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#MACCSummit

Maryland Community College Completions Increase over 40%  
Associate Degrees Awarded Up 45% and Certificates Awarded Up 43% since 2009

CATONSVILLE, Md. – A forum focused on increasing the completion rate of Maryland’s community college students opened today with approximately 400 community college faculty, administrators and higher education policymakers in attendance. College completion, defined as achievement of a degree or a career license or certification, is widely regarded as a necessity for individual economic opportunity and for competitiveness in the digital economy. The annual forum is organized by the Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC), and held at the Catonsville campus of the Community College of Baltimore County.

Keynote speakers were Kelly M. Schulz, Secretary of the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, and Dr. Lynne M. Gilli, Assistant State Superintendent, Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Career and College Readiness. Both speakers addressed the importance of partnerships to provide students with early access to college and career pathways.

“Over 69% of Maryland’s future job openings will require some type of post-high school training or education by 2020*,” said Dr. Bernie Sadusky, Executive Director of MACC. “Completing college, with either an associate degree or a career credential is essential in this knowledge-based economy.”

About Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC)

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC) is an advocate for the state’s 16 community colleges and the educational needs of their almost half million students. The community colleges offer over 1000 learning sites on 23 campuses for students pursuing academic degrees, career credentials and life enrichment. College connections with communities and employers develop skilled workforces and strengthen economies. Our WorkSmart initiative offers customized workforce training to employers. For more information, please visit www.mdacc.org or call (410) 974-8117.

*Source: Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, Job Growth and Educational Requirements through 2020, June 2013, State Report