

# COMMUNITY COLLEGES: WHERE THE PEOPLE GO TO COLLEGE

Senate Committee on Education, Health and  
Environmental Affairs



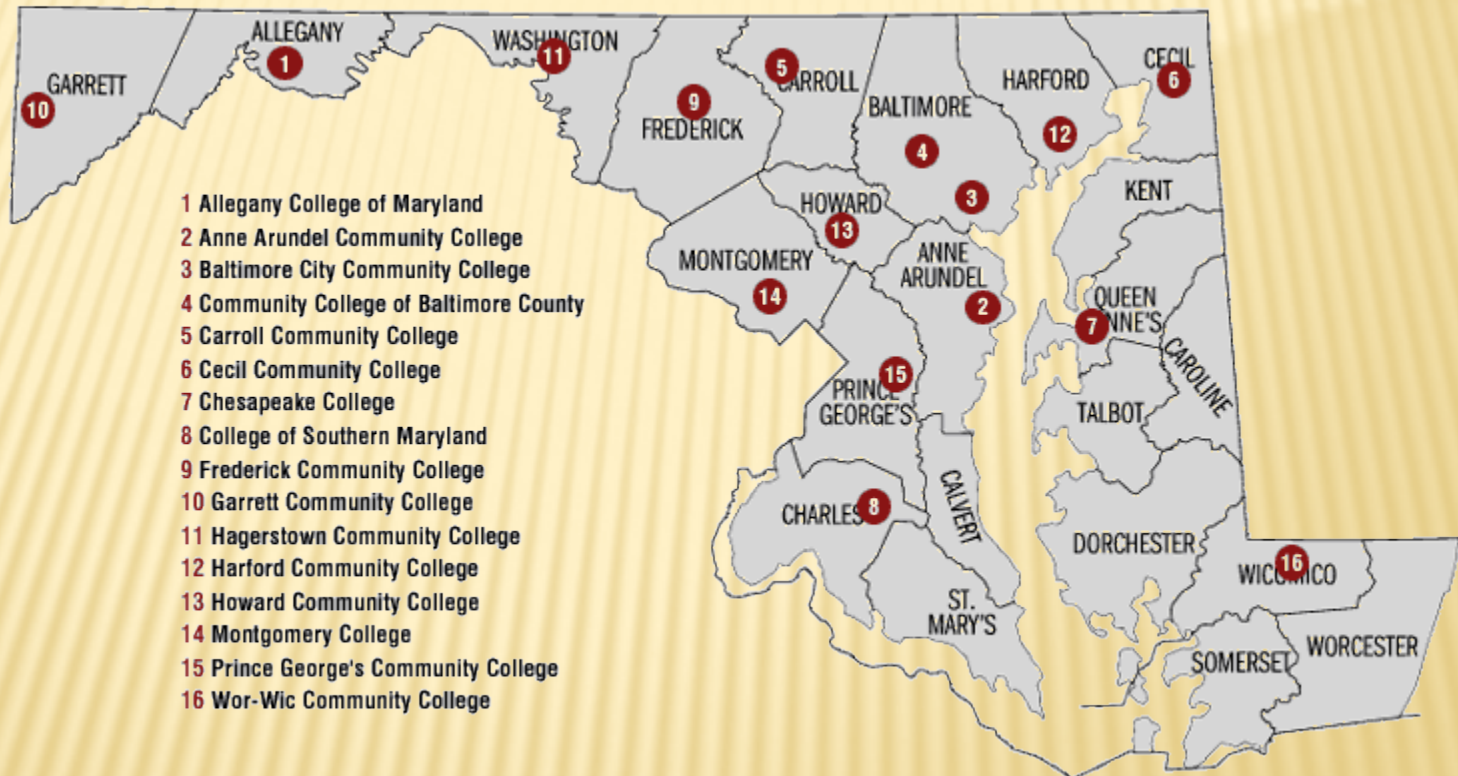
# MARYLAND'S COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- Provide the first two-years of a four-year degree, working in conjunction with four-year public and private colleges to provide seamless transfer.
- Provide associate's degree and certificate programs leading to well paid careers that do not require a bachelor's degree for entry.
- Train workers needing to upgrade their skills.
- Deliver adult basic education to over 80% of all recipients.

# MARYLAND'S COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- Partner with four year colleges and universities at RHEC to bring baccalaureate and graduate programs to underserved areas.
- Remain the lowest cost segment of higher education. [But are the 11<sup>th</sup> most expensive in the country.]
- Provide early college access for high school students.
- Provide developmental courses for students who are not academically prepared for college-level work.

# COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN MARYLAND



# MARYLAND'S COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- There are 16 Colleges on 23 campuses and hundreds of other sites.
- Fall 2010 enrollment is 147,000, up from 128,000 two years ago.
- Over half of all resident undergraduates attend community colleges.

# COMMUNITY COLLEGES HELP MEET MARYLAND'S WORKFORCE NEEDS

- Through both credit and continuing ed. offerings in every jurisdiction.
- As the largest provider of workforce training.
- With 86% of graduates staying in Maryland.
- With customized training programs tailored to the needs of individual businesses and industries.

# MEETING WORKFORCE NEEDS

- By helping address the teacher shortage through the AAT degree, and alternative teacher certification for career changers.
- As a leading provider of nurses and other allied health professionals, and first responders.
- By helping to address shortage of STEM graduates including ASE degree and cyber security.

# MARYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGES' SOURCES OF OPERATING FUNDS

- Student tuition and fees 38%
- Counties 37%
- State general fund 23%
- Other 4%

Note: Operating funding does not including state payment of employee retirement costs. This is paid as a separate item.

# OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

# THE MARYLAND DICHOTOMY

Maryland is a highly educated, wealthy state, and yet:

- Too many recent high school graduates are not prepared for higher education.
- Maryland's high school graduation rate is average (22<sup>nd</sup>) and we rank 25<sup>th</sup> in college continuation rate.
- The 2011 high school graduation class will be the first in history with a majority of nonwhite students.
- Nearly 700,000 Maryland adults are functionally illiterate.

# IMPLICATIONS

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- In order to sustain our quality of life and economic viability as a state and a nation we need to increase the numbers of Marylanders completing a postsecondary credential.
- A related but equally important challenge is to do so in a way that closes the attainment gap between white and minority students.
- Community Colleges serve as the principle entry point for the economically disadvantaged and under prepared.

# COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS

- 94% Maryland residents
- Average age = 26 yr.
- 49% intend to transfer; 33% in career prgms; 17% undeclared;
- 61% female
- 29% African American (47% of all African Americans in higher ed);
- 63% part time students

# THE COMPLETION AGENDA

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- February 2009: Pres. Obama announces goal of U.S. becoming No. 1 in the world in postsecondary credential attainment by 2020.
- August 2009: MACC adopts increasing completion as strategic goal for fiscal 2010.
- October 2010: President hosts first ever White House Summit on Community Colleges.
- December 2010: MACC holds Completion Summit

# INCREASED COMPLETION REQUIRES COLLABORATION

- MACC works closely with USM to develop incentives for community college students to earn a degree and to facilitate transfer.
- Collaboration with K-12 essential to increasing continuation rate and reducing need for remediation in college.
- Business and industry involvement will help students connect classroom instruction to the “real world” and help motivate students to obtain necessary credentials.