



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1759

H.P. 1177

House of Representatives, April 22, 2025

An Act to Allow Firefighters to Be Eligible for State College Funding

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative HYMES of Waldo.
Cosponsored by Representative: LANCE of Paris.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. PL 2025, c. 2, Pt. J, §1 is amended to read:

Sec. J-1. Transfer from General Fund; Board of Trustees of the Maine Community College System, MCCS Free Community College - Two Enrollment Years Program; fiscal year 2025-26. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before June 30, 2026, the State Controller shall transfer ~~\$7,300,000~~ \$6,500,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the MCCS Free Community College - Two Enrollment Years program, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Board of Trustees of the Maine Community College System to continue support of the 2 years of free community college for all eligible students who meet the conditions in Public Law 2023, chapter 412, Part QQQ, section 3, subsection 2.

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MAINE

MCCS Free Community College - Two Enrollment Years Z335

Initiative: Reduces one-time funding provided in Public Law 2025, chapter 2 for the State's 7 community colleges to continue offering student scholarships through the State's free community college tuition program for eligible persons who graduate high school or obtain the equivalent of a high school diploma in 2024 or 2025.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	(\$800,000)	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	(\$800,000)	\$0

Regional Fire Service Training Fund Z356

Initiative: Provides one-time funding to the Maine Fire Service Institute.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$800,000	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$800,000	\$0

COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MAINE

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$800,000	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	(\$800,000)	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY

This bill reduces one-time funding provided in Public Law 2025, chapter 2 for the State's 7 community colleges to continue offering student scholarships through the State's

1 free community college tuition program for eligible persons who graduate high school or
2 obtain the equivalent of a high school diploma in 2024 or 2025 by \$800,000 in fiscal year
3 2025-26 and appropriates \$800,000 on a one-time basis to the Maine Fire Service Institute.