



Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget

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Howard Community College FY 26 Budget

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Howard Community College's FY 2026 budget reflects a strategic balance between addressing operational needs and maintaining fiscal responsibility amid projected enrollment declines. The budget focuses on sustaining quality instruction, supporting students, and advancing capital improvement initiatives, aligning with the college's mission and strategic goals. Below is a summary of the key highlights:

Revenues

Tuition and Fees: A modest increase of \$2 per credit hour for in-county tuition, alongside required increases for out-of-county and out-of-state students, offsets a projected 2% decline in enrollment for FY 2026, resulting in an overall increase of \$349,951.

County Contribution: A 3% increase in county funding is requested, adding \$1,335,000 to the operating budget.

State Funding: State aid increased 2.6% to \$33.9 million, comprising 22% of the budget.

Other Income: A decline of \$232,461 is primarily due to reduced interest revenue.

Workforce, Career, and Community Education (WCCE): Revenue is expected to increase by 3.5% (\$337,749), with proportional expense adjustments.

The projected total increase in unrestricted revenues for FY 2026 is \$2,113,969.



Expenditures

Compensation: The budget allocates \$78.8 million for salaries, reflecting a 3% COLA increase for employees as well a 1% increase in Merit increases, alongside funding to hire at mid-range salary levels. Additional costs include compliance with the Maryland Time to Care Act.

Non-Personnel Costs: Key investments include \$2.2 million for contracted services, \$1.2 million for IT and AV equipment, and \$350,000 for property insurance and watershed protection fees in the fund 10 operating fund. These increases are offset with significant cuts in contracted services in the special purpose fund reducing the total unrestricted budget by \$969,933, or 1.7%.

Student Enrollment and Programs

Enrollment Trends: FY 2026 projections show a slight decline in credit enrollment, with non-credit projected flat. Dual enrollment partnerships remain a significant contributor to overall enrollment, accounting for up to 33% of the student population.

Online and Hybrid Learning: Shifts in enrollment preferences reflect a growing demand for online and hybrid modalities, even as in-person attendance gradually recovers post-pandemic.

Support Initiatives: Investments in technology, cybersecurity, and student success programs underscore the college's commitment to enhancing the learning environment.

Strategic Focus

The FY 2026 budget supports the college's mission of providing pathways to success and emphasizes values such as innovation, equity, and excellence. It is guided by strategic initiatives and priorities designed to serve the community effectively while addressing financial and operational challenges.

This budget positions Howard Community College to sustain its commitment to educational excellence, fiscal stewardship, and community service in FY 2026 and beyond.



Howard Community College Budget Highlights

Revenues of the Unrestricted and Auxiliary Funds

Tuition and Fee Revenue

A \$2 per credit hour tuition increase is being proposed for in-county students in this budget; however, out-of-county, and out-of-state student tuition will increase per state requirements. This increase will go into effect for the fall term of 2025. Out-of-county tuition must increase by a minimum of \$5 per credit hour and out-of-state tuition must increase a minimum of \$15 per credit hour. In addition, the consolidated fee will increase by \$1 per credit hour.

Based on population and demographic projections in the county and state, the college has been bracing for declines in enrollment. Fortunately, enrollments over the last few years have exceeded those projections; however, it is recommended that the college remain conservative in its enrollment projections. In FY 2025, the college projected a 2% decline in enrollment. Currently, the FY 2025 enrollment remains flat. The administration is projecting a 2% decrease in FY 2026 over FY 2025.

Despite the projected 2% enrollment decrease, the proposed \$2 per credit hour in-county increase and associated required out-of-county and out-of-state tuition increases will yield an overall net increase of \$349,951.

County

The college's FY 2026 unrestricted operating budget contains a 3% or \$1,335,000, requested increase from the county.

State

The college's FY 2026 unrestricted operating budget reflects a 2.6% increase in state funding. A portion of the state budget is allocated to the special and continuing education funds based on their FTE's.

