

MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

MEETING BOOKLET

Time: 10:00 AM
Wednesday, September 23, 2020

Place: Video Teleconference
(GoToMeeting)

Maryland Higher Education Commission

Ian D. MacFarlane, Chair

Senchal D. Barrolle, Esq.

Vivian S. Boyd, Ph.D.

James E. Coleman

Vera R. Jackson, Ph.D.

Charles McDaniels, Jr.

Donna M. Mitchell

James B. Sellinger, Sr.

Mary Pat Seurkamp, Ph.D.

Andrew R. Smarick

Jordan T. Troutman, Student Commissioner

John W. Yaeger, Ed.D.

James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph.D.
Secretary

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lt. Governor



Larry Hogan
Governor

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Ian D. MacFarlane
Chair

James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph. D.
Secretary

**Maryland Higher Education Commission
Meeting Agenda**

TIME: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday
September 23, 2020

PLACE: Video Teleconference (GoToMeeting)
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/842850749>
Call-In Number: (571) 317-3122
Access Code: 842-850-749

| | Page | Action Item |
|---|-------------|------------------------|
| Call to Order | | |
| Commission Minutes Approval | 1 | * |
| • June 24, 2020 | | |
| Chair’s and Secretary’s Remarks | | |
| Commissioner Committee Updates | | |
| Department of Finance and Administration – Geoffrey Newman | | |
| • Operation and Capital Budget Presentations | | |
| ○ 10:15 am – University System of Maryland, Ms. Ellen Herbst, Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance | | |
| ○ 10:45 am – St. Mary’s College of Maryland – Dr. Michael Wick, Provost and Dean of Faculty | | |
| ○ 11:05 am – Morgan State University – Dr. David Wilson, President | | |
| ○ 11:25 am – Maryland Independent College and University Association – Ms. Sara Fidler, President | | |
| ○ 11:45 am – Maryland Association of Community Colleges – Mr. Brad Phillips, Research and Policy Director | | |
| ○ 12:05 pm – Baltimore City Community College – Dr. Debra L. McCurdy, President | | |
| ○ 12:25 pm – Regional Higher Education Centers – Mr. Geoffrey Newman, Assistant Secretary of Finance and Administration | | |
| Break (12:45-1:00) | | |
| Department of Academic Affairs – Dr. Emily Dow | | |
| Final Approval of COMAR Regulation Changes – First-Time Students with Advanced Standing..... | 4 | * |
| Faculty Advisory Council and Student Advisory Council Updates..... | | |
| 2021-2025 State Plan Update..... | | |

Adjournment

Maryland Higher Education Commission
Meeting Minutes

June 24, 2020
1:00 p.m.

The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) met on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 via video teleconference (GoToMeeting).

Commission members present:

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Ian D. MacFarlane, Chair | Charles McDaniels, Jr. |
| Senchal D. Barrolle, Esq. | Donna M. Mitchell |
| Vivian S. Boyd, Ph.D. | James B. Sellinger, Sr. |
| James E. Coleman | Mary Pat Seurkamp, Ph.D. |
| Anwer J. Hasan | John W. Yaeger, Ed.D. |
| Vera R. Jackson, Ph.D. | |

Commission member absent:

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Jordan T. Troutman | |
|--------------------|--|

Staff members present:

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph.D. | Emily A. A. Dow, Ph.D. |
| Geoffrey Newman | Lee Towers |
| Barbara Schmertz, Ph.D. | Soma Kedia |
| Jennifer Katz | Everette Jackson |
| Trish Gordon-McCown | |

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by **Chair MacFarlane** at approximately 1:01 p.m. Eleven of the twelve Commission members were present when the meeting was called to order.

Approval of Minutes – Action Item

There was a motion by **Commissioner McDaniels** and a second by **Commissioner Seurkamp** for the approval of the June 3, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chair’s Remarks

Chair MacFarlane offered no special remarks.

Secretary’s Remarks

Chair MacFarlane recognized **Secretary Fielder** who thanked the Commissioners for their commitment to public service. **Secretary Fielder** also shared that the Governor announced today that more than \$45 million in education funding would go to help students affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, \$10 million of which would be given to the community colleges for workforce development. He further reported that the Higher Education COVID-19 Advisory Group, consisting of the various segments of higher education and several state agencies, continued to meet every week to discuss reopening campuses and resuming operations this fall.

Secretary Fielder also mentioned that today was Commissioner Hasan's last Commission meeting after 13 years of service, having been appointed in 2007 and designated Chairman in 2011. He thanked him for being a diligent member of the Commission, taking the time to read and study all of our reports and asking poignant, thoughtful questions.

Chair MacFarlane recognized Commissioner Hasan to make a few remarks, thanking him for being a tireless advocate for students. **Commissioner Hasan** remarked that serving on the Commission had been a wonderful experience for him and he thanked the staff for their work and support over the years.

