

SB 1030/HB 1413 – The Blueprint for Maryland’s Future

The bill establishes The Blueprint for Maryland’s Future – a policy blueprint to transform the State’s early childhood, primary, and secondary education system into a world-class system based on the recommendations of the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education in its January 2019 Interim Report.

The principles of The Blueprint for Maryland’s Future are:

- instruction and skills set to international standards that will enable Maryland students to be successful in the 21st century economy and productive citizens;
- access to educational experiences and opportunities beginning in early childhood to enable every Maryland student to reach their full promise and potential and graduate from high school ready for college and a rewarding career; and
- student performance at among the world’s best overall, and elimination of opportunity and achievement gaps so that every student can reach their full potential.

Achieving The Blueprint for Maryland’s Future will require a sustained and coordinated effort in five main policy areas as recommended by the Commission, known as the Kirwan Commission after its Chair, Dr. William E. “Brit” Kirwan:

- early support and interventions for young children and their families, including full-day prekindergarten that is free for low-income 3- and 4-year-olds and expanding services and supports for 0-2-year-olds and their families;
- high-quality and diverse teachers and school leaders, including elevating the teaching profession comparable to other fields with the same education and with comparable compensation, establishing a career ladder so that excellent teachers remain in the classroom, and increasing the rigor of teacher preparation programs and State certification standards;
- a college and career readiness (CCR) standard set at the level required to virtually guarantee success in the first year of a community college program, with Maryland schools focused on getting most students to CCR by the end of tenth grade, and nearly all by the end of high school; providing supports for students who are not on track for CCR; and providing post-CCR pathways for students who achieve CCR, including early college programs that allow a student to earn an associate degree at no cost while in high school and Career and Technical Education pathways that lead to an industry-recognized credential;
- additional resources, supports, and services for students who need them to achieve the CCR standard, including English learners, students with disabilities, and students from low-income families, with particular attention on students in schools with high concentrations of poverty; and
- a strong accountability system with the authority to hold all entities accountable for implementing The Blueprint for Maryland’s Future effectively to ensure that all students are successful.

As shown below, the bill distributes \$325 million in fiscal 2020 consistent with the funding priorities identified by the Kirwan Commission and mandates a total of \$750 million in fiscal 2021 to begin to implement the recommendations.

Finally, the bill extends the Commission’s deadline to submit its final report to December 1, 2019.

The Blueprint for Maryland's Future Funding

Fiscal 2020 and 2021 (\$ in Millions)

<u>Program</u>	<u>State Costs</u>		<u>Use of Funding</u>
	<u>FY 20</u>	<u>FY 21</u>	
Expand Full-day Prekindergarten for Four-year-olds	\$29.0	\$51.1	Expand full-day prekindergarten funding formula to include all four-year-olds being served in a full-day setting by public school systems. Continue full-day pre-K funding formula in fiscal 2021.
Seed Grants for Teacher Collaboratives	2.5	2.5	Voluntary collaboratives of school systems, teacher preparation institutions, exclusive representatives, and others to improve teacher preparation, recruitment, induction, and professional development.
Teacher Salary Increase	75.0	75.0	State funding for an additional 1.5% average increase in teacher salaries statewide for districts that provide at least 3.0% increase on average for teachers in fiscal 2020. Priority to increase starting salaries and salaries for teachers with less than five years of experience.
Begin Transitional Supplemental Instruction	23.0	23.0	State funding for struggling learners supports.
Begin Concentration of Poverty Grants	55.0	55.0	Fund community school coordinator and health practitioner for schools with 80% or more concentration of poverty.
Increase Behavioral Health Funding	2.0	2.0	Fund local education agency mental/behavioral health coordinators.
Special Education Placeholder Weight	137.5	137.5	Additional State funding for special education formula – about 30% of recommended total State increase.
Public Outreach and Training	0.25	0.25	Funding for training/outreach on The Blueprint for Maryland's Future.
Declining Enrollment Grants		16.7	Continue hold harmless grant funding in fiscal 2021.
Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education Fund		387.0	Mandated funding to the special fund for fiscal 2021 to implement other recommendations.
Total	\$325.0	\$750.0	

Note: Other programs enacted in Chapter 361 of 2018 – the Kirwan Commission bill of 2018 – continue to be funded in fiscal 2020 and 2021, including Career and Technical Education Innovation Grants, Early Literacy Grants, and Learning in Extended Academic Programs Grants.