

# Fiscal Analysis

## EXTENSION OF MERIT AWARD APPLICATION DEADLINE



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**Bill/Sponsor**                      **SENATE BILL 701 as passed the Senate, Sen. Gerald Van Woerkom**

**House Committee**                Higher Education

### **Analysis**

#### **Summary**

The bill would amend the Michigan Merit Award Scholarship Act to extend—for students receiving notification of Merit Award eligibility on or after August 1, 2003—the application deadline for academic year 2003-04 Merit Awards from September 15, 2003 to November 15, 2003.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

Extension of the deadline would enable those Merit Award recipients in the high school graduating class of 2003 who did not submit an application for payment by September 15 to have an additional 60 days to submit their application. The number of individuals who would submit an application during this time period is indeterminate.

Assuming that any eligible individual who failed to apply for the Merit Award prior to the existing deadline would eventually take advantage of the full award (by applying in both 2004 and 2005), the impact of the bill would be to shift an indeterminate amount of state expenditures from FY 2004-05 to FY 2003-04. (Rather than those individuals receiving the first award installment in FY 2003-04 and the second in FY 2004-05, under the bill they would receive both installments in FY 2003-04.)

### **Analyst(s)**

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COMMITTEE ANALYSIS - 9/24/03

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