

Maryland State Profile

March 1, 2019

State profiles for the data visualization and 50-State Comparison on postsecondary governance structures summarize information about coordinating boards/agencies and governing boards, administrative/service agencies, advisory groups and membership organizations. The most in-depth information is provided for statewide and major postsecondary systemwide coordinating boards/agencies and governing boards.

Note: This resource does not include information related to setting tuition rates, administering funding formulas or allocating funds. The state profile information is based primarily on statutes, codes and state and postsecondary system board/agency policies. To the extent possible, Education Commission of the States reached out to state and system officials to verify our information.

State Overview

Maryland’s Higher Education Commission serves as the statewide coordinating board and is responsible for establishing policies for public and private institutions and for-profit career schools. The affiliated administrative agency is charged with carrying out the board’s policies, overseeing state and federal programs, administering student financial aid, and providing data and information services, among other responsibilities. The governor appoints the secretary of higher education – the agency’s executive director – from a list of three names submitted by the coordinating board and who serves at pleasure of the commission. Governing boards oversee the University of Maryland system and other institutions. Maryland’s community colleges are not part of a system and are governed by local boards.

Data Point	Description
Single Statewide Coordinating or Governing Board/Agency	
Single Statewide Coordinating Board (or Agency) or Governing Board for All Public Higher Education	Yes
Statewide and Major Systemwide Coordinating Boards (or Agency) or Governing Boards	
Entity Name	Maryland Higher Education Commission
Entity Function	Coordinating



Data Point	Description
Scope of Authority	Statewide
Legal Authority	Statutory
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public four-year, public two-year and other (e.g., Independent/non-profit, proprietary, online or specialty)
Primary Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administer state financial aid programs and/or loans - Advise and/or provide recommendations to state policy and education leaders - Approve or oversee interstate compacts and reciprocity agreements (e.g., SARA, tuition agreements) - Approve institutional missions - Develop master/strategic plans for state or system - Develop and/or oversee accountability or performance measures - License or approve/authorize specified institutions - Promote or advocate for institutions - Recommend or approve establishing, merging or closing institutions - Review or approve facility/capital construction plans
Primary Responsibilities Notes	Under statute, the Maryland Higher Education Commission board has oversight of state financial aid and the student financial assistance office administers the programs.
Budget Role for Institutions	Review and recommend
New Academic Program Role	Review and approve
Appointing/Hiring Authority of Higher Education Executive Officer	Governor with approval of Senate or legislature
Number of Board Members (Voting and Non-voting)	12



Data Point	Description
Number of Board Members Appointed, Serve Based on Role or Selected	12
Number of Board Members Elected through General Election	0
Board Member Composition and Selection	12 members, including 1 student, appointed by governor with consent of Senate.
Do Institutions Governed (or Coordinated) by a Postsecondary System Board have Individual Governing Boards?	Not applicable
Type of Institutions with Individual Governing Boards	Not applicable
Type of Institutions without Individual Governing Boards	Not applicable
Website	http://www.mhec.state.md.us/Pages/default.aspx
Citations	Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 11-105. Maryland Higher Education Commission Responsibilities (Summary of state statutes)
Agencies and System Offices Affiliated with Coordinating and Governing Boards	
Entity Name	Maryland Higher Education Commission (Agency)
Entity Function	Administrative/service
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public four-year, public two-year and other (e.g., Independent/non-profit, proprietary, online or specialty)
Website	http://www.mhec.state.md.us/Pages/default.aspx



Data Point	Description
Administrative and Advisory Entities	
Entity Name	Not applicable
Other Postsecondary System and Multi-Campus Institutional Boards	
Entity Name	Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland
Entity Function	Governing
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public four-year
Website	http://www.usmd.edu/regents/
Membership Organizations	
Entity Name	Maryland Independent College and University Association
Entity Function	Membership
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Independent/non-profit
Website	http://www.micua.org/
Membership Organizations	
Entity Name	Maryland Association of Community Colleges
Entity Function	Membership
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public two-year
Website	http://mdacc.org/