

# SENATE BILL 895

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By: **Senator Hester**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and Budget and Taxation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Technology Internship Program – Units of State Government**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the purpose of the Maryland Technology Internship Program;  
4 altering the minimum grade point average that an individual shall maintain to  
5 qualify for participation in the Program with a unit of State government; altering  
6 the qualifications that a unit of State government must meet to participate in the  
7 Program; authorizing money awarded for the Program to be used for reimbursing  
8 the University of Maryland Baltimore County for a certain percentage of a stipend  
9 paid to an intern working with a unit of State government, but not more than a  
10 certain amount for a semester; prohibiting money awarded for the Program to total  
11 more than a certain amount each year for each intern; authorizing the maximum  
12 reimbursement amounts to be increased under certain circumstances; requiring the  
13 Governor, beginning in a certain fiscal year, to include in the annual budget bill a  
14 certain appropriation to the Program to be used for certain purposes; making  
15 conforming changes; and generally relating to the Maryland Technology Internship  
16 Program and internships with units of State government.

17 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
18 Article – Education  
19 Section 18–3001, 18–3002, 18–3004, 18–3007, and 18–3009  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

22 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
23 Article – Education  
24 Section 18–3003, 18–3005, 18–3006, 18–3008, and 18–3010  
25 Annotated Code of Maryland  
26 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

27 BY adding to  
28 Article – Education

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



Section 18–3008.1  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

**Article – Education**

18–3001.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) “Program” means the Maryland Technology Internship Program.

(c) “Technology–based business” means a commercial or an industrial enterprise engaged in the application of scientific knowledge to practical purposes in a particular field.

(d) “UMBC” means the University of Maryland Baltimore County.

18–3002.

There is a Maryland Technology Internship Program.

18–3003.

The purposes of the Program are to:

(1) Connect college and university students, recent graduates, and veterans with **UNITS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND** small innovative businesses in the high–growth technology sector through internships;

(2) Encourage high–achieving students at institutions of higher education in the State to remain in the State after graduation;

(3) Increase student understanding of employment opportunities in the State;

(4) Create connections between students, **UNITS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT**, and community business leaders and entrepreneurs and **TO** develop opportunities for student involvement in communities;

(5) Assist **UNITS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND** small technology–based businesses in developing internship programs and recruiting future employees; and

(6) Foster business retention and development, job creation, workforce

1 development, and new investment in the State.

2 18–3004.

3 (a) UMBC shall administer the Program.

4 (b) To carry out the purposes of the Program, UMBC, in collaboration with the  
5 Department of Commerce, shall:

6 (1) Utilize an Internet site through which:

7 (i) Students may learn about technology-based businesses,  
8 technology-based positions in units of State and local governments, and internship  
9 opportunities;

10 (ii) Technology-based businesses may register, post information  
11 about internship opportunities, and apply for reimbursement of internship stipends as  
12 provided under this subtitle; and

13 (iii) Units of State and local governments may register, post  
14 information about technology-based internship opportunities, and apply for  
15 reimbursement of internship stipends as provided under this subtitle;

16 (2) Develop application and registration requirements;

17 (3) Develop orientation and training programs for participants in the  
18 Program;

19 (4) Review applications and award reimbursements of internship stipends  
20 under this subtitle;

21 (5) Provide opportunities for students to meet entrepreneurs, visit  
22 technology-related industry incubators, and learn about starting a business in the State;

23 (6) Provide recruitment and training opportunities and support for  
24 participating businesses and units of State and local government; and

25 (7) Track and assess Program outcomes.

26 18–3005.

27 (A) [To] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, TO  
28 qualify for participation in the Program, an individual shall:

29 (1) (i) 1. Be a student enrolled at a public or private nonprofit  
30 institution of higher education in the State that possesses a certificate of approval from the  
31 Commission; and

2. Maintain a cumulative 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale each academic year;

(ii) 1. Within 12 months before the date of application for the Program, have graduated from a public or private nonprofit institution of higher education in the State that possesses a certificate of approval from the Commission; and

2. Have maintained a cumulative 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale during the latest academic year the individual was enrolled as a student;

(iii) 1. Be a student enrolled at a public or private nonprofit institution of higher education outside the State, if the student graduated from a high school in the State; and

2. Maintain a cumulative 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale each academic year; or

(iv) 1. Have been honorably discharged from the United States armed forces, the National Guard, or a reserve component of the United States armed forces within 18 months of the date of application;

2. Be a resident of Maryland; and

3. Have graduated from a public or private nonprofit institution of higher education;

(2) Commit to working a minimum of 120 hours during a spring, fall, or summer semester;

(3) Attend an orientation session provided or approved by UMBC; and

(4) Meet any other criteria established by UMBC.

