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Kimberly Smith Ward

Date: July 7, 2025

To: Segmental Advisory Council

From: Sanjay Rai, Ph.D., Secretary

*SKR*

Subject: 2025 Report on Best Practices and Annual Progress toward the 55% Completion Goal

Please circulate this memo to appropriate campus personnel. Note that all Maryland post-secondary institutions must submit a report this reporting year.

Since 2012, the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) has produced an annual report documenting best practices and progress toward the State's 2025 completion goal. These reports appear on the MHEC website at <http://www.mhec.state.md.us/publications/Pages/research/index.aspx> under Student and Academic Affairs.

The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) is proud to celebrate the extraordinary accomplishments of the institutions in their contributions to the State's 2025 completion goal. This year's report will be the last for this current State goal.

For the 2025 reporting year and final report, MHEC seeks to focus on the culmination of the original goal and the vision for the future. To that end, the prompt provided allows institutions to reflect on the past 13 years of progress toward the attainment goal as well as share a vision for the future directions of the state.

Therefore, institutions should report on the following prompt:  
*Maryland's higher education institutions have played a key role in advancing the State's degree attainment goals. Looking back over the past decade, what strategies has your institution found most effective in supporting associate and bachelor's degree completion? How do you plan to sustain or expand these efforts? At the same time, how is your institution balancing degree attainment with the growing demand for other postsecondary credentials—such as certificates and industry-recognized credentials—and how do you anticipate this balance evolving over the next five years?*

Institutional narrative reports should not to exceed four printed pages or approximately 1,500 words. Reports are due no later than Friday October 10, 2025.

**MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION**

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Institutions must use the link provided to upload the report materials to the Google form

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfvtnFXyQ3MYxSIKTE3SZHf6iHfppwezQ3QLLWP57iS2p1S2w/viewform?usp=dialog>

If you have any further questions about the report or the institutional targets, please feel free to contact Dr. Schmertz, Director of Research and Policy Analysis, directly ([barbara.schmertz@maryland.gov](mailto:barbara.schmertz@maryland.gov)).

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