

HOUSE BILL 607

F2

4lr2293
CF SB 1141

By: **Delegate Harris**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2024

Assigned to: Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 23, 2024

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Community Colleges – Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship –**
3 **Requirements**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing that applicants for a Maryland Community College
5 Promise Scholarship are not subject to certain requirements of the scholarship
6 application process if the applicant enrolls in or participates in certain programs or
7 courses; ~~authorizing a community college to require certain applicants for a~~
8 ~~Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship to complete an application for~~
9 ~~admission to the community college;~~ and generally relating to Maryland Community
10 College Promise Scholarships.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Education
13 Section 18–3603
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Education**

19 18–3603.

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.



1 (a) (1) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, a student may
2 apply annually to a Maryland community college located in the county or, in the case of a
3 regional community college, in the region where the applicant lives to receive a Maryland
4 Community College Promise Scholarship award.

5 (ii) If the community college located in the county or region where
6 the applicant lives does not offer the degree or certification program in which the applicant
7 wants to enroll, the student may apply to the community college outside the county or, in
8 the case of a regional community college, outside the region where the applicant lives to
9 receive a Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship award.

10 (2) A community college annually shall select eligible applicants and offer
11 a Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship award to each selected applicant to
12 be used for tuition at the community college.

13 (b) An applicant is eligible for a Maryland Community College Promise
14 Scholarship award if the applicant:

15 (1) ~~{Is} EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C)(4)(I) OF THIS~~
16 ~~SECTION, IS~~ eligible for in-State tuition;

17 (2) Enrolls as a candidate for a vocational certificate, a certificate, or an
18 associate's degree or participates in a registered apprenticeship after graduating from a
19 high school or successfully completing a GED in the State:

20 (i) Except as provided in item (ii) of this item, at the community
21 college located in the county or, in the case of a regional community college, in the region,
22 where the applicant lives; or

23 (ii) At a community college in the State that has an on-campus
24 residential facility for students;

25 (3) Except as provided in subsection (c)(3) **AND (4)(I)** of this section, has
26 earned a cumulative grade point average of:

27 (i) For an initial award, at least 2.3 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent
28 at the end of the first semester or the end of the year of the senior year in high school; or

29 (ii) While enrolled at a community college in the State, at least 2.5
30 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent;

31 (4) Has an annual adjusted gross income of not more than:

32 (i) \$100,000 if the applicant is single or resides in a single-parent
33 household; or

1 (ii) \$150,000 if the applicant is married or resides in a two-parent
2 household;

3 (5) (i) Enrolls in:

4 1. At least 6 credits per semester at the community college;
5 or

6 2. A sequence of credit or noncredit courses that leads to
7 licensure or certification; or

8 (ii) Participates in a registered apprenticeship program; and

9 (6) (i) Timely submits a Free Application for Federal Student Aid
10 (FAFSA) or any other applications for any State or federal student financial aid, other than
11 a student loan, for which the applicant may qualify; or

12 (ii) Is ineligible to submit a FAFSA, qualifies for in-State tuition
13 under § 15–106.8 of this article, and timely submits an application for any State student
14 financial aid, other than a student loan, for which the applicant may qualify.

15 (c) (1) An applicant who receives any other educational grants or scholarships
16 that cover the applicant's full cost of attendance at the community college is ineligible to
17 receive an award under this subtitle.

18 (2) An applicant who has earned a bachelor's degree or an associate's
19 degree is ineligible to receive an award under this subtitle.

20 (3) An applicant who graduated from high school 5 or more years before
21 the date of application is not subject to the grade point average requirements established
22 in subsection (b)(3)(i) of this section for an initial award.

23 **(4) AN APPLICANT WHO ENROLLS IN A NONCREDIT VOCATIONAL**
24 **CERTIFICATE PROGRAM, ENROLLS IN A SEQUENCE OF NONCREDIT COURSES**
25 **LEADING TO LICENSURE OR CERTIFICATION, OR PARTICIPATES IN A REGISTERED**
26 **APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM:**

27 ~~(I) SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR A MARYLAND COMMUNITY~~
28 ~~COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD IF THE APPLICANT IS A RESIDENT OF THE~~
29 ~~STATE OR GRADUATED FROM A HIGH SCHOOL IN THE STATE;~~

30 ~~(H)~~ IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE GRADE POINT AVERAGE
31 REQUIREMENTS IN SUBSECTION (B)(3) OF THIS SECTION; AND

1 ~~(H)~~ (II) IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS IN SUBSECTION
2 (B)(6) OF THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE APPLICANT IS ENROLLING IN A NONCREDIT
3 PROGRAM FOR WHICH A FEDERAL PELL GRANT MAY BE USED; AND

4 ~~(IV) MAY BE REQUIRED BY A COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO~~
5 ~~COMPLETE AN APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION.~~

6 (d) On request the community college shall assist an applicant to submit a FAFSA
7 or any other applications for State or federal student financial aid.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
9 1, 2024.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.