
FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

Mission Statement

Summary Mission Statement

Frostburg State University is a student-centered teaching and learning institution featuring experiential opportunities. The University offers students a distinctive and distinguished baccalaureate education along with a select set of applied master's and doctoral programs. Frostburg serves regional and statewide economic and workforce development; promotes cultural enrichment, civic responsibility, and sustainability; and prepares future leaders to meet the challenges of a complex and changing global society.

Frostburg State University Institutional Identity

Frostburg State University (FSU) has provided paths to success for students for well over a century. Founded in 1898 to prepare teachers, the institution today is a public, comprehensive, largely residential university offering a wide array of distinctive programs at the undergraduate level and select applied graduate programs. FSU's Carnegie classification is Master's L.

The only four-year institution of the University System of Maryland (USM) west of the Baltimore-Washington corridor, Frostburg serves as the premier educational and cultural center for Western Maryland. The University draws its students from all counties in Maryland, as well as from numerous other states and foreign countries, thereby creating a campus experience that prepares students to live and work in a culturally diverse world.

The academic experience of undergraduate students includes a rigorous and interdisciplinary general education program in the liberal arts and sciences, including the development of core skills. Major areas of undergraduate specialization are offered in education, business, science and technology (STEM) disciplines, the creative and performing arts, and selected programs in the humanities and social sciences. The University provides online instruction at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Frostburg also offers extensive programs at the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown.

Graduate programs provide specialized instruction for students involved in or preparing for professional careers. Previously, graduate-level programs have been limited to the Master's level. Frostburg is currently developing plans to offer an Ed. D., which will support the State's workforce development needs in teacher preparation.

The University is a student-centered teaching and learning institution that emphasizes experiential education. Students are encouraged to apply and augment classroom learning through a wide range of experiential opportunities, including internships, volunteerism and leadership development activities, undergraduate research, and study abroad.

FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

Mission Statement

The University greatly values diversity among its students, faculty, and staff. Nearly a quarter of FSU's undergraduate students are minorities drawn from throughout the State of Maryland. Frostburg is committed to internationalizing the campus through University programs that provide global experiences for FSU students and faculty and that bring international students and faculty to the University.

The University is also strongly committed to preserving the environment through sustainability. The campus's new Climate Action Plan provides a detailed blueprint of specific and tangible methods by which FSU can achieve carbon neutrality by the year 2030. The University's commitment to sustainability also extends to the health and wellness of its students, faculty, and staff. Through its programs and policies, the University promotes overall good health through the prevention of disease and disability by promoting nutrition, exercise, and active lifestyles.

The role Frostburg State University plays in Western Maryland has never been more significant, and the future economic prosperity of the region depends on the University's growth and vitality. The University is closely connected to the community through its regional economic and workforce development efforts, including the recent development of the Allegany Business Center (ABC@FSU), its on-campus business incubator, and its presence on Frostburg's Main Street in the newly renovated Lyric Building. Frostburg's numerous and nationally recognized community-based programs and activities promote the civic engagement of its students, faculty, and staff as well as strengthen the institution's bonds with the Western Maryland region.

Frostburg State University Institutional Capabilities

Frostburg State University places primary emphasis on its role as a distinctive teaching and learning institution offering experiential opportunities for its students. Faculty and professional staff engage in wide-ranging scholarly activity with the ultimate goal of enhancing student learning. The University's planned Center for Communications and Information Technology (CCIT), the current renovation and expansion of the Lane University Center, and the proposed Education and Health Sciences Building are important and required facilities that will enhance the campus and support quality teaching, learning, scholarship and co-curricular programming at the University.

Frostburg State University is committed to its unique public service role as the only four-year public institution in Western Maryland. FSU is keenly aware of the importance of developing the highly educated and technologically competent workforce needed to meet the needs of today's knowledge economy. The University continues to develop and strengthen academic programs in response to the needs of businesses and industries in the region and the State.

FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

Mission Statement

The University will continue to expand offerings in STEM-related fields through its partnerships and collaborations with community colleges, on-campus residential living programs, and new academic programming. Frostburg's membership in the Western Maryland Education Consortium (WestMEC), a network of universities, community colleges, county public school systems (Allegany, Garrett, and Washington), and economic development agencies, will help increase career readiness and workforce development in the region by promoting STEM education.

Frostburg embraces its responsibility to strengthen public schools through the preparation of certified teacher-education graduates and preK-16 partnerships. Increased opportunities for the continuing education of teachers will be accomplished through the expansion of outreach and clinical partnerships with the Professional Development Schools in collaboration with the Maryland State Department of Education and the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

Frostburg is committed to the continued development of health science and allied health programs. Its new RN-BSN program has received strong statewide support. The program has applied for accreditation through the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Frostburg plans to expand its nursing program to a Master of Science in Nursing, with a particular emphasis on preparing nursing faculty.

Frostburg State University plays an active and important role in the economic development of Western Maryland. Recent University-wide projects include the continued operation of FSU's on-campus Technology Incubator, expansion of the Allegany Business Center at Frostburg State University (ABC@FSU), and the University supported renovation of the Lyric Building in downtown Frostburg. Over the years, the Technology Incubator has successfully served as an on-campus facility for small, innovative businesses. With Tawes Hall scheduled to be demolished to make room for the University's new Center for Communication and Information Technology, it is expected that the current tenants will relocate to the Allegany Business Center. The center has grown to include information and technology firms, environmental agencies, and two of the University's economic development partners—the Maryland Small Business Development Center, Western Region and the Tri-County Council for Western Maryland.

