

POINTS OF EXCELLENCE 2021

THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND (USM) IS THE STATE'S PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM, CONSISTING OF TWELVE UNIVERSITIES, THREE REGIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION CENTERS, AND A SYSTEM OFFICE.



Access

More than 170,000 students are enrolled in USM institutions, and more than 80 percent of undergraduate students come from Maryland.



Excellence

Every USM institution has been ranked among the nation's best by publications such as *U.S. News & World Report*, *Kiplinger's*, *The Princeton Review*, and *Washington Monthly*.



Affordability

Half of all USM undergraduate students graduate without any tuition debt. To ease students' financial strain, the USM froze tuition, room and board, and fees for the 2020-2021 academic year.



Success

USM institutions awarded nearly 43,000 degrees last academic year, including 79 percent of ALL bachelor's degrees awarded in Maryland.



Diversity

Half of all USM undergraduates are students of color, and minority student enrollment has climbed 36 percent since 2010.



Workforce Development

Last year, the USM awarded nearly 16,000 degrees in STEM and health professions, filling workforce shortages in these fast-growing fields.



Service

Every year, USM faculty, staff, and students volunteer more than 2 million hours in Maryland communities.



Stewardship

The USM Effectiveness and Efficiency (E&E) initiative has saved \$675 million since 2004.



R&D Impact

USM institutions were awarded more than \$1.5 billion in external research funding last year.



Financial Assistance

USM institutions awarded \$64 million in need-based financial aid to undergraduate students in FY 2020, a 62 percent increase since 2010.



Student Support

USM institutions raised nearly \$2.4 million for their student emergency funds to help students experiencing financial hardships as a result of COVID-19.



COVID-19 Response

The USM's research and policy expertise helped guide the state's COVID-19 response, while high-quality online and hybrid instruction kept USM students safe and learning.