



**HOWARD**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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***Board of Trustees'  
Legislative and Community  
Relations Committee  
Meeting Materials***

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November 10, 2011

8:30 a.m.

The Rouse Company Foundation Student Services Hall

RCF-120B

# GROUND RULES

1. Board members practice respectful dialogue that serves the best interests of the college.
2. Each board member works to integrate servant-leadership into the board culture.
3. Each board member has the opportunity to speak uninterrupted.
4. Board members come prepared – board chair needs to understand what is required and set time and material appropriately.
5. Board chair acts as caretaker for the board – acts as filter, evaluates agenda for time well spent.
6. Board chair speaks for the board to the media.
7. Consent materials are available 10 days in advance; remaining board materials are available seven days in advance.
8. Board members should route any requests for additional information to the board chair or the president at least two business days prior to the board meeting.

# Howard Community College's *Dragon Principles*

We promise to help our students, employees, and community members "get there from here."

We pledge to...

Be friendly

Be helpful to our students and community

Be considerate of each other

And we pledge to...

**Work with Elected Officials  
and the Community**





*You Can Get There From Here.*

## **Board of Trustees Legislative and Community Relations Committee**



November 10, 2011  
8:30 a.m.

The Rouse Company Foundation  
Student Services Hall – RCF-120B

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1. Review of the Howard Community College Legislative Agenda
2. Update on Legislative Issues in Annapolis
3. Planning for the Howard Community College Legislative Breakfast
4. Briefing on Student Advocacy Day

The last meeting of the legislative and community relations committee for FY12 is scheduled for February 2, 2012.

## **1 – Review of the Howard Community College Legislative Agenda**

### **Background**

Following this item is a revised version of the proposed fiscal year (FY) 2013 Howard Community College Legislative Agenda. This agenda has been revised to reflect updated enrollment numbers secured from the fall census data report. For ease of review, revisions are highlighted in yellow.

### ◆———— Recommendation —————◆

The administration requests that the legislative and community relations committee recommend approval of the legislative agenda to the full board at its November 30, 2011, meeting.

# Fiscal Year 2013 Legislative Agenda (DRAFT)

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## OVERVIEW

**Note: The data below was updated on September 16, 2011, as new numbers became available on the census date.**

Enrollment at Howard Community College (HCC) continues to increase. The following key statistics highlight the significant growth at the college as of close of business on Monday, August 29, 2011:

- Full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment for fall 2011 increased five percent from the equivalent date last year.
- A total of **10,081** students enrolled in credit classes at HCC in fall 2011.
- From fiscal year (FY) 2000 to 2011, state-funded FTE enrollment at HCC has increased 113.26 percent.
- One out of four graduates of Howard County Public Schools enrolled at HCC in fall 2011.

HCC offers over 200 areas of concentration, options and programs leading to a degree or certificate. A new accounting program and certificate of proficiency in bookkeeping were added this year, along with three new options in the arts: architecture, interior design, and theatre generalist. Future academic programs that are currently under development include entertainment technologies, humanities, paramedic to RN, associate of science in engineering (ASE)-mechanical engineering, cyber-security, and new allied health programs (medical laboratory assistant, dental hygiene, medical diagnostic sonography, and physical therapist assistant).

The college's continuing education and workforce development division continues to reach out to the community by offering many diverse classes and programs that attract learners of all ages. A total of 16,426 people enrolled in HCC's continuing education classes last year. Traditionally in a poor economy, noncredit enrollments nationwide decline significantly; however, this division's full-time enrollment has remained consistent over the past three fiscal years. In FY11, noncredit funded FTE was 19.5 percent of the college's total funded FTE. The division provided 246 allied health and nursing course sections in FY11, offering continuing education for nurses, social workers, physical therapists, occupational therapists, and other health care professionals. Students range from entry-level to current practitioners. Extensive training was provided to the Department of Defense, with 117 sections of 19 different courses for a total enrollment of 3,071.

Additional highlights of the year were a number of popular programs, such as Adult Basic Education/English as a Second Language and Kids on Campus. Kids on Campus enrolled over 1,729 children representing over 4,366 enrollments from elementary to high school age. Training was provided to over 9,000 employees of 41 companies and organizations through contracts and grants. These courses received a 100 percent satisfaction rate from employers in the last survey.

HCC plays an important role in workforce development in Howard County by providing training. The college offers courses, certificates, and degree programs for entry-level and incumbent employees, industry certifications, advanced technical programs, and executive development, leadership, and management programs.

