

HOUSE BILL 473

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5lr2099
CF SB 269

By: **Delegate Harris**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2025

Assigned to: Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 22, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship Program – Revisions**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the number of years that a recipient of an award under the
4 Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship Program may hold the award
5 under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the Maryland Community
6 College Promise Scholarship Program.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – Education
9 Section 18–3602(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Education
14 Section 18–3604(c)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Education**

20 18–3602.

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.



(a) There is a program of Maryland Community College Promise Scholarships in the State that are awarded under this subtitle.

18-3604.

(c) (1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, each recipient may hold the award until the earlier of:

(i) 3 years after first enrolling [as]:

1. AS a candidate for a NONCREDIT vocational certificate[, a];

2. IN A SEQUENCE OF CREDIT OR NONCREDIT COURSES LEADING TO LICENSURE OR CERTIFICATION;

3. IN CREDIT OR NONCREDIT COURSES THAT ARE REQUIRED FOR PARTICIPATION IN A REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM;

4. AS A CANDIDATE FOR A certificate[,]; or [an]

5. AS A FULL-TIME CANDIDATE FOR AN associate's degree at a community college in the State; [or]

(ii) 6 YEARS AFTER FIRST ENROLLING AS A PART-TIME CANDIDATE FOR AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE; OR

(III) The date that the individual is awarded an associate's degree.

(2) A community college may extend the duration of an award for an allowable interruption of study if the recipient provides to the community college satisfactory evidence of extenuating circumstances that prevent the recipient from continuous enrollment.

(3) Each recipient may hold the award in accordance with paragraph (1) of this subsection only if the recipient:

(i) Continues to be eligible for in-State tuition;

(ii) 1. Continues to enroll in and complete at least 6 credits per semester, or a sequence of credit or noncredit courses that leads to licensure or certification, or their equivalent, as determined by the community college; or

2. Continues to participate in a registered apprenticeship program;

(iii) Maintains a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent for the requisite credit-bearing coursework for the remainder of the award or, failing to do so, provides to the community college satisfactory evidence of extenuating circumstances;

(iv) Makes satisfactory progress toward a vocational certificate, a certificate, or an associate's degree;

(v) Continues to meet the income limitations under § 18–3603(b)(4) of this subtitle; and

(vi) Continues to timely submit an application under § 18–3603(b)(6) of this subtitle.

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

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.