

St. Mary's College of Maryland

MISSION

St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM) is Maryland's honors college, a selective, public liberal arts college—a vibrant community of scholars and learners. We foster a rigorous and innovative curriculum; experiential learning; scholarship and creativity; close mentoring relationships; and a community dedicated to honesty, civility, and integrity. We are committed to diversity, access, and affordability. Our students, faculty and staff serve local, national, and global communities and cultivate and promote social responsibility.

VISION

St. Mary's College of Maryland will increasingly serve as the liberal arts college of choice for intellectually ambitious students, faculty, and staff from diverse backgrounds, attracted by a rigorous, innovative, and distinctive curriculum that integrates theory and practice; a talented, professionally engaged, and student-centered faculty and staff; and a strong infrastructure. Students will be part of a collaborative learning community that embraces intellectual curiosity and innovation, the power of diversity, and the College's unique environment. Our graduates will thrive as responsible and thoughtful global citizens and leaders.

KEY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Goal 1. Ensure a high quality and rigorous academic program.

- Obj. 1.1** All graduating students will participate in at least two high-impact practices, and at least 80 percent of the graduating class will participate in at least three high-impact practices. High-impact practices are defined by the Association of American Colleges & Universities (AAC&U).
- Obj. 1.2** Maintain a full-time faculty of which 98 percent have terminal degrees. Maintain the proportion of undergraduate credit hours taught by full-time faculty at 88 percent annually.
- Obj. 1.3** Maintain an environment that promotes individual contact between faculty and students by maintaining a student-faculty ratio of no more than 12 to 1.

Performance Measures	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Est.	2025 Est.
Percent of the graduating class successfully completing at least two high-impact practices	100%	99%	95%	97%	99%	100%	100%
Percent of the graduating class successfully completing at least three high-impact practices	87%	82%	72%	76%	83%	83%	83%
Percent of all full-time faculty who have terminal degrees	98%	98%	98%	97%	96%	98%	98%
Percent of undergraduate credit hours taught by full-time faculty	88%	87%	82%	80%	84%	84%	84%
Undergraduate student to faculty ratio	10:1	9:1	9:1	10:1	10:1	10:1	10:1

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Goal 2. Recruit, support, and retain a diverse and qualified group of students, faculty and administrative staff who will contribute to and benefit from the enriched academic and cultural environment provided by St. Mary's.

Obj. 2.1 Recruit a qualified and diverse entering class with the following attributes: Average high school grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.40 (4 point scale), enrollment of students from historically underrepresented racial/ethnic groups at least 33 percent, out of state student enrollment of at least 10 percent, students from first generation households enrollment of at least 20 percent, and Pell Grants disbursed during their first semester student enrollment of at least 20 percent.

Obj. 2.2 Achieve and maintain 4-year graduation rates for all students (70 percent), students from all historically underrepresented racial/ethnic groups (65 percent), African-American students (65 percent), Hispanic students (70 percent), all first generation students (65 percent), and all students with a Pell Grant disbursed during their first semester (65 percent). Achieve and maintain 6-year graduation rates at 80 percent for all students and all student subgroups, including students from all historically underrepresented racial/ethnic groups, African-American students, Hispanic students, first-generation students, and students with a Pell Grant disbursed during their first semester.

Performance Measures	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Est.	2025 Est.
Average high school GPA	3.38	3.38	3.44	3.45	3.50	3.49	3.49
Percent of entering first year class who identify as members of	25%	34%	32%	31%	31%	30%	32%
Percent of entering first year class who originate from outside of Maryland	7%	6%	9%	11%	13%	15%	16%
Percent of entering first year class from first generation households	21%	23%	25%	21%	25%	28%	25%
Percent of entering first year class receiving Pell Grants disbursed during their first semester	17%	22%	24%	18%	20%	21%	21%
Four-year graduation rate for all students	64%	60%	58%	60%	56%	62%	64%
Four-year graduation rate for students from historically	52%	49%	44%	41%	50%	51%	57%
Four-year graduation rate for African-American students	51%	48%	38%	37%	41%	56%	58%
Four-year graduation rate for Hispanic students	53%	44%	44%	42%	52%	55%	48%
Four-year graduation rate for all first generation students	60%	53%	44%	57%	44%	53%	58%
Four-year graduation rate for students with a Pell Grant disbursed during their first semester	60%	58%	43%	58%	46%	58%	64%
Six-year graduation rate for all students	77%	72%	73%	71%	68%	70%	65%
Six-year graduation rate for students from historically	69%	67%	64%	60%	54%	53%	56%
Six-year graduation rate for African-American students	70%	51%	69%	59%	44%	45%	51%
Six-year graduation rate for Hispanic students	70%	74%	58%	50%	52%	58%	56%
Six-year graduation rate for all first generation students	69%	64%	71%	63%	58%	66%	53%
Six-year graduation rate for students with a Pell Grant disbursed during their first semester	69%	62%	76%	65%	48%	69%	59%