Enrollments continue to be strong in certified nursing assistant and other entry-level health care courses, medical billing and coding courses, adult basic skills, English as a Second Language, and project management. The economic climate is reflected in the increased enrollments in those courses that lead to immediate job placement. There were 4,201 student enrollments in courses classified as workforce development in FY11.

HCC also offers courses and programs at two other locations:

- The Laurel College Center (LCC), operated jointly with Prince George's Community College (PGCC), continues to be a marked success for the community. Designated as a Regional Higher Education Center by the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC), the LCC provides students access to associate's, bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degree programs. In addition to the courses offered by PGCC and HCC, several four-year institutions, including Towson University, University of Maryland University College, University of Maryland, College Park, and Notre Dame of Maryland University, offer bachelor and master's programs and Morgan State University offers a doctorate degree program at the LCC. Students can study business administration, general studies, criminal justice, and applied information technology. The LCC has expanded classroom space to accommodate increased enrollment to meet the needs of the regional partners.
- HCC's Charles I. Ecker Business Training Center, located in the Gateway building with its professional meeting spaces and computer labs, is a resource for the local business community to meet and train so these businesses can continue to be regional, national, and international leaders in their respective industries.

HCC is an institution that strives for excellence. For the third consecutive year, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* named HCC a 2011 "Great College to Work For" based on the college's exceptional work environment and classified the college as an Honor Roll institution. HCC is the only community college in Maryland to receive this distinction three consecutive times. HCC was one of only 26 community colleges in the nation to be selected, and was one of only 12 community colleges in the U.S. to be given Honor Roll status for 2011. The results were based on a survey of nearly 44,000 employees at 310 colleges and universities in the U.S.

The college's commitment to excellence and its reputation for cultivating student success has become national news. *Money Magazine* featured HCC in its March 2011 cover story as an affordable college where families are sending their children to receive a quality education, while saving thousands of dollars.

Testament to the high quality of the college's programming is the fact that the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, which accredits degree-granting colleges and universities in the Middle States region, reaccredited HCC with high marks in June 2011. The commission commended the college for meeting all 14 of its rigorous standards and applauded HCC faculty and staff for creating an extraordinary learning environment on campus.

The college, which continues to promote an institutional culture that is committed to continuous quality improvement, was named a finalist for the nation's highest recognition of excellence, the 2008 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. The college has adopted a performance excellence framework to measure and improve performance.

In 2008, HCC was the proud winner of the 2007 U.S. Senate Productivity Award, which is Maryland's top annual award for performance excellence as presented by the Maryland Performance Excellence Awards (MPEA) Program. HCC also won a Bronze Maryland State Quality Award in both 2002 and 2003 and earned a silver award in 2006.

HCC is focused on the changes that will come to Howard County as a result of the federal Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) initiative. The college is actively involved and taking leadership to ensure that Howard County is prepared for the influx of people and jobs that will be coming into the region.

HCC is equally committed to addressing the shortage of health care workers in Maryland by developing programs and initiatives to increase the number of graduates entering high-demand occupations. U.S. Senators Barbara A. Mikulski and Benjamin L. Cardin and Congressmen Elijah Cummings and John Sarbanes were instrumental in securing \$1 million in federal funding to help the partners of Howard, Frederick, and Carroll Community Colleges lease a new health care education center in Mount Airy, Maryland. When complete, the Mount Airy College Center for Health Care Education will train 300 to 500 students a year, helping students prepare for in-demand jobs and to alleviate the shortage of health care workers in Maryland. The center will house science, computer and medical simulation laboratories, and classrooms for allied health education programs. Fall 2012 is the projected occupation date for the new center.

Among the grants HCC has received recently is a five-year grant for \$961,830 from the MHEC/Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission to increase nursing graduates and graduate nurse retention through the licensed practical nursing (LPN) pathway sequence, as well as \$640,000 to develop a hybrid accelerated curriculum and disseminate simulation across the nursing curriculum. The college also received a \$200,000 grant from Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Mid-Atlantic States, Inc./Kaiser Permanente Fund for Community Benefit Fund for nursing student

scholarships, and \$356,408 from the Horizon Foundation to support the new allied health programs.

HCC works in concert with the Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC) and the other fifteen community colleges in the state to pursue a state-focused legislative agenda that collectively addresses the needs of Maryland's community colleges. HCC encourages the Maryland General Assembly and the executive branch of state government to support the priorities developed by MACC.

