

- (2) Begin college within 1 year of completing high school or, failing to do so, provide evidence satisfactory to the State Scholarship Administration of extenuating circumstances;
- (3) Be under the age of 22 years at the time of receiving the first award;
- (4) Have successfully completed a college preparatory program in high school;
- (5) Enroll in college as a full-time student;
- (6) Have an annual family income below a poverty index determined by the Commission; and
- (7) Satisfy any additional criteria the Commission may establish.

18-304.

(a) (1) The Administration 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 Administration shall consider regional cost-of-living differences.

(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(b) and (c) 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 State Scholarship Administration, not to exceed the equivalent annual expenses of a full-time resident undergraduate at the [University of Maryland, College Park] 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.

18-503.

(a) During each term in office, each Delegate may award the equivalent of four 4-year full-time scholarships, which may be awarded for either 1-, 2-, 3-, or 4-year periods.

(b) (1) Each scholarship pays the tuition and mandatory fees at any eligible institution.

(2) The annual amount of a scholarship at a private institution or any graduate or professional program may not exceed the equivalent annual tuition and mandatory fees of an undergraduate program at the [University of Maryland] 4-YEAR PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND, OTHER THAN THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY