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August 28, 2016

James D. Fielder, Jr., PhD
Secretary of Higher Education
Maryland Higher Education Commission
6 North Liberty St.
Baltimore, MD 21201

Dear Dr. Fielder,

Montgomery College requests that MHEC review the information contained in this letter along with the enclosed data. This is a request to deny approval of Howard Community College's additional Diagnostic Medical Sonography's Vascular certificate. This additional certificate will have a strong negative impact on Montgomery College's twenty-year old program due to clinical site placements.

Howard Community College's website shows that the certificate is currently available (http://www.howardcc.edu/programs-courses/programs/diagnostic-medical-sonography-cert). It is our understanding that programs/certificates have to be approved by MHEC prior to offering them to the public on college websites.

Montgomery College has attached data from EMSI Analytics for Talent Acquisition which states there is no statistical data to support a new program throughout the region at this time. This tool compiles employment and economic data from over 90 data sources into a web-based portal. EMSI Analytics delivers current workforce reports, charts, maps and graphs as well as forecasts data based on current and accurate labor market statistics and predictions (down to the ZIP code level).

At this time, using EMSI, there are no supportive statistics that would warrant an additional certificate to be introduced to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography discipline within the area adjacent to another college county that has the same program. The statistics support there will be more graduates than job opportunities. There is only midline growth showing to the entire sonography field, in the attached *Occupation Overview Health Care Practitioner and Support, 2016.*

Should Howard Community College's Vascular Certificate be approved, it would surely result in the closure of Montgomery College's twenty year Vascular Degree program. This summer semester, we had our first example of how limited we are with our clinical sites due to the addition of Howard Community College's Program. Howard Community College

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engaged in a contract to place students into one of our strong long-standing clinical sites; this resulted in our holding back one of our students for two weeks before the student could be placed. The Howard Community College program has had an impact on our Fall semester as well. We have reached our maximum placement, due to Howard Community College's entering clinical sites that we have used during our tenure.

At this point in time, clinical placements for vascular and echo are extremely tight. The enclosed data demonstrates that an additional certificate program will impair the existing programs throughout the state. Each program requires supportive clinical seats for each student, and the availability of clinical seats throughout the state are at a maximum.

Sincerely,

Sanjay Rai, PhD
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Here is data from the MD Workforce Exchange, run by DLLR. This shows the current number of Job Openings and potential candidates for DMS ranked by supply and demand (with those areas with fewer candidates than job openings at the top indicating more demand than supply). Baltimore City is #1, followed by Montgomery County. **Howard actually has more potential candidates than job openings, which does not indicate a labor market shortage.**

Number of Candidates for Job Area Distribution

The table below shows the counties in Maryland with the lowest number of potential candidates in the workforce system for each job opening advertised online for Diagnostic Medical Sonographers on August 24, 2016 (Jobs De-duplication Level 2). There are 6 candidates who stated they would work anywhere in the state.

Rank	Area Name	Job Openings for Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	Potential Candidates Looking for Work as Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	Potential Candidates per Job Opening for Diagnostic Medical Sonographers
1	Baltimore city, Maryland	19	8	.42
2	Montgomery County, Maryland	14	8	.57
3	Prince George's County, Maryland	13	8	.62
4	Baltimore County, Maryland	10	7	.70
5	Howard County, Maryland	6	8	1.33
6	Anne Arundel County, Maryland	4	8	2.00
7	Carroll County, Maryland	3	7	2.33
8	Frederick County, Maryland	3	7	2.33
9	Harford County, Maryland	2	7	3.50
10	Washington County, Maryland	2	7	3.50

Candidate Source: Individuals with active resumes in the workforce system
Job Source: Online advertised jobs data
Downloaded: 08/25/2016 3:42 PM

Occupation Overview
Health Care Practitioner and Support

Emsi Q2 2016 Data Set

August 2016

Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness
Montgomery College

MC
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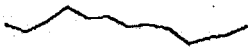
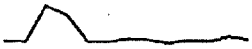
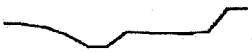
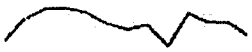
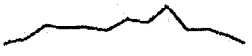
900 Hungerford Drive
Rockville, Maryland 20850