From 2008 to 2010, Maryland's community colleges have increased enrollment by approximately 20,000 students. This three-year, system-wide growth at the community colleges is equivalent to establishing another higher education institution in Maryland the approximate size of Towson University.

### **Operating Budget**

#### **Position:**

**Support funding for HCC at the state level and through county appropriations at the local level.**

HCC receives funding for its unrestricted budget and auxiliary funds from multiple sources (chart 1). State funding accounts for 13 percent of support; the county provides 27 percent; tuition and fees comprise 39 percent; and 21 percent comes from other sources. Access and affordability of higher education are directly associated with the level of state and county operating funds received by the institution. Strong operating support from the state and county, coupled with prudent fiscal management by HCC, is important to help keep student tuition as affordable as possible

Community colleges receive the state portion of their operating budget through the Cade funding formula. There have been a number of adjustments to the formula since its enactment in 1996, all aimed at increasing the state's portion of a community college education in order to keep the student's portion affordable. Unfortunately, the recent economic situation has reduced the state's appropriation to community colleges to below the 2009 appropriation. This decrease is particularly problematic because enrollments are surging at many community colleges in Maryland. HCC's FTE enrollment for fall 2010 increased 9.49 percent and spring 2011 enrollment was up by 7.81 percent.

The fiscal year 2011 state Cade funding saw funding levels below the FY09 level and the FY12 budget was flat-funded with no change in the Cade funding. However, the governor did grant a one-time allocation of \$5 million to community colleges consistent with his initiative to keep college affordable. This funding is an incentive for community colleges not to increase their tuition levels beyond three percent. Howard Community College has done that with a three-dollar tuition increase. This increase was caused by the level funding from the state, while enrollment and other costs increased. For this concession, HCC received an additional \$291,216 in the FY12 budget. Even with this funding, the college is still receiving less than FY09.

Due to the state's structural deficit, the conference committee rebased the Cade funding formula. FY13 levels will be at a 19 percent tie to the four-year institutions until FY14. In FY15, the levels begin to increase each year thereafter until the 2010 statutory intent of the 29 percent funding of the four-year institutions is reached in FY23. The state fully funded the retirement benefits although a transfer of a portion of these costs to employees occurred. In addition, the state added an administrative charge of \$163 per employee that the colleges must now pay, representing an annual amount of \$43,836. The state also permanently altered its reimbursement for the statewide and Health Manpower Shortage programs. Instead of reimbursing the colleges on an FTE basis, the college will receive a prorated reimbursement according to an annual appropriation in the budget. This change could mean a loss of approximately \$800,000 for HCC.

The college's contribution from the county for FY09, FY10, and FY11 remained the same at \$25,195,470. However, in FY12, the county increased funding to the college by three percent. This increase enabled the college to add 14 new faculty members to address the full-time/part-time ratio, which had decreased to 37 percent full-time and 63 percent part-time in the fall of 2010 due to enrollment increases. The chart at the end of this item (chart 2) shows the FTE growth along with the decline per FTE in state and county support. Tuition has been the balancing factor used to keep the budget stable and manage the college's growth.

## **Capital Budget**

### **Position:**

#### **Support funding of HCC capital projects for FY13**

Over the past several years, the college has received significant state and county support for capital projects that facilitated the construction of three new buildings, two parking structures (county support only), and the renovation of three existing buildings on campus:

- Duncan Hall for English, Languages, and Business, constructed in 2003;
- Horowitz Visual and Performing Arts Center, constructed in 2006;
- East Parking Garage, constructed in 2006;
- The Rouse Company Foundation Student Services Hall, constructed in 2007;
- Children's Learning Center, renovated in 2008;
- Smith Theatre and McCuan Hall, renovated in 2009;
- James Clark, Jr. Library Hall, renovated in 2010; and
- West Parking Garage, constructed in 2011.

Additionally, the county has supported the phased athletic fields' renovations from 2004 through 2010, which included a new multi-purpose turf field for collegiate soccer and lacrosse, as well as baseball, softball, and other recreational activities.

However, even after acquiring these new buildings and improving space efficiencies through renovations, the college continues to show a current space deficit of 227,872 net assignable square feet (NASF) with the most severe deficit being in academic class lab space.

