

The State Board for Community Colleges was established by Chapter 454, Acts of 1968, to coordinate the community colleges in the State. Until July 1, 1969, the Board served as an advisory board to the State Board of Education with respect to the operation, promotion, and functions of the community colleges. After July 1, 1969, the Board assumed its statutory duties.

The Board consists of eight members. Seven members are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate for six-year terms. One member must be a student member appointed by the Governor upon the recommendation of the Community College Presidents, with the advice and consent of the Senate for a one-year term of office (Chapter 537, Acts of 1973). Members of the Board must be appointed for their interest in civic and public affairs and for their knowledge and perception in educational matters. The Board selects its own officers and employees.

The same Act provided that local boards of education sponsoring community colleges could request of the Governor that they be divested of authority, which authority would then be vested in separate local boards of community college trustees. Chapter 538 of the Acts of 1976, maintains existing boards of trustees, and authorizes the Governor to establish, upon petition of the respective counties, boards of trustees where no community colleges currently exist, upon approval of the State Board for Higher Education acting upon the recommendation of the State Board for Community Colleges. All local boards of trustees are appointed by the Governor, except in Baltimore City where appointments are made by the Mayor and City Council.

The State Board for Community Colleges establishes general policies for the operation of the State's community colleges. In addition, it conducts studies on the problems of community college education, assists the colleges in providing expert professional advice in all areas of their activities, reviews and advises upon all curriculum proposals for newly established community colleges and for proposed major additions to or modifications of programs in existing community colleges, and recommends, reviews, and advises upon proposals for the establishment of new community colleges. The Board also coordinates relationships among the community colleges to assure the widest possible educational opportunities for the students of the State and the most efficient use of funds, facilitates the transfer of students between the community colleges and the University of Maryland, the State colleges, and

other institutions of higher education; coordinates relationships between the community colleges and the State and local public school systems and the private high schools in order to facilitate cooperation with them in guidance and admission of students to the community colleges, and arranges for the most advantageous use of facilities. The Board establishes and maintains a system of information and accounting of community college activities; provides grants-in-aid for the prompt and adequate planning of new colleges and new programs in existing colleges; administers the State's program of support for the community colleges; assists and represents the community colleges in seeking and administering Federal funds available to them; assists the State Board for Higher Education in the performance of its duties as they pertain to community colleges and in its preparation of plans and recommendations for the establishment and location of new facilities and programs relating to community colleges.

During fiscal year 1979 there were fifteen community colleges and two regional community colleges in operation. In addition, a full branch campus in Carroll County was operated under contract with Catonsville Community College. Through the various programs and course offerings at the colleges, a total of 84,887 students were served.

The State Board for Community Colleges submits an annual report in January of each year to the Governor and the members of the General Assembly that includes a summary of the Board's major activities for the preceding year together with a financial statement and other statistical data pertaining to the community colleges. The Board also publishes a brochure for distribution throughout the State entitled "Educational Opportunities in Maryland Community Colleges — A Guide for Students and Counselors." This brochure provides prospective college students with information concerning curricula offered at the colleges. A monthly newsletter, the *SBCC Bulletin*, is distributed to the colleges and State officials. Other reports are published as required (Code 1978, Education Article, Title 16).

MARYLAND CREDIT UNION INSURANCE CORPORATION

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