



Overview

Mission-focused: Montgomery College is where students discover their passions and unlock their potential to transform lives, enrich the community, and change the world.

Open access transforms Montgomery: As an anchor institution, all residents can access high-quality, affordable, locally provided postsecondary education needed in our County's knowledge-based economy.

Long committed to equity and inclusion: We believe in welcoming all students and all employees into a community that emphasizes belonging. We believe in giving every individual what they need to succeed.

By the Numbers

Largest community college in Maryland: 40,342 students in degree, certification, and licensure programs.

Affordable tuition: \$5,322 annual tuition and fees.

Good return on investment: An MC degree holder earns \$11,300 more annually, on average, than a high school graduate. Alumni and the College add \$1 billion to the County's economy.

Homegrown talent: 79% of alumni stay in Montgomery County, serving as nurses, cyber techs, scientists, engineers, entrepreneurs, and leaders.

Campuses: Germantown, Rockville, Takoma Park/Silver Spring—expanding to East County.

Training Sites: Gaithersburg, Wheaton, Rockville—East County Education Center to come.

Community Engagement Centers: Gaithersburg, Silver Spring, and in the future East County Education Center.

Student Snapshot

Average age of degree-seeking students: 23 years old.

Average age of training and credential-seeking students: 38 years old.

Race/Ethnicity: 29% Hispanic, 25.4% Black, 19% White, 12.8% Asian, 9.6% Foreign/Unknown, 4.2% Multi-race, Native American, Pacific Islander.

Inclusive: 154 countries represented.

Gender of credit students: 53% female, 46% male, .3% unknown.

Part-time credit students: 66% attend part time—many have jobs and family responsibilities.

Serving all students: Every MCPS high school sends graduates to MC, as well as private and home-schooled.

Federal Pell Grant Recipients: 21% of students, with an average household income of \$28,052.

DREAMers/Undocumented: 524 enrolled in FY23 reflecting a long history of welcoming and supporting all.

First-generation: Many students are the first in their family to attend college.

Early College: 700 degrees and high school diplomas earned simultaneously since 2018.

Students seek a baccalaureate degree: 3,386 students transferred last year.

Popular transfer choices: 483 different transfer institutions and locations, including the University of Maryland, College Park; the University of Maryland, Baltimore County; Towson, Howard, Georgetown, and The Universities at Shady Grove.

Alumni Fuel Montgomery's Knowledge Economy

Alumni lead businesses and create jobs in Montgomery: Sol Graham, founder of Quality Biological, Inc.; Sarah Dwyer, CEO, Choquette; Harrison Carvalho, founder of HMB TECH.

Homegrown talent can meet the County's workforce needs, also: Shruti Mistry, biomedical engineer, Food and Drug Administration; Lisa Fronczek, electronics engineer, the National Institute of Standards and Technology; Alexander Camacho, systems engineer, Leidos; Sadiksha Thapa, nurse, Suburban Hospital; Rowda Muhammad, biomanufacturing associate, GlaxoSmithKline; and Tavon Chase, MCPS pre-K paraeducator

Degrees and Training Meet Workforce Needs, Open Doors to Good Jobs with Family Sustaining Wages

Degrees that fuel the workforce and close skill gaps: nursing, biotechnology, cloud computing, engineering, cybersecurity, education, information technology, and data science.

Training and certificates provide skills for in-demand jobs: early childhood professionals, certified nursing assistants, commercial drivers, information technology, and entrepreneurship.

Residents with advanced degrees add skills: Scientists with PhDs receive advanced biotech training.

Apprenticeships and short-term training grow the middle-skills workforce: Automotive technology, HVAC technicians, and apartment maintenance technicians acquire skills.

Skill development starts young: Montgomery Can Code teaches MCPS eighth graders to code.

ignITE Hub inspires innovation: Residents of all ages can learn coding and entrepreneurial skills to help prepare them for the workforce, launch a new enterprise, or solve a community problem.

County and State Provide Operating and Capital Funding

County, State, and student tuition fund MC's operating budget: Policy intends that the County, State, and students equally contribute one-third of MC's funding. By law, the County must supply the same funding level as the previous year. The Senator John R. Cade funding formula determines the State's contribution.

The County and State evenly split the cost of capital funding for most MC facilities: Upcoming projects are a student services center on the Germantown Campus, renovation of libraries, and the Theater Arts Building at the Rockville Campus.

Key Issues

Affordability: High-quality, accessible, locally provided postsecondary education that is affordable is critical given the total cost of attendance, including the cost of transportation, books, childcare, rent, and food.

Enhancing access: MC will continue to strategically offer and strengthen educational opportunities and support services throughout the County and virtually. We will expand opportunity and MC's capabilities to deliver homegrown talent. Particularly, MC will open an education center in the County's eastern region in FY24. Developing a full campus for this underserved region will require significant investment from the County and State, along with regulatory approvals.

Access to four-year degrees: Students need easy access to an affordable four-year degree. Community college students who can earn a four-year degree without transferring can find jobs in targeted industries, closing local workforce shortages sooner and more affordably. Seamless transfer is also imperative. Without both options, students lose time and money.

Public good: Fewer low-income students are enrolling at community colleges nationally and locally. Students are selecting immediate work instead of postsecondary education, and basic needs like food and childcare create barriers to access. This imperils the future of many families and our community's economic outlook so we must renew our commitment to postsecondary education as a public good.

Blueprint for Maryland's Future: Community colleges have a role to play in the implementation of school reform. MC and MCPS must collaborate to ensure all students are college- and career-ready, opening doors to training and certifications for students and graduates, and addressing pandemic consequences on learning. Additionally, MC needs to help create the essential teachers and education professionals necessary to implement the Blueprint—making resources and deepened partnerships vital.

Growing Montgomery's talent pool: Employers need a pipeline of skilled employees. Numerous sectors have workforce gaps, including health care, cybersecurity, biotechnology, education, and IT. We must treat education and labor markets as a single system. To create career pathways and close skill gaps, we must work with employers to identify the necessary knowledge and skills in order to update and create appropriate job requirements/minimum qualifications.