This space deficit emphasizes the seriousness of the campus space deficiencies. The college's capital needs are urgent and critical and a top priority for the president and board of trustees. In order to continue to carry out the mission and vision of the college, the proper infrastructure must exist.

Continued state support is necessary to manage growth in higher education and specifically for community colleges as the funds available for capital projects are very competitive. Efforts by the community college boards and presidents have secured additional funding for the community colleges in the capital budget over the past couple of years. However, while the overall capital grant program funds have increased, the number of projects eligible for funding has diminished. The primary reason is that the cost of the projects has increased dramatically over the last few years increasing competition for available funds. In order to alleviate some of the burden, the community colleges have agreed to work with the state to split-fund the construction dollars on eligible projects such as HCC's health sciences building. In addition, the community colleges work together to produce one prioritized list of capital projects for funding.

Over the past several years, the college has received strong support from the county. In FY10, it received \$4,320,000 from the county to fund three projects: the health sciences building design phase; Clark Library Hall furniture and equipment; and safety, compliance, and facility renewals. In FY11, the college received \$12,823,000 from the county to fund three projects: the health sciences building construction phase one; parking garage number two construction phase; and safety, compliance, and facility renewals. And in FY12, HCC received \$18,488,000 from the county to fund three projects: the health sciences building construction phase two; the science, engineering and technology building design phase; and safety, compliance, and facility renewals.

The college recognizes the limitations on the county's bond funding and has requested state funding on eligible projects, and where applicable, split-funding on construction phase projects. It is mandated, however, that 50 percent local participation be achieved to obtain the state match. In addition, the uncertainty of state support places a heavier funding burden on the county and college. Parking garages are not currently supported by the state. Based on a recommendation from the college, MACC requested that the state review its current position of not funding parking garages and a committee at the state level has been formed to review this request.

Over the next decade, community colleges will continue to serve the largest share of undergraduates in the State of Maryland. It is critical that the state and county support the FY13 capital request. Current facilities must grow to support the college's customers and stakeholders - the citizens of Howard County and the State of Maryland.

HCC requests support for the following projects included in its FY13 annual capital budget request:

### **Health Sciences Building**

**FY13: \$8,087,360 Furniture and Equipment and Reprogramming  
\$4,787,360 (county) and \$3,300,000 (state)**

The college is constructing a new health sciences building of 67,036 NASF and 112,692 gross square feet (GSF) to support the health sciences disciplines of nursing and allied health, which include cardiovascular technology, emergency medical services, exercise science, life fitness, health care, health education, human services, nursing, nutrition, radiological technology, dental hygienist, physical therapist assistant, medical laboratory technician, medical diagnostic sonography, and public health. The facility will include classrooms and labs, lecture hall, meeting rooms, skills-based vocational laboratories, clinical and simulated patient suites, offices and administrative support facilities, and building support areas. The total cost for the construction of the building is \$37,862,000. In FY11, the college received \$9,465,000 (50 percent) from the state and \$4,623,000 (25 percent) from the county. In FY12, HCC received funding for the second year of construction for the building as well as for the quad and traffic circle improvements, \$9,466,000 (50 percent) from the state and \$15,508,000 (75 percent) from the county. **The FY13 request is for the project completion phase and includes funds for furniture and equipment. In addition, funds are being requested for design \$44,072, construction \$204,548, and equipment \$438,740 to cover the reprogramming of space for the new academic programs in dental hygienist, medical laboratory technician, medical diagnostic sonography, and physical therapy assistant.**

### **Science, Engineering, and Technology Building**

**FY13: \$1,488,000 Planning and Design**

**\$1,488,000 (county)**

The college is designing a new science, engineering, and technology building of 79,250 NASF and 133,140 GSF to support current and projected enrollments in the science and technology division. Functions to be housed in the proposed facility include biology; chemistry; physics; physical science; geology; engineering technology; telecommunications; computer forensics, including cyber forensics and cyber security; biomedical engineering; advanced computer systems; astronomy; meteorology; and horticulture. This project supports the college's mission to help improve the learning outcomes of all of its students by providing facilities that support science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) initiatives. This building will be designed with interactive learning environments that engage students and prepare them for the workforce. **This proposed building will service 17,291 weekly student contact hours generated for the science and technology division.** In FY12, the college received \$1,480,000 from the county and \$2,968,000 from the state to begin the two-year design of this building. The college is requesting the remaining design funds from the county in FY13 for a total design cost of \$5,936,000.

