SENATE BILL 101

F2 6lr1046
(PRE–FILED) CF HB 1505

By: ~~Senator Bailey~~ **Senators Bailey, Attar, Brooks, Carozza, and Watson**
Requested: October 1, 2025
Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings and Education, Energy, and the Environment

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: February 25, 2026

CHAPTER _____

AN ACT concerning

Higher Education – Loan Repayment and Scholarships for Correctional Officers

FOR the purpose of adding correctional officers as eligible recipients in the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers and Probation Agents and the Maryland Police Officers and Probation Agents Scholarship Program; and generally relating to loan repayment and scholarships for correctional officers.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Education
Section 18–3701 and 18–3702 to be under the amended subtitle "Subtitle 37. Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers, Probation Agents, and Correctional Officers"; and 18–3801 through 18–3804 and 18–3807 to be under the amended subtitle "Subtitle 38. Maryland Police Officers, Probation Agents, and Correctional Officers Scholarship Program"
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

Subtitle 37. Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers **[**and**]**, Probation Agents**, AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS**.

EXPLANATION: **CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**
[Brackets**]** indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Underlining indicates amendments to bill.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

18–3701.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(B) "CORRECTIONAL OFFICER" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 8–201 OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES ARTICLE.

[(b)**] (C)** "Eligible employment" means to work as:

(1) A police officer **OR CORRECTIONAL OFFICER** in the State for at least 2 years; or

(2) A parole and probation agent, supervisor, or regional director in the State for at least 2 years.

[(c)**] (D)** "Higher education loan" means a loan that is obtained for tuition for undergraduate study.

[(d)**] (E)** "Police officer" has the meaning stated in § 3–201 of the Public Safety Article.

[(e)**] (F)** "Probation agent" means an individual serving as a parole and probation agent, supervisor, or regional administrator for the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

[(f)**] (G)** "Program" means the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers **[**and**],** Probation Agents**, AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS**.

18–3702.

(a) There is a Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers **[**and**],** Probation Agents**, AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS** in the State.

(b) The Office shall distribute funds from the Program to assist in the repayment of a higher education loan owed by a police officer **[**or**],** probation agent**, OR CORRECTIONAL OFFICER** who:

(1) Receives a graduate, professional, or undergraduate degree from a public college or university in the State;

(2) Obtains eligible employment; and

(3) Satisfies any other criteria established by the Office.

Subtitle 38. Maryland Police Officers [and], Probation Agents**, AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS** Scholarship Program.

18–3801.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(B) "CORRECTIONAL OFFICER" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 8–201 OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES ARTICLE.

[(b)] **(C)** "Eligible institution" means:

(1) A public senior higher education institution in the State; or

(2) A community college in the State.

[(c)] **(D)** "Police officer" has the meaning stated in § 3–201 of the Public Safety Article.

[(d)] **(E)** "Probation agent" means an individual serving as a parole and probation agent, supervisor, or regional administrator for the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

[(e)] **(F)** "Service obligation" means to work as a police officer [or], probation agent**, OR CORRECTIONAL OFFICER** in the State not less than 5 years during the 8–year period after graduation.

18–3802.

(a) There is a Maryland Police Officers [and], Probation Agents**, AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS** Scholarship Program.

(b) The purpose of the program is to provide tuition assistance for students who are:

(1) Attending an eligible institution and enrolled in a degree program that would further the student's intent to become a police officer [or], probation agent**, OR CORRECTIONAL OFFICER** after graduation; or

(2) Employed as a police officer [or], probation agent, **OR CORRECTIONAL OFFICER,** attending an eligible institution, and enrolled in a degree program that would further the police officer's [or], probation officer's**, OR CORRECTIONAL OFFICER'S** career.

(c) The Office shall publicize the availability of the Maryland Police Officers [and], Probation Agents**, AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS** Scholarship.

18–3803.

(a) Each year, the Office shall select eligible students and offer a scholarship to each student selected to be used at an eligible institution of the student's choice.

(b) A recipient of the Maryland Police Officers **[**and**],** Probation Agents**, AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS** Scholarship shall:

(1) Be a Maryland resident or have graduated from a Maryland high school;

(2) Be accepted for admission or currently enrolled at an eligible institution as a full–time or part–time undergraduate or graduate student pursuing a course of study or program that would further the recipient's career;

(3) Sign a letter of intent to perform the service obligation on completion of the recipient's required studies; and

(4) Satisfy any additional criteria the Commission may establish.

(c) A current police officer **[**or**],** probation agent**, OR CORRECTIONAL OFFICER** shall be eligible for a Maryland Police Officers **[**and**],** Probation Agents**, AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS** Scholarship if they meet the eligibility criteria under subsection (b) of this section.

18–3804.

The recipient of a Maryland Police Officers **[**and**],** Probation Agents**, AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS** Scholarship shall repay the Commission the funds received as set forth in § 18–112 of this title if the recipient does not:

(1) Satisfy the degree requirements of the eligible course of study or program or fulfill other requirements as provided in this subtitle; or

(2) Perform the service obligation to work as a police officer **[**or**],** probation agent**, OR CORRECTIONAL OFFICER** for at least 5 years during the 8–year period after graduation.

18–3807.

The Office shall:

(1) Publicize the availability of Maryland Police Officers **[**and**],** Probation Agents**, AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS** Scholarships; and

(2) To the extent practicable, award scholarships under this subtitle in a manner that reflects ethnic, gender, racial, and geographic diversity.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.