

Chapter 409

(House Bill 1029)

AN ACT concerning

Clean Energy Jobs – Workforce Development – Scope

FOR the purpose of altering the scope of apprenticeship and training programs that may receive certain support through the Clean Energy Workforce Account from the Strategic Energy Investment Fund for clean energy industry development; ~~defining a certain term~~ requiring certain apprenticeship and training programs to comply with certain rules, regulations, and a certain program; altering the definition of “clean energy industry” by expanding the list of included professions that provide certain products and services; providing that certain funds from the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund designated for a specific purpose be reallocated for the recruitment of certain individuals into certain apprenticeship programs; and generally relating to clean energy industries and workforce development.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 Article – Labor and Employment
 Section 11–708.1(a) and (b)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Labor and Employment
 Section 11–708.1(c)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 Article – State Government
 Section 9–20B–01(a) ~~and (d)~~
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – State Government
 Section 9–20B–01(d) and 9–20B–05(f)(10)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

Article – Labor and Employment

11-708.1.

(a) There is a Clean Energy Workforce Account.

(b) The Account shall be funded from the Strategic Energy Investment Fund in accordance with § 9-20B-05(f)(10), (f-2), and (f-3) of the State Government Article.

(c) (1) **IN THIS SUBSECTION, “CLEAN ENERGY INDUSTRY” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 9-20B-01 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.**

(2) The Account shall be used to provide grants to support workforce development programs that provide:

- (i) pre-apprenticeship jobs training;
- (ii) youth apprenticeship jobs training; and
- (iii) registered apprenticeship jobs training.

[(2)] (3) A pre-apprenticeship jobs training program must:

(i) be designed to prepare individuals to enter and succeed in an apprenticeship program registered by the Maryland Apprenticeship and Training Council;

(ii) include:

1. training and curriculum based on national best practices that prepare individuals with the skills and competencies to enter one or more State-registered or U.S. Department of Labor-registered apprenticeship programs that prepare workers for careers in the clean energy industry;

2. a documented strategy for increasing apprenticeship opportunities for unemployed and underemployed individuals, including:

A. recruitment strategies to bring these individuals into the pre-apprenticeship jobs training program;

B. educational and pre-vocational services to prepare program participants to meet the entry requirements of one or more registered apprenticeship programs;

C. access to appropriate support services to enable program participants to maintain participation in the program; and

D. mechanisms to assist program participants in identifying and applying to registered apprenticeship programs; and

3. rigorous performance and evaluation methods to ensure program effectiveness and improvement; and

(iii) have a documented partnership with at least one registered apprenticeship program described in item (ii)2 of this paragraph.

[(3)] (4) Eligible clean energy industry jobs for a pre-apprenticeship jobs training program include positions in:

- (i) renewable energy;
- (ii) energy efficiency;
- (iii) energy storage;
- (iv) resource conservation; and
- (v) advanced transportation.

[(4)] (5) (i) This paragraph applies to youth apprenticeship jobs training programs and registered apprenticeship jobs training programs supported by the Account under this subsection.

(ii) An apprenticeship sponsor shall receive as a grant from the Account:

1. up to \$150,000 for a program proposal and planning expenses; and

2. \$3,000 for each successfully completed apprenticeship.

(iii) The youth apprenticeship jobs training programs and the registered apprenticeship jobs training programs:

1. SHALL COMPLY WITH:

A. ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP AND YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP STANDARD FOR SPONSORSHIP; AND

B. THE MARYLAND APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING PROGRAM; AND

2. must prepare workers for careers in the **ENERGY EFFICIENCY, GEOTHERMAL**, solar, and wind sectors of the clean energy industry.

(IV) THIS PARAGRAPH MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO ALTER OR AMEND THE DEFINITION OF “YOUTH APPRENTICE” OR “REGISTERED APPRENTICE” AS DEFINED BY THE MARYLAND APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY.

Article – State Government

9–20B–01.

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

(d) “Clean energy industry” means a group of employers and building and trade associations that are associated by their promotion of:

(1) products and services that improve energy efficiency and conservation, including products and services provided by:

(i) electricians;

(ii) heating, ventilation, and air–conditioning installers;

(iii) plumbers; ~~and~~

(iv) energy auditors;

(V) CARPENTERS;

(VI) PILE–DRIVER OPERATORS;

(VII) MILLWRIGHTS;

(VIII) INSULATION WORKERS; AND

(IX) WELL DRILLERS; and

(2) renewable and clean energy resources.

9–20B–05.

(f) The Administration shall use the Fund:

(10) subject to subsections (f-2) and (f-3) of this section, to invest in pre-apprenticeship, youth apprenticeship, and registered apprenticeship programs to establish career paths in the clean energy industry under § 11-708.1 of the Labor and Employment Article, as follows:

(i) ~~\$1,500,000~~ **\$1,250,000** for grants to pre-apprenticeship jobs training programs under ~~【§ 11-708.1(c)(2)】~~ **§ 11-708.1(C)(3)** of the Labor and Employment Article starting in fiscal year 2021 until all amounts are spent; ~~and~~

(ii) ~~\$6,500,000~~ **\$6,000,000** for grants to youth apprenticeship jobs training programs and registered apprenticeship jobs training programs under ~~【§ 11-708.1(c)(4)】~~ **§ 11-708.1(C)(5)** of the Labor and Employment Article starting in fiscal year 2021 until all amounts are spent; and

(III) \$750,000 FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING VETERANS AND FORMERLY INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS, TO THE PRE-APPRENTICESHIP JOBS TRAINING PROGRAMS AND THE REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP JOBS TRAINING PROGRAMS UNDER § 11-708.1 OF THE LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT ARTICLE STARTING IN FISCAL YEAR 2021 UNTIL ALL AMOUNTS ARE SPENT; AND

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2020.

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 8, 2020.