

# MONTHLY OUTLOOK

*A Meeting Preview with Data Insights and MC 2020 Progress*

December 2, 2016

## December Meeting Highlights—What to Expect and Why

Your next meeting occurs on Monday, December 12. Following are major items and topics planned at this time.

***College's FY16 Audit.*** You will convene as the Audit Committee—a committee consisting of the full board, a “committee of the whole,” and chaired by the second vice chair—to hear a report on the College's audited financial statements for FY16 from the external auditors. As a committee, you will vote to recommend acceptance of the audit. Later, when convened as the Board, you will act on the Audit Committee's recommendation and vote to accept the audit.

***FY18 Operating Budget.*** The FY18 operating budget will be presented for your review. The proposed budget focuses on our commitment to our students by advancing our support of the Achieving the Dream initiative and increasing Board scholarships for our students. The budget also reflects our commitment to the College community through enhancing our efforts related to safety and security. And, finally this budget includes our commitment to employees through increased compensation. The FY18 operating budget is slated for your vote at the January 2017 Board meeting and will be submitted to the county government in early February.

***Community Engagement SWOT.*** The third in a series of SWOTs under the Board's Envisioning the Future effort will be presented. The SWOT—a review of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats—addresses issues related to the Board's designated theme of Community Engagement.

***Contract for Phone Service.*** This action awards a competitively bid contract for replacement of the College's aging and obsolete PBX telephone system, which is 17 years old. The new system, which is consistent with the College's strategy of using cloud-based services wherever possible, will require no locally installed hardware, simplify maintenance, and increase reliability. It will also integrate with desktop software such as the recently deployed Microsoft Office 365, and combine telephones, voicemail, instant messaging, conferencing, video and cell phones into a single unified service.

***Amendment to Facilities Master Plan.*** This action seeks your approval to amend the 2013–2023 Facilities Master Plan, which you approved during the last fiscal year. This amendment is for the consolidation and centralization of administrative units in a new location. Upon your approval, the amended plan will be submitted to the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

***My Monthly Written Report.*** My December *President's Focus* report will examine the impacts of establishing a Compliance Office at the College.

***Policy Modifications.*** Four policy modifications will be presented for your consideration: 31006–Equal Employment Opportunity and Non-Discrimination, 45004–Student Indebtedness, 62003–Public Information, Communications, and Marketing, and 68101–Use of Copyrighted Materials.

# Data Focus of the Month

## Preparing Students for Jobs in Construction and Engineering

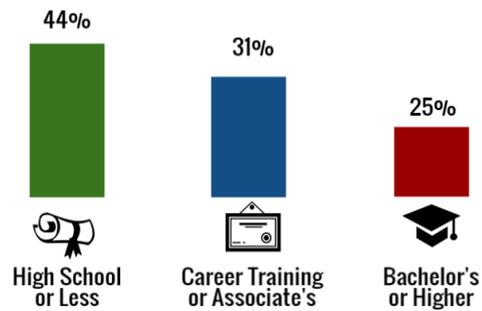
A significant number of important economic drivers rely on the fields of construction and engineering: public infrastructure projects and private real estate ventures, for example, depend on these two important groups of workers. The skill sets in both require specific training pathways and the College has developed a network of partnerships and agreements to facilitate this. Among other highlights, MC has the nation's largest engineering transfer program.

