



Wes Moore  
Governor

Aruna Miller  
Lt. Governor

Cassie Motz  
Chair

Sanjay Rai, Ph.D.  
Acting Secretary

August 9, 2023

The Honorable Bill Ferguson  
President  
Senate of Maryland  
H-107 State House  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones  
Speaker  
Maryland House of Delegates  
H-101 State House  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Report on Recipients of Out-of-County or Out-of-Region Fee Waivers for Victims of Human Trafficking  
MSAR #10573  
Education Article, Section 16-310(b)(5)(iv)2

Dear President Ferguson and Speaker Jones:

Education Article §16-310 permits the boards of trustees of community colleges to adopt policies granting resident tuition status for individuals residing out of the service area if those individuals have been victims of human trafficking. The statute requires that community colleges report to the Commission on the number of individuals receiving a waiver of the out-of-county or out-of-region fee. The Maryland Higher Education Commission presents the information below in accordance with the statutory requirement that the Commission report these data to the General Assembly.

Nine of Maryland's 16 community colleges have a policy in place to award tuition waivers to victims of human trafficking. One other institution reported that they are currently in the process of developing such a policy. Another noted that though there is no formal policy in place, the institution would grant tuition waiver to any students impacted by Human Trafficking.

One institution awarded waivers of the out-of-county or out-of-region fee in the 2022-2023 reporting year. The number of students receiving such a waiver was less than 10. This falls below the minimum required for publishing personally identifiable information, as established in the MHEC Data Suppression Policy for Student Information.<sup>1</sup> Accordingly, the exact figure is subject to suppression requirements.

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or Dr. Barbara Schmertz, Director of Research & Policy Analysis, at [barbara.schmertz@maryland.gov](mailto:barbara.schmertz@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,

Sanjay Rai, Ph.D.  
Acting Secretary

SF/sa

cc: Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Services (5 copies)

<sup>1</sup> Per MHEC policy, personally-identifiable data will not be reported for groups of 10 or fewer to protect student privacy. Please see <https://mhec.maryland.gov/publications/Documents/Research/MHECDataSuppressionPolicy.pdf>