

(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] OFFICE, not to exceed the equivalent annual expenses of a full-time resident undergraduate at the University of Maryland, College Park.

18-305.

(a) An Educational Excellence Award may be used:

(1) At a degree granting institution of higher education, an eligible institution with an associate degree program that provides transfer credit for an accredited baccalaureate program, or a hospital diploma school for training registered nurses if the curriculum is approved by the Commission; and

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

(i) Tuition and fees; and

(ii) Room and board.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, an Educational Excellence Award may be used at a school in another state if:

(1) There is a reciprocal agreement as provided in § 18-308 of this subtitle; and

(2) The school meets requirements of subsection (a)(1) of this section.

(c) The [Administration] OFFICE may not award more than 10% of the funds available for each of the types of grants awarded under this subtitle for use by students attending schools in another state.

18-306.

(a) Subject to the provisions of subsection (d) of this section, each recipient of an Educational Excellence Award may hold the award for 5 years if the recipient:

(1) Continues to be a resident of this State;

(2) Continues to be a full-time student at an eligible institution and takes at least 12 semester hours of courses each semester, or its equivalent as determined by the [Administration] OFFICE;

(3) In the judgment of the institution, is making satisfactory progress toward a degree; and

(4) Maintains the standards of the institution.