### Construction and Engineering

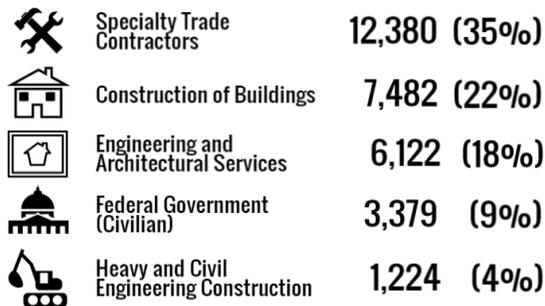


**35,112** Total Jobs 2015  
**9,144** Projected Job Openings (2015 - 2025)  
**\$65,811** Average Annual Earnings

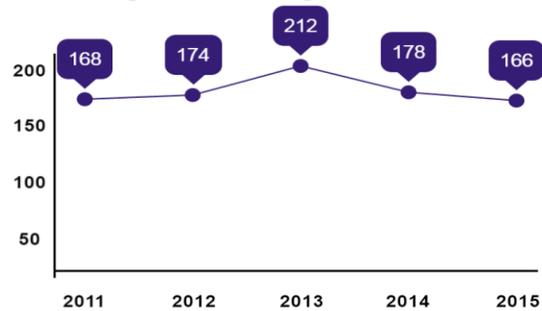
### Typical Educational Requirement



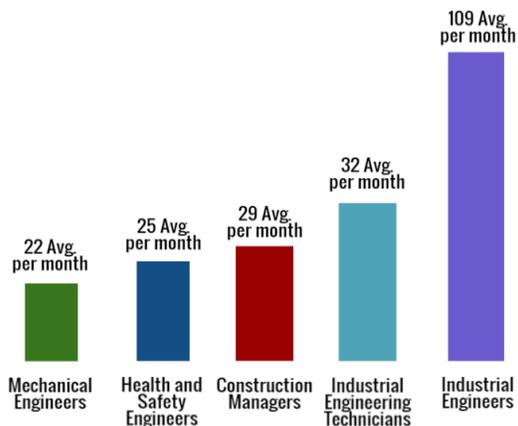
### Where do they work?



### Montgomery College Completions



### Most Unfilled Jobs in 2015



### Montgomery College Partnerships

- Average transfers to University of Maryland, College Park Engineering: 85 annually
- National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) student summer research interns: 23 over three years
- Steamfitters HVAC Apprenticeship Program: 675 apprentices enrolled
- National Apartment Association: 90 new Certified Apartment Maintenance Technicians trained annually

## Montgomery College 2020 Update of the Month



The College's strategic plan *Montgomery College 2020* has driven significant changes in support of student success since 2012. Theme II, Access, Affordability, and Success, contains a focus on developing, implementing, and assessing a comprehensive systematic approach to assist students in obtaining college credentials and transfer opportunities. This effort has been sustained by providing seamless transfer opportunities to four-year institutions through articulation agreements, which are partnership documents between institutions.

**What kinds of agreements does MC have?** MC has two types: **enrollment agreements** help students gain admission, enroll, and afford to attend an accredited four-year institution. These agreements may include application fee waivers, guaranteed admission, scholarships, priority registration, guaranteed housing, special advising, block transfer credit, admission to an honors program, among other components. The second type, **articulated pathways**, identify the direct course-to-course, degree-to-degree, or outcomes-to-outcomes based transfer of credits. These agreements must promote associate degree completion and lead to a bachelor's degree. MHEC is working on a statewide agreement that ensures the smooth transfer of 60 credits in their entirety among public and state institutions.

**How many agreements does MC have?** MC has 132 active agreements with 36 different institutions. At any given time, many are under development. Not all institutions, or degrees, require a formal agreement because they are already included in ARTSYS, a state-mandated transfer equivalency database that identifies the sequence of courses a student should take for seamless transfer. Every USM degree program, and those from 11 other Maryland public and private colleges, is included on the website. For this reason, we do not actively pursue agreements with the USM institutions, unless an issue of course transferability is present or the programs are offered at the Universities at Shady Grove.

**Why do we need agreements?** Articulation agreements save students time and money by outlining exactly which classes to take. Since most credits lost during the transfer process come from taking the wrong or unnecessary courses, these documents identify specific prerequisite, major, and general education requirements at the four-year institutions. When used in conjunction with MC's program advising guides, students have a clear roadmap of required classes. To further limit the loss of credits upon transfer, MC now checks for direct transfer of coursework when new courses are proposed or changes are made to a degree program.

**What are the benefits of an agreement?** The benefits differ based on the nature of the agreement. Some agreements, like the nursing agreements MC has with UMB Nursing and Trinity Washington University, allow students to complete up to 90 credits at MC and take the remaining 30 credits at the four-year institution, thereby saving thousands of dollars in tuition costs. Agreements like the Transfer Access Programs (TAPs), guarantee admission to eligible students and familiarize students with the USG campus and culture, thereby improving retention, time to degree and graduation rates.

---

Be well,

DeRionne P. Pollard, PhD

*We empower our students to change their lives, and we enrich the life of our community. We are accountable for our results.*