



Montgomery College Maryland General Assembly Legislative Session Report 2025



Montgomery College students and President Jermaine F. Williams
2025 Student Advocacy Day
Annapolis, Maryland

Overview

This report provides an overview of the 2025 Maryland General Assembly’s legislative session and its impact on Montgomery College (MC). It contains information on decisions regarding the operating and capital budgets. Also, it provides information on legislation adopted that *may require action and compliance* by Montgomery College, legislation adopted *significant* to MC, legislation adopted *of interest* but does not directly affect the College, and the *Governor’s actions* concerning adopted legislation. Thank you to the MACC for their summary reports that are the foundation of this MC report.

The General Assembly meets annually for 90 days from January through April. In addition to approving the State’s operating and capital budgets each year, the members of the Senate and the House of Delegates pass bills that are then presented to the Governor for signature for enactment or veto. Enacted legislation takes effect on June 1, July 1, or October 1, as designated, or immediately.

The session adjourned “Sine Die” on April 7, 2025.

Capital budget: Funds for Germantown and Rockville projects, facilities renewal efforts

The College received \$17.3 million in new capital funds as recommended by the Governor and approved by the General Assembly to keep the Rockville Library renovation and the new Student Services Building at Germantown moving forward. Additionally, MC and seven other community colleges will each receive \$376,375 through the Community College Facilities Renewal Grant Program in FY26. This program funds eight of Maryland's 16 community colleges annually. The remaining eight community colleges will receive funds the following year. These funds may be used for facility improvements, repairs, and deferred maintenance projects.

Operating budget: MC receives \$72.5 million in State Aid

Thanks to the good work of the Montgomery Delegation, Montgomery College will see a \$2.6 million increase in State aid through the John A. Cade Funding Formula for a total of \$72.5 million to support operations.

Because the Governor used the Cade formula as written in statute to determine community college funding, unlike the Governor's FY25 budget, MC will receive the noted increase in State operating aid. The College is grateful for this support when many programs were hit with reductions that legislators were forced to make to close budget shortfalls and balance the budget. As the legislative session concluded, the presiding officers noted a special session in the fall appears likely to revisit the status of revenues and expenditures to potentially recalibrate the budget. It is important to note that Maryland's Board of Public Works is made up of the Governor, the Treasurer, and the Comptroller who have the authority to reduce the State's budget up to 25 percent.

Legislation that likely requires compliance by Montgomery College

[HB 473 / SB 269 - Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship Program - Revisions](#)

This law expands access and flexibility within the Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship Program, despite a \$1.5M reduction in overall program funding. The law amends the program to allow students enrolled in noncredit workforce training programs—including courses that lead to licensure, certification, or participation in registered apprenticeship programs—to remain eligible. It also alters the number of years that an award recipient may hold the award.

This law, approved by the Governor, takes effect July 1, 2025.

[HB 774 / SB 789 - Higher Education - Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program - Alterations](#)

This law expands the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program and codifies that community colleges remain eligible for funding. It increases the required appropriation for the program to \$250,000 beginning in FY27. It clarifies that private institutions may be designated hunger-free campuses, but they are not eligible for funding—it limits funding to public institutions. Participating colleges must continue to meet criteria such as operating a campus food pantry, running awareness campaigns, and providing enrollment assistance for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

This law, approved by the Governor, takes effect July 1, 2025.

HB 19 - Health Occupations - Nursing - Loan Repayment, Education, and Sunset Extension (Building Opportunities for Nurses Act of 2025)

This law addresses healthcare workforce shortages while supporting students pursuing entry-level healthcare careers. It broadens the purpose of the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Nurses and Nursing Support Staff. It requires funding prioritization for nurses or nursing support staff who practice in an area with a nursing or nursing support staff shortage or who practice in a specialty with a shortage. Further, it changes certain education requirements for licensure and repeals a certain requirement that the State Board of Nursing approve certain nursing assistant training program sites within a certain period.

This law, approved by the Governor, takes effect on June 1, 2025, and October 1, 2025.

