

**Maryland Community Colleges
Student Advocacy Day
Agenda**

- 7:30AM-7:45AM** Arrive at Smith Theatre. Breakfast and beverages will be available to take on the bus
- 8:00AM** Bus leaves promptly at 8:00 AM for Annapolis
- 9:00AM – 9:30AM** Arrive at the Presidential Conference Room, East 1 & 2 in the Miller Senate Office Building
- 9:30AM – 10:30AM** Welcome and Introduction of Speakers
- 10:30AM – 12:30AM** Meetings with Senators and Delegates (Appointments have been scheduled.)
- 12:30PM** Return to Presidential Conference Room to meet with Governor Ehrlich
- 1:00PM** Bus leaves promptly from the Miller Senate Office Building for HCC
- 1:30PM** Lunch vouchers provided by the college. Students who are able to eat lunch at that time will gather in a reserved section of the Galley. Others can use the voucher anytime through the rest of the week.

Note: No food or beverages are permitted in the Presidential Conference Room so make sure you have breakfast before your arrival at the Miller Senate Office Building.

For security reasons, you will be asked to show a picture ID and go through a metal detector when you enter state buildings. Since all bags will be checked by security, try to limit what you carry and try to avoid carrying a backpack. Avoid carrying gum as the metal wrappers trigger the security alarms.

There is no snow date. A message will be left on 410-772-4527 to let you know if the event has been cancelled because of inclement weather.

You should wear comfortable clothing and shoes and present a neat appearance. Key talking points (which have been provided to you and will be mentioned to the legislators by your group leader) should be the focus of conversation with the senators and delegates. They will want to hear your story so be prepared to tell them about yourself. Discussion with each legislator should be around 15 minutes.

Tips for Effective Advocacy

1. Schedule – make an appointment.
2. Be Flexible – a legislator's schedule can change quickly, despite appointments.
3. Inform! Let them know the issues.
4. Be prepared. Know the facts.
5. Take an expert.
6. Be on Time.
7. Pick a spokesman for the group.
8. Be positive, friendly and brief.
9. Get a reaction. Ask for consideration.
10. Send a thank you letter!

Sample