The University System of Maryland (USM) is the state’s public higher education system, consisting of twelve universities and three regional higher education centers. Through their exceptional academic programs, groundbreaking research, and economic partnerships, the institutions of the USM are leading Maryland toward new opportunities and a bright future.
With more than 170,000 students, well over 40,000 graduates every year, and in excess of $1 billion in external grants and contracts annually, the University System of Maryland (USM) is a ladder of opportunity for our citizens, a critical economic engine for our state, and a vital contributor to our quality of life.

A LETTER FROM THE CHANCELLOR

LEADING MARYLAND TOWARD A PROMISING FUTURE

The progress we have made in priority areas is clearly and concisely conveyed in this report. The report highlights our commitment to access and affordability as well as quality and completion. It also showcases the USM’s impact on workforce development, company creation, and economic investment. In addition, it outlines our efforts to practice good financial stewardship, foster diversity and inclusion, embrace civic engagement, and more.

Moving forward, as we continue to strengthen our partnerships with state officials, the business community, and organizations and individuals statewide, we will ensure that the USM fulfills its mission to graduate educated, enlightened citizens who are ready to go to work to make their lives, their communities, this state, and our nation better.

Robert L. Caret
USM annually awards 78% or more of all bachelor’s degrees awarded in Maryland with 41,758 total degrees (associate’s, bachelor’s, master’s and doctorates) awarded in FY 2019.
172,214 Total enrolled students in Fall 2019. USM enrolled 99% of all students attending Maryland’s public, four-year institutions.

36% Increase in bachelor's degrees awarded since FY 2010. USM produced 27,039 bachelor's degrees in FY 2019.

13% Increase in enrollment since FY 2010. USM enrolled 95% of all students attending Maryland’s public, four-year institutions.
Affordable Education

Average undergraduate tuition for full-time, in-state students, once ranked sixth most expensive, now ranks 24th nationally. Nearly 50% of USM undergraduate students graduate without debt.
Awarded in institutional financial aid in FY 2018.
Increase of nearly 131% since FY 2005.

$82 MILLION

Awarded in need-based, institutional financial aid in FY 2018.
Increase of nearly 281% since FY 2005.

$161 MILLION
In Fall 2019, underrepresented minority students (defined as African American/Black, Hispanic, American Indian, and Native Hawaiian) and other minority students (defined as Asian and multiple races) comprised 36% and 14%, respectively, of USM’s undergraduate population. In total, 50% of USM’s undergraduates were from underrepresented and other minority populations.
Bachelor’s degrees awarded to underrepresented minority students in FY 2019.

- 8,351 bachelor’s degrees were awarded in FY 2019.
- 26% of bachelor’s degrees in STEM fields were earned by underrepresented minority students in FY 2019.
- 36% of bachelor’s degrees in healthcare fields were earned by underrepresented minority students in FY 2019.
Awarded 11,588 STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) degrees in FY 2019, including 8,177 undergraduate degrees. This enhances Maryland’s ability to thrive and compete in these high-demand fields.


75% of teacher candidates graduating from Maryland Approved Programs are from USM institutions.
Nine USM institutions now participate in the Badging Essential Skills for Transition (B.E.S.T.) initiative, which is designed to clearly communicate graduates’ career-ready skills to employers in eight areas—Collaboration, Communication, Critical Thinking, Globalism, Interculturalism, Leadership, Problem Solving, and Professionalism. More than 500 students have participated in B.E.S.T curricular and co-curricular badge-earning pathways since 2017.
USM has generated more than 700 new startup companies since FY 2011.
In funding contributed by the Maryland Momentum Fund, USM’s venture capital fund, to six USM-affiliated startup companies through FY 2019.

Maryland Momentum Fund investments have been matched by $7 million from third-party investors, exceeding a 3:1 match.
USM institutions increased externally-sponsored funding received in support of research, education, and service by 2.6% over FY 2018, totaling $1.46 billion.
In partnership with edX, the USMx online learning initiative has yielded over 500,000 cumulative course enrollments across 169 courses.

USMx offerings include 6 MicroMasters Programs, the most offered by any edX Partner.
Students impacted through USM’s Maryland Open Source Textbook (M.O.S.T.) initiative. M.O.S.T. has supported the replacement of traditional textbooks with open educational resources (OER) in 159 different courses at 24 public higher education institutions across the state.

65,000

Cumulative cost savings from the M.O.S.T. initiative.

$10.4 MILLION
In 2018, 81% of eligible USM students were registered to vote, higher than the national student registration rate. More than 64,000 USM students voted in the 2018 mid-term elections, nearly double the amount who voted in 2014.
Volunteer service contributed to Maryland communities through cultural programs, legal and medical clinics, partnerships with public schools and the business community, and other initiatives.
USM has maintained favorable debt ratings from bond-rating agencies, including a rating of Aa1 from Moody’s Investors Service. USM is one of only 22 public higher education institutions to earn one of Moody’s top two ratings.
$332 MILLION
Raised in private funds in FY 2019.

$593 MILLION
Saved through USM’s Effectiveness and Efficiency initiatives since 2004.
USM institutions have reported a reduction of 202,294 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions since 2006, a 23% overall reduction. All 12 USM institutions are original signatories of the College and University Presidents’ Climate Commitment.
System-wide, USM has constructed (or has in development) more than 75 buildings equivalent to LEED-certified “Silver” or higher.
All USM institutions have been ranked among the nation’s best by publications such as U.S. News & World Report, Kiplinger’s, The Princeton Review, Washington Monthly, and others.

The USM includes universities recognized in rankings of:

- Public National Universities
- Best Value Colleges
- Global Universities
- Historically Black Colleges & Universities
- Innovative Universities
- Online Universities for the Military
- Social Mobility
- Undergraduate Teaching