### **Safety, Compliance, and Facility Renewals**

**FY13: \$6,052,000 Design, Construction, and Equipment**

**\$4,078,000 (county) and \$1,974,000 (state)**

This project includes systemic renovations and deferred maintenance and facility renewals at all the college campuses including the Charles I. Ecker Business Training Center and the Laurel College Center. With the implementation of new state and county codes, revised Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and safety compliance, and critical maintenance requirements, the following projects are proposed for FY13:

- Phased installation of campus-wide security systems;
- ADA renovations;
- Public restroom renovations;
- Deferred maintenance per building assessment study;
- Interior improvements (classrooms, offices, and other);
- Information technology modifications and upgrades;
- Phased signage package installation;
- Phased cabling upgrades for TV studio;
- Phased landscaping and stream restoration;
- Phased audiovisual (AV) upgrades for academic buildings; and
- Campus-wide utilities upgrade.

### **Parking Garage at Hickory Ridge**

**FY13: \$700,000 Design and Construction  
\$700,000 (county)**

One of the most critical issues on campus is the parking shortage. With the significant increase in enrollment, and after a thorough analysis of the campus land plans, future building sites, and forest conservation and wetland restrictions, the college determined that construction of parking decks on campus was more feasible than additional surface parking lots. The college constructed its first garage of 518 spaces in 2006, but even with the completion of the first parking garage on campus, the college was experiencing significant parking shortages. Therefore, a second garage was proposed and funds were received from the county for construction in FY11. This garage of 723 spaces was completed this past spring with the official opening in June 2011. Even with the completion of these two parking garages, the college's current parking deficit remains at 1,240 spaces. While this number is a definite improvement over the previous deficit, necessary enhancements to infrastructure and campus roadways are necessary for vehicular and pedestrian circulation.

Along with the completion of the new garage, the college needs to address the Hickory Ridge entry road as part of the project. This secondary entry point to the campus exists off Hickory Ridge Road and it is currently being over-utilized making this entrance dangerously congested. The internal campus road does not function well for automobiles and there are pedestrian conflicts at various locations creating safety hazards at pedestrian points. Additionally, current code requirements necessitate additional work involving stream restoration and improvements to the dell. The funds being requested for FY13 are associated with the construction of the new campus road and include the necessary enhancements to the stream and dell area.

### **Laurel College Center**

#### **Position:**

**Support state funding for the Laurel College Center**

The Laurel College Center was formed as a partnership between Prince George's and Howard Community Colleges in 2001. The LCC has expanded educational opportunities to many residents in the Laurel region. In addition to the courses offered

by PGCC and HCC, several four-year institutions, including Towson University, University of Maryland University College, University of Maryland, College Park, and Notre Dame of Maryland University, offer bachelor's and master's programs and Morgan State University offers a doctorate degree program at the LCC.. Students can study business administration, general studies, criminal justice, and applied information technology.

The LCC is an important access point to higher education. In fall 2010, there were 1,386 credit students enrolled in courses offered by HCC and Prince George's Community College at LCC, which accounted for 1,985 enrollments. In fall 2010, there were 753 noncredit enrollments at LCC. There were 208 noncredit unduplicated headcount HCC students taking courses at the LCC in fall 2010. The total enrollment in fiscal year 2011 for classes offered by the LCC's four-year partners was 507; this number shows a 7.9 percent increase from fiscal year 2010.

The Maryland Higher Education Commission has developed criteria to calculate a level of base funding each of the Regional Higher Education Centers (RHEC) in the state should receive based on enrollments and programmatic offerings. While these criteria do not exist in statute, HCC believes they are a reasonable way to determine equitable funding levels for RHECs. Based on these criteria, the FY13 request for the LCC is:

\$200,000	base allocation*
104,219	incentive funding based on FTE*
69,803	lease costs*
<u>441,400</u>	<u>special funding*</u>
\$815,422	TOTAL

\*Definitions are as follows:

**Base Allocation:** The base allocation supports the basic operation of an RHEC. This allocation may include a minimum amount of the cost to maintain and operate center facilities, as well as staff needed to support the core functions of the center (i.e., the administration of the facility and coordination of center activities). The statewide RHEC workgroup recommended that the base allocation be funded at \$200,000 for each center. MHEC allocated the funding for the base amount of \$200,000 in FY11 and FY12.