HB 150 / SB 252 - Child Care Centers - Certificated Staff Ratio Requirement - Alteration

This law repeals a requirement that childcare centers serving more than 20 children must have at least one staff member per every 20 children who is certified in basic first aid cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training.

This law, approved by the Governor, takes effect on July 1, 2025.

HB 600 / SB 276 - Educational Equality for Service Members Act

This law generally clarifies definitions for military service members—or more specifically establishes rules of interpretation related to the uniformed services and alters the rule of interpretation for "veteran." While many of the changes are stylistic or technical, the law also makes certain provisions more broadly applicable to additional service members, including those related to eligibility for certain benefits or privileges (e.g., exceptions to enrollment requirements, expedited teacher credentialing, tuition exemptions, scholarship eligibility, etc.)

This law, approved by the Governor, takes effect on July 1, 2025.

HB 795 - Federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program - Employee Certification and Awareness Materials

This law establishes requirements related to the certification of employment by public service employers under the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program (PSLF), including requirements to determine whether employees are full-time. The law further establishes procedures for certifying the employment of adjunct or tenured professors in institutions of higher education that are also public service employers under PSLF.

The law, approved by the Governor, takes effect July 1, 2025.

HB 277 / SB 96 - Environment - Water Bottle Filling Stations - Requirement

This law requires a water bottle filling station or a combined water bottle filling station and drinking fountain to be installed in certain *new* construction or as part of *certain renovations* beginning October 1, 2025.

This law, approved by the Governor, takes effect July 1, 2025.

HB 1222 - Public Safety - Immigration Enforcement (Maryland Values Act)

This law attempts to limit State and local involvement in federal immigration enforcement and protects access to public services for immigrant communities. Of note, it also restricts immigration enforcement at “sensitive locations,” such as public schools, libraries, and other facilities providing State-funded education, health or justice services, likely including community colleges.

This law, approved by the Governor, would take effect June 1, 2025. However, the law directs the Attorney General to issue guidance, and institutions must adopt compliant policies by October 1, 2025. Until that

guidance is published, community colleges must await clarification on how to implement the law.

SB828 - Immigration Enforcement - Sensitive Locations - Access, Guidance, and Policies (Protecting Sensitive Locations Act)

This law prohibits certain schools, libraries, and units of State government that operate at certain sensitive locations from allowing certain federal personnel to access certain areas, subject to exceptions. It also requires the Attorney General to develop guidance regarding immigration enforcement at certain sensitive locations and guidance on individuals interacting with certain federal personnel. Further, it requires certain schools, libraries, and units of State government to adopt policies consistent with the guidelines.

This law, enacted without the Governor's signature, takes effect June 1, 2025.

Legislation significant to Montgomery College

HB 325 / SB 451 - Adult Education - High School Diploma by Examination - Requirements and Study

This law requires the Maryland Department of Labor (MDOL) to allow an individual to choose to take all components of the General Educational Development Test in either English or Spanish. It also requires MDOL to study the feasibility and cost of offering the examination in additional languages and to report its findings and recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2026.

This law, approved by the Governor, would take effect July 1, 2025.

HB 1468 / SB 867 - Cyber Maryland Program - Revisions

This law transfers the Cyber Maryland Program from the Maryland Technology Development Corporation to the Maryland Department of Labor. It alters the duties of the program and requires the program to issue competitive grants and contracts beginning in FY26 to enhance cybersecurity workforce development.

This law, approved by the Governor, takes effect July 1, 2025.

HB 501 / SB 431 - Registered Apprenticeship Investments for a Stronger Economy (RAISE) Act

This law alters the duties of the Maryland Apprenticeship and Training Council and repeals the Youth Apprenticeship Advisory Committee. It establishes the Maryland Office of Registered Apprenticeship Development to scale registered apprenticeships across industries and occupations. It also establishes the Maryland Pay Per Apprentice Program.

This law, approved by the Governor, takes effect October 1, 2025.