Commissioner Committee Updates

Chair MacFarlane thanked Commissioner Hasan for his past work in re-structuring the Committees of the Commission. He urged present Commissioners to volunteer for a Committee assignment, if they have not already chosen one.

Finance and Operations Committee: Commissioner Mitchell remarked that she was still actively seeking members for her Committee. Assistant Secretary for Finance and Administration Geoff Newman provided an update, reporting that they were working to fill 7 vacancies, as well as renew contractual positions, in the agency.

Program Review Committee: Commissioner Yaeger reported that he and Commissioner Boyd were a part of the State Plan Student Success writing group, which currently lacks representatives of community colleges and private career schools.

Outreach, Grants, and Financial Assistance: Commissioner Jackson reported that her Committee met recently (this past Monday), and that Commissioner Coleman has joined them. The staff has experienced much success with conducting outreach events online and is looking to increase the number of their events. She challenged the Commissioners to promote MHEC's programs on their social media platforms, including filming a 30-second video to post. They also discussed an idea to conduct a town hall meeting with parents to answer their financial aid questions, which could help staff develop a frequently-asked questions document to post on MHEC's website. They plan to meet again in July.

Chair MacFarlane challenged the Committees to revise their goals (perhaps 2 or 3) for the year. He hopes they can report on that at the next meeting.

Department of Academic Affairs – Report on Institutions of Higher Education Program Review: Secretary Actions for Quarter 1 (January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020) – Information Item

Chair MacFarlane recognized Ms. Trish Gordon McCown (MHEC’s Director of Academic Affairs) who provided an overview of the Secretary’s actions during the first quarter of 2020 concerning one program objected to, new degree programs, new certificate programs, new areas of concentration, substantial modifications to existing programs, non-substantial modifications to existing programs, one proposal withdrawn, one proposal not approved or recommended, institutional program partnerships, and out-of-state institutions.

Department of Academic Affairs – Report on Private Career Schools: Secretary Actions for Quarter 1 (January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020) – Information Item

Chair MacFarlane recognized Ms. McCown who provided an overview of the Secretary’s actions during the first quarter of 2020 concerning the approval of a new school, new program, one approval of change of location, one other business approval, certificate renewals, one school approval withdrawn, workforce development sequence scholarship approvals, approvals of workforce development sequence scholarship modifications, and training provider questionnaires.

Office of Research and Policy Analysis – Overview of Research and Policy Analysis – Information Item

Chair MacFarlane recognized Dr. Barbara Schmertz (Director of the Office of Research and Policy Analysis) who gave an overview of the work of the Office of Research and Policy Analysis. Dr. Schmertz explained that they received their data from Maryland institutions. One type of data was annual data (like financial aid data) and another was by term (4 terms per year, such as enrollment data). Her office was also working on a new data collection to consist of non-credit program completion data from community colleges. They also receive data in the form of narrative reports mandated from institutions, such as those regarding incidents of sexual assault.

Dr. Schmertz explained that her office assembled reports for consumption by various audiences, including legislators and other state agencies. Some of these reports were mandated and must be approved by the Commission (such as Enrollment Projections and Performance Accountability Reports). Others are mandated, including the Report on Programs of Cultural Diversity, and some are considered proactive, like the annual Data Book and Students with Disabilities.

Overall, their work consisted of reporting, policy research, ensuring data integrity, exploring data needs, and partnering/collaborating with various entities (other state agencies and the Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center). The goals of her office include provision of data & analysis, customer service and informing policy.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:04 p.m.



Larry Hogan
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lt. Governor

Ian D. MacFarlane
Chair

James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph. D.
Secretary

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 23, 2020

TO: Maryland Higher Education Commissioners

FROM: Dr. Emily Dow, Assistant Secretary for Academic Affairs

SUBJECT: Final Approval of COMAR Regulation Changes –
First-Time Students with Advanced Standing

On April 28, 2020, the Commission approved for publication in the Maryland Register amendments to regulations to include a definition for “first-time student with advanced standing.” The enclosed regulations were published in the Maryland Register on July 31, 2020. The public comment period for the regulations ended on August 31, 2020, and no public comments were received.

The proposed regulations are ready for the Commission’s final adoption.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Commission approves for final adoption the attached changes to regulations to include a definition for “first-time student with advanced standing,” which were published in the Maryland Register on July 31s, 2020.

Title 13B MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

Subtitle 06 GENERAL EDUCATION AND TRANSFER

Chapter 01 Public Institutions of Higher Education

Authority: Education Article, §§11-105(u) and 11-207 and Title 11, Subtitle 2, Annotated Code of Maryland

.02 Definitions.

A. In this chapter, the following terms have the meanings indicated.

B. Terms Defined.

(1) – (11) (text unchanged)

(12) "First-time student" means a student who:

(a) Has earned a high school diploma or equivalent; and

(b) Has not earned any college credit from an institution of higher education subsequent to earning the high school diploma or equivalent.