**Incentive Funding:** Incentive funding is designed to encourage baccalaureate and graduate degree offerings at RHECs. The funding formula includes an incentive multiplier amount per targeted full-time equivalent student (FTEs). Targeted FTEs include: eligible, credit lower division FTEs in 2+2 programs<sup>1</sup> that are offered at the center, upper division FTEs, and graduate FTEs. Incentive funding is based on dollars per upper division and graduate division FTEs enrollments and lower division FTEs

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<sup>1</sup>A 2+2 program refers to a lower division program of study that may result in an associate degree that directly and intentionally articulates to upper division work for the completion of a baccalaureate degree. The incentive funding formula includes only those 2+2 FTEs that have documented intent to enroll in upper division degree programs offered at the center. These students should be documented either through a letter of intent as part of their academic advising or via a joint application filed with the lower division and upper division degree granting institutions that offer courses at the center.

enrolled in 2+2 programs offered at the center. University of Maryland at Shady Grove's general fund appropriation per FTEs is used to set the benchmark for dollars per FTEs. This benchmark is then inflated annually by the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI) for the recommended funding level per FTEs for the current fiscal year. The resulting inflated funding per FTEs figure is multiplied by the number of upper division, graduate division, and 2+2 lower division FTEs to determine that center's incentive funding amount.

In FY11, \$11,024 was allocated out of the \$104,029 request or 10.59 percent. For FY12, \$16,436 or 13.16 percent was allocated out of the request of \$124,834.

**Leasing Costs:** Leasing costs are based on dollars per upper division and graduate FTEs at centers that lease facilities. The leasing appropriation is calculated by dividing the annual lease cost by the number of total FTEs at the center (lower, upper, and graduate). The resulting number is multiplied by the total number of upper division and graduate FTEs at the center to determine the amount of the grant. To date, this funding has not been received.

**Special Funding:** Special funding is designated for initiatives such as start-up of new centers; support for high need, critical, and special programs to meet regional needs; one time enhancement funding; and funding for non-capital equipment (i.e., any equipment with a useful life of less than 15 years that is not funded with debt and must be financed through the operating budget). Each request is examined on a case-by-case basis. The LCC has typically submitted a list of computer needs and furniture and equipment for this amount. To date, this funding has not been received.

Based on the above, \$441,400 was requested in FY12 for the Laurel College Center Regional Higher Education Center funding but it was not received.

## **Financial Aid**

### **Position: Support student financial aid**

Howard Community College must be affordable for its students. The financial aid services office works diligently to make sure students are aware of various federal and state aid programs. The college also sets funds aside from its operating budget (\$717,147 in FY11) to provide aid to students, and the Howard Community College Educational Foundation, Inc. (HCCEF) raises scholarships funds. For FY11, the HCCEF distributed \$469,391 in scholarships, which is up approximately 17.3 percent over FY10.

In FY11, about 40 percent of all HCC students received some form of financial aid totaling more than \$18.4 million, a 39 percent increase from FY10 to FY11. This funding helps offset educational expenses for tuition, fees, books, supplies, child care, and other expenses. Even with these funding resources, many students still have unmet needs that make it a challenge for them to afford college.

In FY11, HCC experienced a 28 percent increase in Pell Grant recipients from FY10. In addition, the average Pell Grant award received was \$2,920. The maximum Pell Grant award stays at \$5,550 for FY12.

Even with the significant increase in Pell Grant funding, the number of loan borrowers from FY10 to FY11 increased 31 percent. In addition, the number of financial aid applications received by the college increased 13 percent in August 2011 compared to August 2010.

State funding for HCC decreased 15.6 percent from FY09 to FY10. This figure takes into account a one-time additional Maryland Campus-Based Educational Assistance Grant HCC received in FY09. For FY12 funding levels, HCC did receive an increase of 19 percent for the Maryland part-time program and a 35 percent increase in Maryland Campus-Based Educational Assistance Grant.

Because of this continuing need, HCC asks that the state make funding for financial aid programs, particularly need-based aid, a priority in the state budget.