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Obj. 2.3 The first to second-year retention rate will be 90 percent.

Obj. 2.4 The College will strive for diversity in the faculty and staff so that the composition reflects the aspired diversity of the student body. The aspirant goals for full-time faculty and staff will be: 33 percent from historically underrepresented racial/ethnic groups and 50 percent women.

Obj. 2.5 Ensure access for transfer students, particularly those from 2-year institutions. Achieve and maintain transfer students at 20 percent of the entering class each fall.

Obj. 2.6 Achieve and maintain degree completion rates for transfer students at 60 percent for three-year graduation rates, and at 70 percent for four-year graduation rates.

Performance Measures	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Est.	2025 Est.
First to second-year retention rate	82%	85%	83%	85%	82%	81%	83%
Percent of all full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty who identify as members of historically underrepresented racial/ethnic groups	18%	15%	16%	18%	19%	21%	23%
Percent women of all full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty	51%	52%	51%	50%	50%	50%	50%
Percent of all full-time (non-faculty) staff who identify as members of historically underrepresented racial/ethnic groups	30%	28%	27%	30%	27%	30%	33%
Percent women of all full-time (non-faculty) staff	57%	57%	57%	58%	61%	60%	60%
Percentage of entering fall class who are transfer students	22%	21%	17%	18%	15%	13%	15%
3-year graduation rate for all transfer students	62%	69%	68%	64%	56%	68%	81%
4-year graduation rate for all transfer students	74%	69%	74%	74%	70%	64%	74%

Goal 3. Ensure access for students with financial need through a strategic combination of federal, state, private, and institutional funds.

Obj. 3.1 72 percent of entering first-year student need is met by awarding any need-based aid.

Obj. 3.2 Support persistence to graduation of students receiving need-based aid at entry. Achieve and maintain first-to-second year retention rates at 90 percent, four-year graduation rates at 70 percent, and six-year graduation rates at 80 percent for students receiving need-based aid in the first semester.

Performance Measures	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Est.	2025 Est.
Average percent of first-time full-time degree-seeking student need met by awarding need-based aid	73%	78%	84%	78%	78%	80%	80%
First-to-second year retention rate for students receiving need-based aid in the first semester	80%	81%	79%	87%	84%	83%	85%
Four-year graduation rate for students receiving need-based aid in the first semester	59%	56%	54%	54%	46%	58%	67%
Six-year graduation rate for students receiving need-based aid in the first semester	78%	68%	69%	64%	63%	63%	54%

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Goal 4. Increase student contributions to the Maryland community and to the state and national workforce.

Obj. 4.1 65 percent of graduating seniors will have performed community service while at SMCM.

Obj. 4.2 45 percent of graduating seniors will have participated in a paid or unpaid internship.

Obj. 4.3 The rate of employment within six months of graduation will be at least 67 percent.

Obj. 4.4 The rate of continuing education (at any level) within six months of graduation will be 25 percent.

Performance Measures	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Est.	2025 Est.
Percent of graduating seniors who will have performed community service while at SMCM	69%	63%	50%	39%	37%	40%	45%
Percent of graduating seniors who fulfilled a paid or unpaid internship	40%	45%	44%	47%	38%	40%	45%
Employment rate of graduates within six months of graduation	62%	58%	53%	61%	67%	67%	67%
Percent of graduates continuing their education (at any level) within six months of graduation	28%	30%	34%	35%	28%	30%	30%