(13) "First-time student with advanced standing" means a first-time student who earned college credit from an institution of higher education prior to earning a high school diploma or equivalent.

~~(14)~~ (text unchanged)

~~(15)~~ (text unchanged)

~~(16)~~ (text unchanged)

~~(17)~~ (text unchanged)

~~(18)~~ (text unchanged)

~~(19)~~ (text unchanged)

~~(20)~~ "Receiving institution" means the institution of higher education ~~at~~ to which a ~~transfer~~ student ~~currently~~ desires to ~~enroll~~ transfer credit.

~~(21)~~ (text unchanged)

~~(22)~~ (text unchanged)

~~(23)~~ "Sending institution" means the institution of higher education of most recent previous enrollment by a ~~transfer~~ student at which ~~transferable~~ applicable academic credit was earned.

~~(24)~~ (text unchanged)

~~(25)~~ "Transfer student" means a student entering an institution for the first time having successfully completed a minimum of 12 semester hours at another institution of higher education after earning a high school diploma or equivalent that are applicable for credit at the institution the student is entering.

.02-1 Admission of Transfer Students ~~to Public Institutions~~ and First-Time Students with Advanced Standing.

A. Admission to Public Institutions.

(1) Subject to §B of this regulation, a student attending a public institution who has completed an associate's degree or who has completed 60 or more semester hours of credit, may not be denied direct transfer to another public institution if the student attained a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent at the sending institution, except as provided in §A(4) of this regulation.

(2) Subject to §B of this regulation, a student attending a public institution who has not completed an associate's degree or who has completed fewer than 60 semester hours of credit, is eligible to transfer to a public institution regardless of the number of credit hours earned if the student:

(a) Satisfied the same admission criteria as a native student ~~of~~ at the receiving public institution ~~as a high school senior~~; and

(b) Attained ~~at least~~ a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent at the sending institution.

(3) (text unchanged)

(4) If the number of students seeking admission exceeds the number that can be accommodated at a receiving public institution, admission decisions shall be:

(a) Based on criteria developed and published by the receiving public institution on the institution's website; and

(b) Made to provide fair and equal treatment for native students, ~~and~~ transfer students, and first-time students with advanced standing.

B. Admission to Programs.

(1) A receiving public institution may require additional program admission requirements to some programs if the standards and criteria for admission to the program:

(a) Are developed and published by the receiving public institution; and

(b) Maintain fair and equal treatment for native ~~students, and~~ transfer students, and first-time students with advanced standing.

(2) (text unchanged)

C. Receiving Institution Program Responsibility.

(1) (text unchanged)

(2) (text unchanged)

(3) A receiving public institution, in developing lower division course work, shall exchange information with other public institutions to facilitate the ~~transfer-transfer~~ of credits into its programs.

(4) A receiving public institution shall ensure that any changes to program standards and criteria for admission and the transfer of credits:

(a) maintain the fair and equal treatment of native ~~students, and~~ transfer students, and first-time students with advanced standing; and

(b) are communicated in a timely manner.

.04 Transfer of Education Program Credit.

A. (text unchanged)

B. (text unchanged)

C. Nontraditional Credit.

(1) The assignment of credit for AP, CLEP, or other nationally recognized standardized examination scores presented by ~~transfer students~~any student is shall be determined according to the same standards that apply to native students in the receiving institution; and ~~the assignment shall be~~ consistent with the State minimum requirements.

(2) – (5) (text unchanged)

D. – F. (text unchanged)

.08 Appeal Process.

A. Notice of Denial of Transfer Credit by a Receiving Institution.

(1) Except as provided in §A(2) of this regulation, a receiving institution shall inform a ~~transfer~~ student in writing of ~~the a~~ denial of transfer credit not later than mid-semester of the ~~transfer~~ student's first semester, if all official transcripts have been received at least 15 working days before mid-semester.

(2) – (4) (text unchanged)

B. – E. (text unchanged)



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Maryland Higher Education Commission 2020 Meeting Dates

The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) is Maryland's higher education coordinating board responsible for the management of statewide financial aid programs and the establishment of statewide policies for public and private colleges and career schools to support students' postsecondary pursuits.

Meeting Dates and Locations

| | |
|--|---|
| January 22, 2020 | July 22, 2020 (if needed) |
| February 26, 2020 | August 26, 2020 (if needed) |
| March 25, 2020 | September 23, 2020 9:30am to 3:30pm |
| April 22, 2020 | October 28, 2020 |
| May 20, 2020 *Please note date change.* | November 18, 2020 *Please note date change.* |
| June 24, 2020 | December 16, 2020 *Please note date change.* |

All Commission meetings will be held on the 4th Wednesday of each month from 1:00pm to 4:00pm at the Maryland Higher Education Commission in the 7th Floor Board Room located at 6 N. Liberty Street, Baltimore, MD 21201, unless otherwise noted.

Dates and times are subject to change.

<http://www.mhec.maryland.gov/About/Pages/Meetings.aspx>