

(2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

Article - Education

18-304

(a) (1) Except as provided in § 18-307 of this subtitle, the Office shall determine the amount of each Educational Excellence Award based on the financial need of the applicant

(2) In determining the amount of financial need, the Office shall consider regional cost-of-living differences

(3) IN DETERMINING THE PERCENT OF FINANCIAL NEED USED TO CALCULATE AN AWARD FOR A COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT RECEIVING AN EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD, THE COMMISSION SHALL USE THE FOLLOWING PERCENTAGES

(I) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007, NOT LESS THAN ~~50%~~, 55%, AND

~~(II) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008, NOT LESS THAN 55%; AND~~

~~(III)~~ (II) FOR FISCAL YEAR ~~2009~~ 2008 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, NOT LESS THAN 60%

(b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, an Educational Excellence Award may be awarded in \$100 increments and the award for a single year may not be less than \$400 or more than \$3,000

(2) (i) All applicants who fulfill the requirements established in § 18-303(a) and (b) of this subtitle shall receive a Guaranteed Access Grant

(ii) The amount of a Guaranteed Access Grant shall be equal to 100 percent of the student's financial need as determined by the Office, not to exceed the equivalent annual expenses of a full-time resident undergraduate at the 4-year public institution of higher education within the University System of Maryland, other than the University of Maryland University College and University of Maryland, Baltimore, with the highest annual expenses for a full-time resident undergraduate

SECTION 2 AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2006

Approved May 16, 2006