

## Article - Education

5-203.3.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) "DATA-BASED AREAS" MEANS THOSE AREAS IDENTIFIED BY THE STATE BOARD THROUGH THE MARYLAND SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PROGRAM FOR WHICH INFORMATION IS TO BE TRACKED FOR EACH SCHOOL, EACH SCHOOL SYSTEM, AND THE STATE.

(3) "MARYLAND SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PROGRAM" MEANS A PERFORMANCE BASED EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY PROGRAM THAT FOCUSES ON ACCOUNTABILITY THROUGH SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

(4) "RECIPIENT SCHOOL" MEANS A PUBLIC SCHOOL THAT RECEIVES A RECOGNITION AWARD UNDER THIS SECTION.

(B) IT IS THE INTENT OF THIS SECTION TO REWARD A ~~SCHOOL'S PROGRESS ON MEETING OR EXCEEDING~~ SCHOOL THAT SHOWS SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT TOWARDS MEETING STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE BOARD FOR THE DATA-BASED AREAS OF THE MARYLAND SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PROGRAM.

(C) (1) TO THE EXTENT THAT FUNDS ARE PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET, THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT ANNUALLY SHALL DISTRIBUTE RECOGNITION AWARDS TO:

~~(I) EACH ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, AND HIGH SCHOOL THAT MEETS OR EXCEEDS SATISFACTORY STANDARDS FOR ALL DATA-BASED AREAS OF THE MARYLAND SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PROGRAM; AND~~

~~(II) ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS THAT SHOW SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT TOWARDS MEETING STANDARDS OF THE MARYLAND SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PROGRAM.~~

(2) THE STATE ~~SUPERINTENDENT BOARD~~ SHALL ESTABLISH GUIDELINES FOR THE DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR AND DISTRIBUTION OF AWARDS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(II) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

~~(3) SCHOOLS RECEIVING CHALLENGE GRANT FUNDS AND SCHOOLS IN ANY PHASE OF RECONSTITUTION ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR RECOGNITION AWARDS.~~

(D) (1) THE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT TEAM OF A RECIPIENT SCHOOL SHALL DETERMINE HOW THE AWARD SHALL BE USED SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

(I) RECOGNITION FUNDS ARE IN ADDITION TO AND MAY NOT SUPPLANT FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL FUNDS REGULARLY APPROPRIATED FOR USE BY THE SCHOOL;

(II) RECOGNITION FUNDS MAY NOT BE USED FOR STAFF BONUSES OR DIFFERENTIAL PAY INCREASES; AND