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) to add to the Maryland College Aid Processing System (MDCAPS) application a question regarding whether, in the previous six months, the applicant has missed a meal because of an inability to afford the meal. MHEC may not require a student to answer the question in the affirmative in order for the student to be eligible for financial aid. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.**

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** MHEC general fund expenditures increase by \$6,000 in FY 2026 only for administrative costs to update MDCAPS. Revenues are not affected.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** MHEC is responsible for overseeing higher education in the State. The Office of Student Financial Assistance within MHEC administers Statewide financial aid programs (including grants, scholarships and tuition waivers) for Maryland residents attending two- or four-year public or private colleges or universities in the State. MDCAPS is MHEC's financial aid system that streamlines the processing of State scholarship applications and allocation of funds.

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## **Additional Information**

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

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland Higher Education Commission; Department of Budget and Management; Department of Human Services; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 16, 2025  
km/jkb Third Reader - March 25, 2025  
Revised - Amendment(s) - March 25, 2025

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