Chart 1

## Sources of HCC Funds

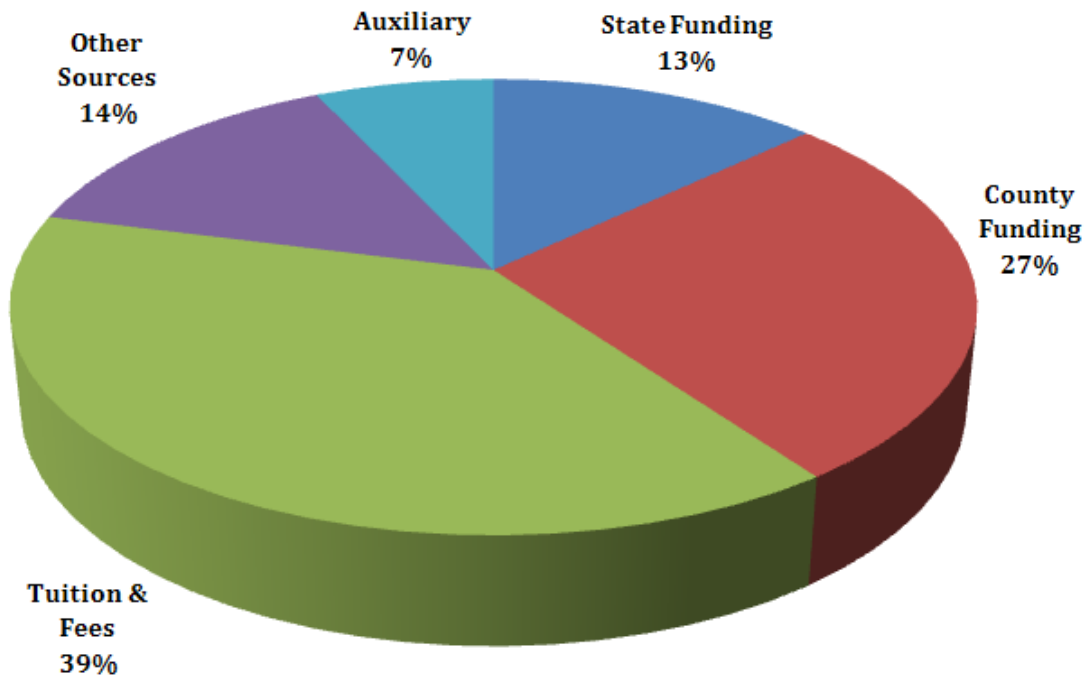
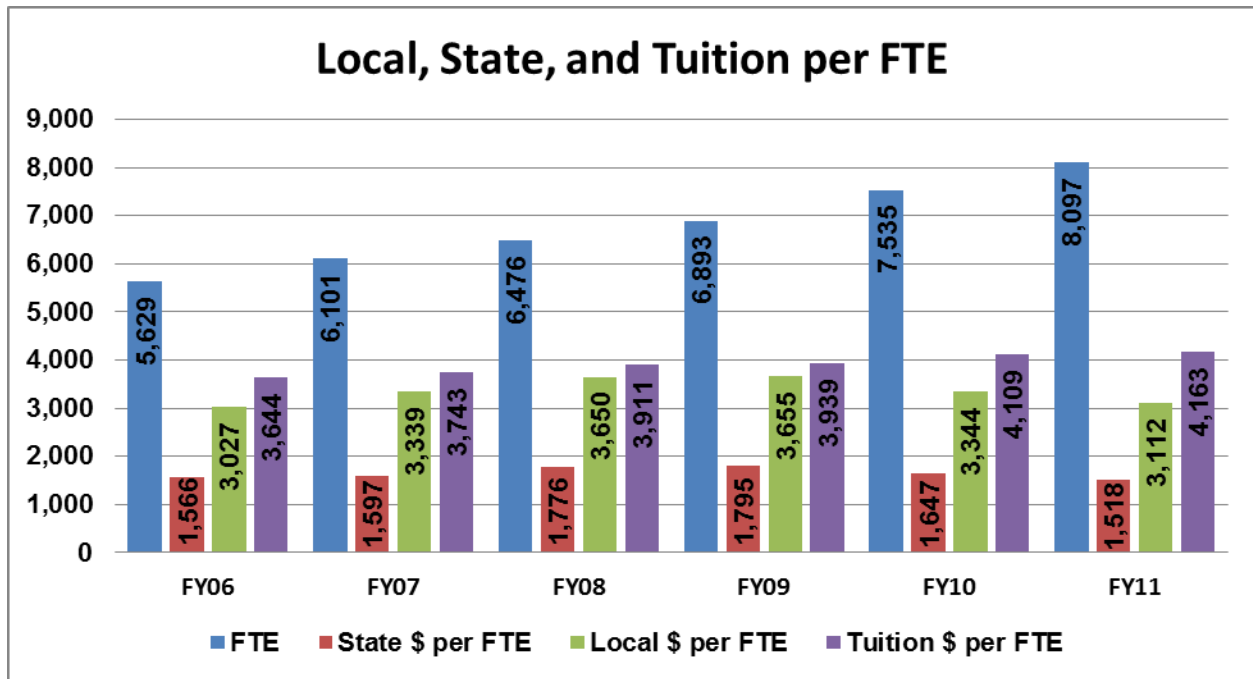