One of the most important new occupants of the Allegany Business Center will be the University's Sustainable Energy Research Facility (SERF), which will serve as an academic center for residential-quality sustainable energy technologies and research. This new facility, scheduled to begin construction in 2010, will join the University's ongoing exploration of

FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

Mission Statement

alternative forms of energy production, including the Wind-Solar Energy Program (WISE), to establish the University as an important regional center for energy issues and policy.

The relocation of several University offices from campus to the historic Lyric Building on Main Street in Frostburg has provided additional support for economic growth in the region. In November 2008, the FSU Foundation, the Office of Alumni Programs, and a branch of the University bookstore moved into the newly renovated building.

The University's College of Business plays an important role in promoting economic development in the region. Through its Center for Leadership Development and the Trident Initiative, the College has developed an active network of regional business leaders and is actively engaged in promoting small business development and entrepreneurship in the region. The University serves as a regional cultural center in Western Maryland. Frostburg's diverse performing and visual arts programs feature both student and faculty artists as well as professional artists from across the nation and the globe. The University's arts program attracts community members to the campus to attend performances in theatre, music, dance, international film, poetry and literary readings, and the visual arts. The University relocated its Center for Creative Writing to the Lyric Building in August 2009. The Center provides space for students and Frostburg residents to pursue creative endeavors and augment the University's visibility in the community. Located across the street from the Lyric Building, the Mountain Maryland Arts Cooperative is staffed by FSU students and a University professor/folklorist. The Cooperative works closely with the Allegany Arts Council to provide retail opportunities for local artists. Each year the University attracts thousands of visitors to the region through special events such as Homecoming, Family Weekend, the Cultural Events Series, and through its vigorous summer programming, all of which bring additional resources to the institution and to the region.

FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

Mission Statement

Frostburg State University Institutional Objectives and Outcomes

In fulfillment of its mission and in keeping with the goals of the Maryland Higher Education Commission's 2009 State Plan for Postsecondary Education and the University System of Maryland's Strategic Plan, Frostburg State University will address the following short- and long-range goals and objectives over the next several years:

LONG-RANGE:

- 1. Develop and support academic programs and student services that prepare a changing student population for an era of complexity and globalization.***

SHORT-RANGE:

- Increase the number of experiential and applied learning opportunities for students both inside and outside the classroom.
- Support and develop academic programs that address statewide and regional economic and workforce development needs.
 - Increase the number of STEM program graduates.
 - Increase the number of teacher education graduates, including development of the Ed.D. program.
 - Increase the number of baccalaureate-level nursing graduates.
- Develop and support curricula that encourage students to integrate and apply knowledge across disciplinary lines.
- Increase efforts to encourage globalization of the campus by expanding the number of international students on campus and the number of study abroad opportunities for native students.
- Sustain graduates' satisfaction rate with education received for work and for graduate and professional schools at 85% or higher.
- Increase the percentage of graduates employed one year after graduation.

FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

Mission Statement

LONG-RANGE:

2. Enhance facilities and the campus environment in order to support and reinforce student learning.

SHORT-RANGE:

- Build, renovate, or improve major academic, student life, and housing facilities consistent with 21st century technology and environmental standards and technology.
- Increase and support programs, extracurricular activities, and student residential opportunities that reinforce University core values and classroom learning.
- Work to implement the University's Climate Action Plan.
- Incorporate and promote sustainability and wellness in all aspects of the institutional culture.

LONG-RANGE:

3. Increase student quality and institutional retention and graduation rates while encouraging baccalaureate students to graduate within a four-year time frame.

SHORT-RANGE:

- Revise current admissions standards in order to better ensure admission of students prepared to succeed in college.
- Increase the retention and graduation rates for all students.
- Continue to implement the Achievement Gap initiatives.
- Maintain a diverse student population by continuing to improve retention and graduation rates for minority students.
- Improve time to degree to below the national average.
- Upgrade academic advising and student support services designed to increase student retention and facilitate persistence to graduation.

FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

Mission Statement

LONG-RANGE:

4. Recruit and retain diverse and talented faculty and staff committed to student learning and University goals.

SHORT-RANGE:

- Continue efforts to recruit and maintain a diverse faculty and staff.
- Continue to implement the goals and objectives of the Cultural Diversity Program.
- Emphasize the need for diversity in all searches, emphasizing the recruitment of women, black, and Latino faculty and staff.
- Ensure an environment in which faculty and staff feel valued and appreciated (e.g., through celebration of excellence and achievement).

LONG-RANGE:

5. Promote activities that demonstrate the University's educational distinction.

SHORT-RANGE:

- Encourage fundraising efforts through the FSU Foundation, grants, and contracts that support University priorities.
- Encourage and reward faculty and professional staff who engage in activities such as scholarship, workshops, professional presentations, and artistic performances and creative activities that reflect positively on the University.
- Provide increased opportunities for students to engage in service learning, volunteerism, and community service.

LONG-RANGE:

6. Serve as a catalyst for economic development in Western Maryland and the region.

SHORT-RANGE:

- Work with state and local government agencies and private corporations to attract new tenants to the ABC@FSU.
- Establish the planned Sustainable Energy Research Facility at the ABC@FSU.
- Encourage ABC@FSU partners to employ student interns and develop collaborative research with faculty.