HB 799 - Maryland Innovation Initiative Institution Partnership Extension Program - Establishment

This law establishes the Maryland Innovation Initiative Institution (MII) Partnership Extension Program to expand opportunities at eligible institutions for technology validation, entrepreneurial development, and industry engagement. It establishes eligibility criteria for project proposals to receive program funding. Institutions must provide a 10% match of the amount awarded. The law authorizes the Governor to include an appropriation of \$250,000 for this program in the budget for FY27 and FY28.

This law, approved by the Governor, takes effect July 1, 2025

Legislation of interest to Montgomery College

HB 33 / SB 248 - Department of Service and Civic Innovation - Maryland Corps Program Service Year Option Pathways - Revisions

This law alters the duties of the Department of Service and Civic Innovation. It renames the Governor's Volunteer Council to the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism. Furthermore, it changes certain qualification requirements for applicants and compensation for participants in the Young Adult Service Year Option Pathway and the Maryland Service Year Option Pathway. Finally, it repeals the Executive Fellows Program.

This law, approved by the Governor, takes effect July 1, 2025.

HB 855 - Workgroup on Establishing a Science and Technology Best Practices and Innovation Network - Alterations

This law alters the membership of the Workgroup on Establishing a Science and Technology Best Practices and Innovation Network and extends the workgroup to 2027. The law reduces the number of representatives from institutions of higher education but keeps the requirement for the Governor to appoint at least one community college representative.

This law, approved by the Governor, takes effect June 1, 2025.

HB 850 / SB 3 - Workgroup on the Creation of a Data Dashboard for Public Work Contracts and Apprentices - Establishment

This law establishes the Workgroup on the Creation of a Data Dashboard for Public Work Contracts and Apprentices to study the most efficient method to create a public data dashboard that disaggregates information about public work contracts with the State and apprentices working under the public work contracts.

This law, approved by the Governor, would take effect July 1, 2025.

HB 786 / SB 629 - Appellate Court of Maryland - Sessions at Educational Institutions

This law authorizes the Appellate Court of Maryland, in conjunction with secondary and postsecondary educational institutions in the State, to hold sessions at certain secondary and postsecondary educational institutions in Maryland.

This law, approved by the Governor, takes effect October 1, 2025.

HB 1021 - Real Estate Appraisers - Licensure and Certification - Qualifications

This law prohibits the State Commission of Real Estate Appraisers, Appraisal Management Companies, and Home Inspectors from requiring an applicant to hold a bachelor's degree or higher to qualify for certification or licensure as a real estate appraiser.

This law, approved by the Governor, takes effect October 1, 2025.

HB 1474 - State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists - Temporary Telehealth Licenses - Establishment

This law authorizes an out-of-state licensed professional counselor to provide clinical professional counseling services to nonresident students enrolled in an institution of higher education in Maryland under certain circumstances.

This law, approved by the Governor, takes effect October 1, 2025.

HB 86 - Institutions of Higher Education and Elementary and Secondary Schools - Title VI Coordinators

This bill, introduced in the 2024 and 2025 legislative sessions, *did not* pass and *will not* become law. It may be introduced again in future legislative sessions. *If it were to become law in the future, it could affect the College.* The bill requires institutions of higher education and local school systems to designate a Title VI coordinator to ensure compliance with Title VI of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964. The bill also authorizes individuals alleging discrimination in violation of Title 26, Subtitle 7 of the Education Article to file a complaint with a local school system's Title VI coordinator in addition to the existing authorization to file a complaint with the State Superintendent of Schools. Title VI coordinators at local schools are also required to forward any such complaints received to the State Superintendent of Schools.

The bill did not pass.

HB 762 - Maryland Higher Education Commission - Higher Education Goals - Revisions

This bill, which *did not* pass, would have repealed statutory State goals regarding postsecondary degree or certificate attainment. Instead, it would have required the Maryland Higher Education Commission to set goals for the State for specific higher education policy areas such as adults with postsecondary degrees and the annual postsecondary credential completion rates.

The bill did not pass.



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