Chart 2

## Local, State, and Tuition per FTE



## **2 – Update on Legislative Issues in Annapolis**

### **Background**

Lawmakers gathered in mid-October for a special session to vote on new districts for the state's eight representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives for the next decade. Although the special session was limited to redistricting, there are approximately 50 pre-filed bills. So far, other than those associated with tax changes, none are of particular interest to community colleges.

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC) was invited by the Ways and Means Committee to give a briefing on community colleges, which was well-received. There was concern regarding the change to House Bill 104 pertaining to tuition waivers for disabled students that was enacted last session. (HB 104, enacted by the 2011 Maryland General Assembly, redefines the tuition waiver for students with disabilities as those out of the work force by reason of total and permanent disability and entering community colleges. HB 104 supersedes previous legislation and proposes significant changes to Section 16-106c of the Education Article, Annotated Code of Maryland.) The community colleges have taken a strict interruption of the bill and some, including HCC, have notified students that they are no longer eligible to receive this waiver for noncredit courses. HCC has notified all credit and noncredit students affected by the legislative change. Another bill on this topic is expected next session.

MACC consultant Clay Whitlow, and members of the executive committee met with Secretary of Budget and Management T. Eloise Foster, and Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor, Matt Gallagher, to review a number of issues, including a request to have the \$5 million "Keeping Community Colleges Affordable Grant" applied to the base budget and not linked to tuition increases. Other topics covered included tuition waivers, particularly disability waivers for noncredit students, funding for health manpower shortage programs, the possible merger of the Maryland Higher Education Commission and the Maryland State Department of Education, and pension issues.

The 2012 legislative agenda was presented to the MACC Board of Directors on Wednesday, October 26, 2011.

### **◆———— Recommendation —————◆**

This item is for information only and requires no action.

### **3 – Planning for the Howard Community College Legislative Breakfast**

#### **Background**

The college will hold its annual legislative breakfast on Tuesday, January 3, 2012. Breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m. and the program will start promptly at 8:30 a.m. in room 400 of The Rouse Company Foundation Student Services Hall. The Maryland Association of Counties' (MACo) Annual Winter Conference, which draws a number of delegates and county elected officials, will be held on Wednesday, January 4, the day after the college's legislative breakfast. The college's legislative breakfast precedes the 429th session of the General Assembly, which convenes Wednesday, January 11, 2012, and ends Monday, April 9, 2012.

All legislators have been e-mailed "save-the-date" letters with an RSVP request for Thursday, December 15. The following elected officials have confirmed their attendance to date: Senators Kasemeyer and Kittleman; Delegates Bates, DeBoy, Guzzone, and Turner; and Howard County Council Members Sigaty, Terrasa, and Watson.

Two student speakers and one parent speaker are in the process of being identified. Parent advocates and veteran students will be included among those seated at the tables. The selection of invited students will commence in the coming weeks. Board members and senior college staff will also be invited to attend and will be given talking points.

Once again, a briefing will be held with students prior to the event in order to review talking points and assign them to legislators according to their respective districts; this has been successful over the past three years. A modest continental breakfast will be served during this time of budget sensitivities.

#### **◆———— Recommendation —————◆**

This item is for information only and requires no action.

## **4 – Briefing on Student Advocacy Day**

### **Background**

Representatives from each community college in the state of Maryland participate annually in Student Advocacy Day. Designed to solicit continued support for the community college mission, Student Advocacy Day engages state representatives in support of the college's legislative agenda. Student Advocacy Day has been scheduled for Thursday, February 9, 2012.

As in past years, selected students will be invited to travel by bus to the Miller Senate Office Building in Annapolis to meet with senators and delegates to tell their stories about the impact that community colleges have made in their lives. Key talking points will be provided to the students and discussions will be held with each elected official.

### ◆———— Recommendation —————◆

This item is for information only and requires no action.