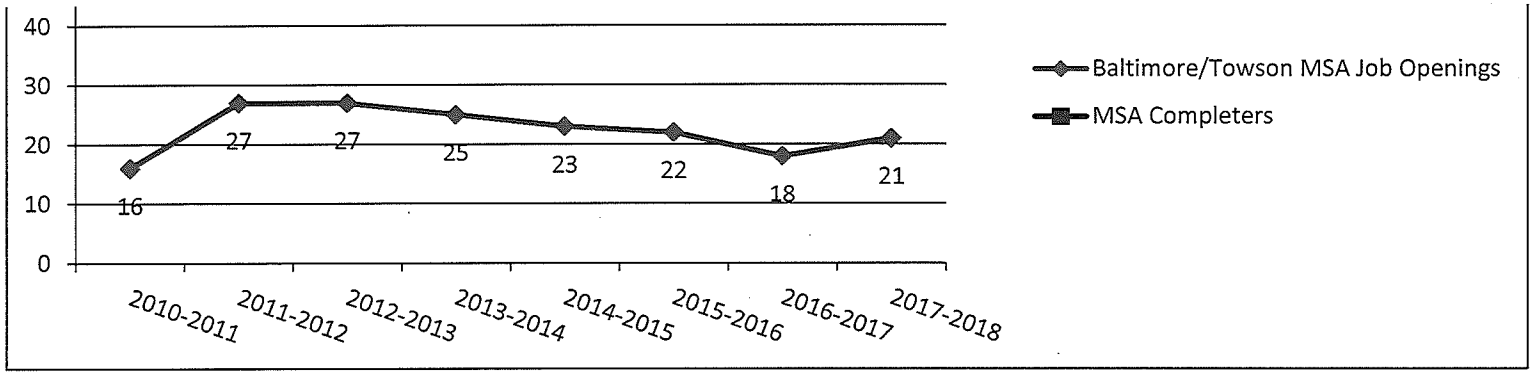
Occupation Summary for 79 Occupations

333,494	16.1%	$33.47/hr
Jobs (2016)	% Change (2015-2025)	Median Hourly Earnings
14% below National average	Nation: 19.8%	Nation: $28.56/hr

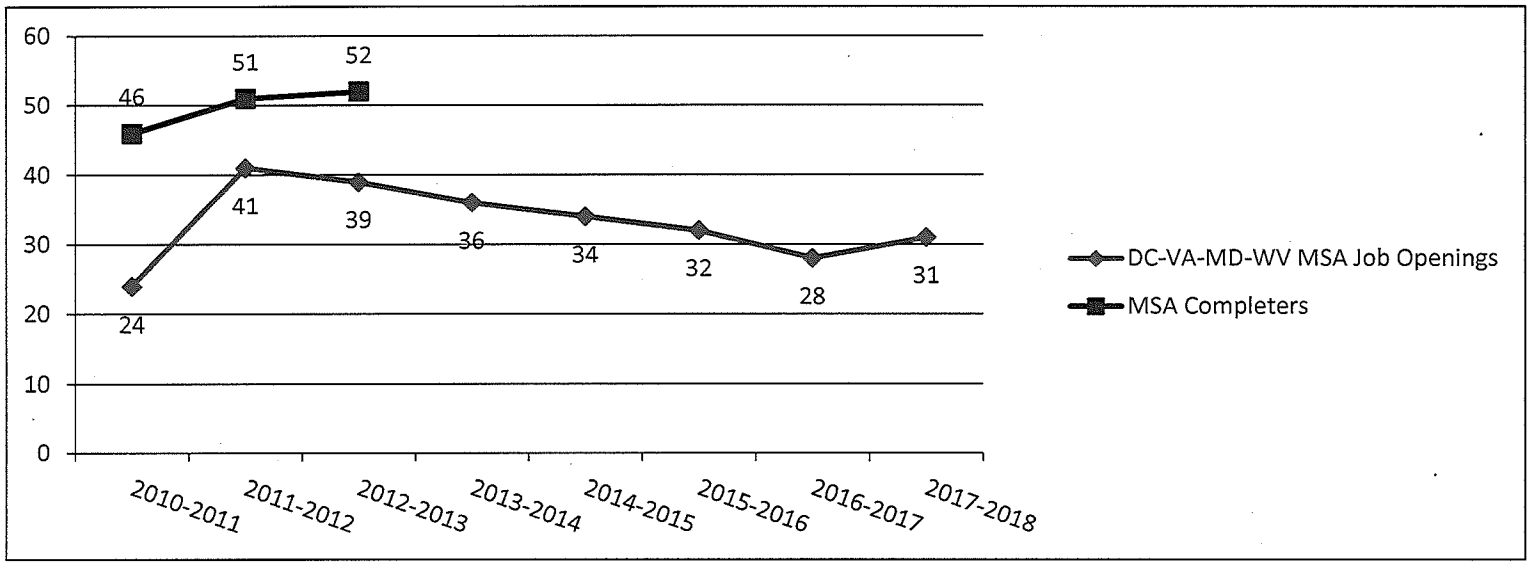
Regional Trends

	Region	2015 Jobs	2025 Jobs	Change	% Change
•	DC Metro Region	326,188	378,812	52,624	16.1%
•	Maryland	242,406	271,776	29,370	12.1%
•	United States	12,546,094	15,029,312	2,483,218	19.8%

Surgeons	14,665 / 3,242	5 : 1	
Phlebotomists	10,699 / 3,168	3 : 1	
Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians	15,246 / 3,098	5 : 1	
Veterinarians	20,177 / 2,952	7 : 1	
Podiatrists	11,284 / 2,856	4 : 1	
Healthcare Support Workers, All Other	13,566 / 2,844	5 : 1	
Dietitians and Nutritionists	15,058 / 2,834	5 : 1	
Dentists, General	13,218 / 2,572	5 : 1	
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	12,629 / 2,522	5 : 1	
Medical Equipment Preparers	10,567 / 2,373	4 : 1	
Dental Assistants	10,758 / 2,234	5 : 1	
Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers	8,009 / 2,086	4 : 1	
Respiratory Therapists	11,177 / 2,055	5 : 1	
Emergency Medical	20,304 / 1,942	10 : 1	