**(B) TO QUALIFY FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM WITH A UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT, AN INDIVIDUAL SHALL MEET ALL THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, EXCEPT THAT AN INDIVIDUAL MAY MAINTAIN A CUMULATIVE 2.5 GRADE POINT AVERAGE ON A 4.0 SCALE EACH ACADEMIC YEAR OR DURING THE LATEST ACADEMIC YEAR THE INDIVIDUAL WAS ENROLLED AS A STUDENT.**

18–3006.

(a) To qualify for participation in the Program, a **TECHNOLOGY–BASED** business **OR UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT** shall:

(1) Be located in the State;

[(2) Be a technology-based business;]

[(3)] (2) Commit to hosting an intern for a minimum of 120 hours during a spring, fall, or summer semester;

[(4)] (3) Provide a detailed description of an intern position with the business OR UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT; and

[(5)] (4) Provide proof that a representative has attended an orientation or training program provided or approved by UMBC.

(b) To qualify for participation in the Program, a unit of State [or local] government shall:

(1) Commit to hosting an intern for a minimum of 120 hours during a spring, fall, or summer semester;

(2) Provide a detailed description of a technology-based intern position with the unit; [and]

(3) Provide proof that a representative has attended an orientation or training program provided or approved by UMBC;

**(4) PAY AN INTERN \$17 PER HOUR;**

**(5) IDENTIFY A STAFF MEMBER WHO WILL SERVE AS THE SUPERVISOR AND MENTOR OF AN INTERN;**

**(6) PROVIDE A SUBSTANTIVE TECHNICAL PROJECT FOR THE INTERN TO COMPLETE DURING THE INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE; AND**

**(7) FOR A SUMMER INTERN:**

**(I) PROVIDE A CAPSTONE PROJECT DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR THE INTERN TO COMPLETE DURING THE INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE; AND**

**(II) PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR AN INTERN TO GIVE A PRESENTATION ON THE CAPSTONE PROJECT DURING A CONCLUDING SUMMER CEREMONY.**

18-3007.

(a) UMBC shall develop a process for tracking and assessing the outcomes of the Program, including:

(1) The total number of individuals, businesses, and units of State and local governments participating in the Program;

(2) The locations and sizes of participating businesses and units of State and local governments;

(3) The number of participating students remaining in the State after graduation;

(4) The number of employee hires resulting from internships;

(5) The effect of the Program on student understanding of opportunities for entrepreneurs and small businesses in the State;

(6) Student skill growth resulting from internship experiences;

(7) Business growth or improvement resulting from internships; and

(8) The effect of the Program on relationships between businesses and institutions of higher education in the State.

(b) UMBC shall obtain feedback from Program participants:

(1) At the conclusion of any orientation or training program;

(2) At the conclusion of each internship; and

(3) At the following intervals after the conclusion of each internship:

(i) 3 months;

(ii) 6 months;

(iii) 1 year;

(iv) 2 years; and

(v) 3 years.

18–3008.

(a) Subject to subsections (b) and (c) of this section, money awarded under this subtitle:

(1) May be used to reimburse a technology-based business or a unit of [State or] local government up to 50% of a stipend paid to an intern, but not more than:

(i) \$1,800 for the first semester; and

(ii) \$1,200 for the second semester; and

(2) May total not more than \$3,000 each year for each intern.

(b) The maximum reimbursement amounts established in subsection (a) of this section may be increased in accordance with changes in employment market conditions as jointly determined by UMBC and the Department of Commerce.

(c) At least 50% of the internships supported by the Program each year shall be with businesses that have not more than 150 employees.

**18-3008.1.**

**(A) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, MONEY AWARDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE:**

**(1) MAY BE USED TO REIMBURSE UMBC UP TO 100% OF A STIPEND PAID TO AN INTERN WORKING WITH A UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT, BUT NOT MORE THAN \$2,040 FOR A SEMESTER; AND**

**(2) MAY NOT TOTAL MORE THAN \$7,000 EACH YEAR FOR EACH INTERN.**

**(B) THE MAXIMUM REIMBURSEMENT AMOUNTS ESTABLISHED IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION MAY BE INCREASED IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHANGES IN EMPLOYMENT MARKET CONDITIONS AS JOINTLY DETERMINED BY UMBC AND THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.**

**18-3009.**

(a) At the end of each fiscal year, UMBC shall prepare an annual report that includes an accounting of all financial receipts and expenditures that relate to the Program.

(b) UMBC shall submit a copy of the report to the General Assembly in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article.

**18-3010.**

**(A) The Governor annually shall include funds in the State budget for:**

(1) The reimbursement of internship stipends under this subtitle; and

(2) UMBC to administer the Program.

**(B) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF \$200,000 TO THE PROGRAM TO BE USED FOR:**

**(1) REIMBURSEMENTS FOR INTERNS;**

**(2) PROGRAM COSTS UP TO \$10,000, INCLUDING RECRUITING, ORIENTATION, AND CONCLUDING CEREMONIES; AND**

**(3) SUPPORT STAFF COSTS UP TO \$32,000.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2020.