

Chapter 202

(Senate Bill 79)

AN ACT concerning

Higher Education – Senatorial and Delegate Scholarships – Program Accreditation

FOR the purpose of authorizing each Senator to award not more than a certain percentage of funds available under the Senatorial Scholarship Program, and authorizing Delegates to award Delegate Scholarships, to applicants planning to attend certain accredited institutions outside the State, provided that the applicant will be studying in an academic area that is not offered in a program that is accredited by a national accrediting association approved by the United States Department of Education in any institution in the State; and generally relating to the Senatorial and Delegate Scholarship ~~Program~~ Programs.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Education
 Section 18–405 and 18–501
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

18–405.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, a senatorial scholarship may be used only at any community college or undergraduate, graduate, or professional school in the State.

(b) A senatorial scholarship may be used:

(1) If the curriculum is approved by the Commission, at a degree granting institution of higher education, a hospital diploma school for training registered nurses, or to attend a private postsecondary proprietary institution that is accredited by a national accrediting association approved by the United States Department of Education as a full-time student; and

(2) For educational expenses as defined by the Office, including:

(i) Tuition and mandatory fees; and

(ii) Room and board.

(c) If on-campus housing is available, a senatorial scholarship may not be used to pay for off-campus housing.

(d) Each Senator may award not more than [10 percent] **10%** of the funds available under this subtitle to applicants planning to attend accredited undergraduate, graduate, or professional institutions outside the State, provided the applicant:

(1) Will be studying in an academic area that is not [available] **OFFERED IN A PROGRAM THAT IS ACCREDITED BY A NATIONAL ACCREDITING ASSOCIATION APPROVED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN ANY INSTITUTION** in the State;

(2) Is a hearing impaired person who will be studying at an institution outside the State that makes special provisions for hearing impaired students, and comparable special provisions are not available to the applicant at an institution in the State; or

(3) Is an individual who is on active duty with the United States military who is domiciled in this State.

18-501.

(a) There is a program of Delegate Scholarships in this State that are awarded under this subtitle.

(b) A scholarship awarded under this subtitle may be used at:

(1) An eligible institution for a program of undergraduate, graduate, or professional studies;

(2) An accredited undergraduate, graduate, or professional institution outside the State, if the applicant:

(i) Will be studying in an academic area that is not [available] **OFFERED IN A PROGRAM THAT IS ACCREDITED BY A NATIONAL ACCREDITING ASSOCIATION APPROVED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN ANY INSTITUTION** in this State;

(ii) Is disabled and will be studying at an institution outside the State that makes special provisions for disabled students that are not available to the applicant at an institution in the State; or

(iii) Is an individual who is on active duty with the United States military who is domiciled in this State; and

(3) A private career school within the State that is approved by the Maryland Higher Education Commission under § 11-202 of this article and that is accredited by a national accrediting association that is approved by the United States Department of Education.

(c) Money appropriated to the Commission for scholarships awarded under this section that is not used by the end of the fiscal year shall be retained by the Commission for use by the awarding Delegate in the Delegate Scholarship Program during subsequent fiscal years.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted.

Approved by the Governor, April 21, 2022.