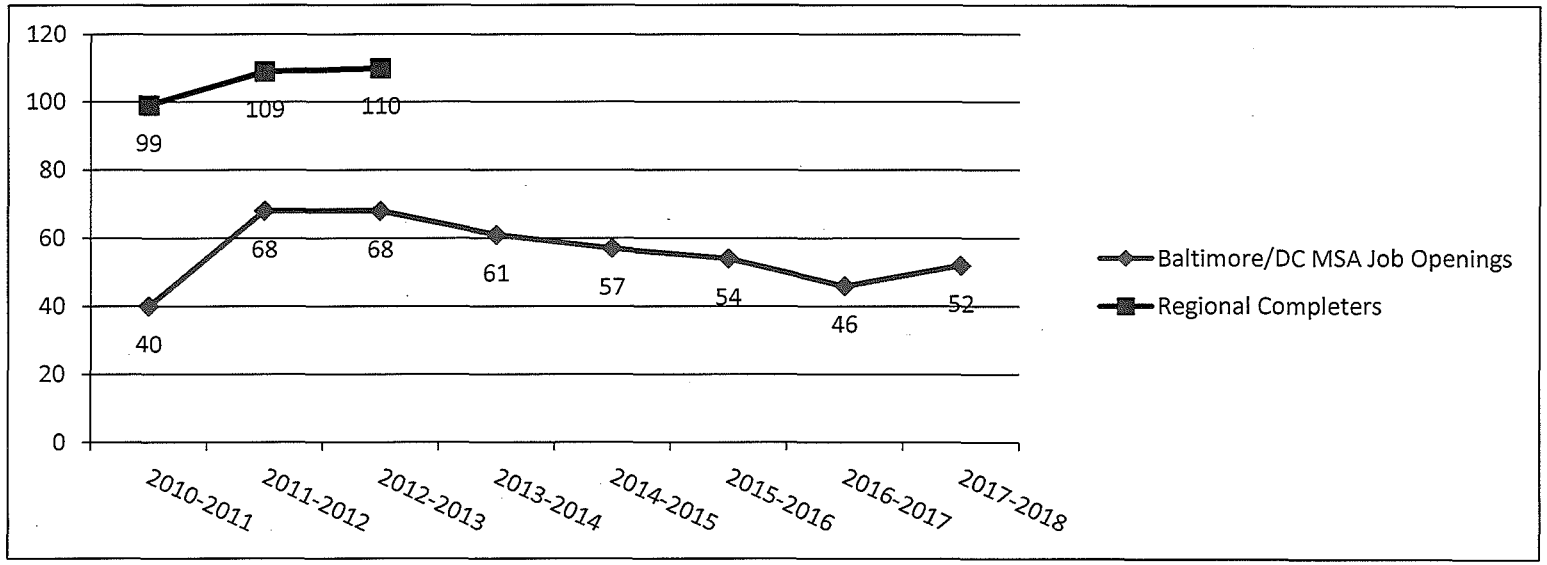
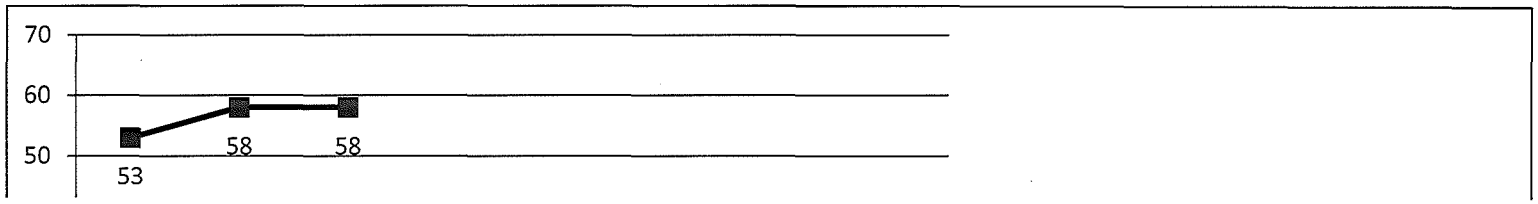


	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	Total
DC-VA-MD-WV MSA Job Openings	24	41	39	36	34	32	28	31	265
MSA Completers	46	51	52						149
Gap w/in Service Area	-22	-10	-13						



Diagnostic Medical Sonography Openings and Completions 2010-2018

	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	Total
Baltimore/DC MSA Job Openings	40	68	68	61	57	54	46	52	446
Regional Completers	99	109	110						318
Gap w/in Service Area	-59	-41	-42						



	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	Total
Baltimore/Towson MSA Job Opening	16	27	27	25	23	22	18	21	179
MSA Completers	53	58	58						169
Gap w/in Service Area	-37	-31	-31