Other Income

Other income shows a net decrease of \$232,461 resulting primarily from decreased interest revenue.

Workforce, Career, and Community Education (WCCE)

This is a self-supporting area of the budget. WCCE's annual contribution to the operating fund has an increase of 1%, or \$10,303. The WCCE division's revenue is projected to increase 3.5% or \$337,749. Expenses in this fund are increasing proportionately to the projected increase in revenue.

Special Funds

This fund is primarily a self-supporting area of the budget and represents a pass-through of funds, such as Foundation support for college initiatives, athletics, theater, and summer programs. It also serves as a contingency fund for unanticipated enrollment growth. Anticipated revenues/fund balance use and expenses in this area of the budget have decreased 27%, or \$5.4 million.

Auxiliary Funds

This fund consists primarily of the bookstore, and food service. The revenue and expenses in this area of the budget are anticipated to increase 17% or \$226,436.

Unrestricted Appropriations

This budget reflects the use of \$11.6 million of unrestricted appropriations in the college's operating fund.

Howard Community College Budget Highlights

Expenditures of the Unrestricted and Auxiliary Funds

New Faculty and Staff

The fund 10 operating budget includes no new budgeted positions. Existing open positions will be repurposed as needed.

The budget includes an increase of \$1 million for hourly positions. The primary areas needing increased hourly support are ASL interpreters, enrollment services, mental health, Howard Hub, and the opening of the Kahlert Complex.

Salary Increase

A three percent COLA increase is included in the budget for all faculty, staff, and hourly employees; a one percent increase in the merit pool is also included. These equate to \$1.8 million. An additional \$1 million has been added to the budget to allow for hiring at the mid-point salary range rather than its low end for open positions. In addition, \$600,000 is budgeted for the new Maryland Time to Care Act, which establishes a paid family and medical leave insurance program. The cost is 0.9% of covered wages.

Non-personnel Costs

The fund 10 operating budget includes various increases in non-related personnel costs. The significant increases are in contracted services, \$2.2 million, and Information Technology and Audio-Visual equipment, \$1.2 million. These one-time projects will be funded through the college's fund balance. An increase for property insurance and the county watershed protection fee, \$350,000, are also included in this budget.

WCCE/Special Funds/Auxiliary

These are self-supporting areas of the budget and expenses are changing in relationship with revenue increases and decreases described above. The budgets also include primarily noncredit instruction, international programs, summer and athletic camps, Project Access, special programs, the campus store, and food services.



FY 2026 Budget

The table below represents the overall budget request for FY 2026. For purposes of budget approval, this book will primarily focus on the unrestricted portion of the College's budget.

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Plant Fund	County Fund	Agency Fund	FY26 Budget	Approved FY25 Budget	Change
Tuition and Fees	\$ 44,841,266	\$ 173,200	\$ 1,855,510	-	-	\$ 46,869,976	46,517,065	1%
County Share	45,835,000	2,135,000	-	-	-	47,970,000	46,635,000	3%
State of Maryland	33,922,063	4,743,904	-	-	-	38,665,967	38,031,681	2%
Federal	0	34,449,429	-	-	-	34,449,429	34,449,429	0%
Other revenue	7,279,303	1,025,142	-	-	127,559	8,432,004	8,356,309	1%
Unrestricted appropriation	23,060,762		11,052,150			34,112,912	28,608,660	19%
Auxiliary Revenue	1,227,701	-	-	-	-	1,227,701	1,101,265	11%
Contingency	1,000,000	-	-	-	-	1,000,000	1,000,000	0%
Subtotal	157,166,095	42,526,675	12,907,660	0	127,559	212,727,989	204,699,409	4%
Debt service	-	-	-	14,539,920	-	14,539,920	12,531,510	16%
OPEB	-	-	-	243,511	-	243,511	243,511	0%
TOTAL	\$ 157,166,095	\$ 42,526,675	\$ 12,907,660	\$ 14,783,431	\$ 127,559	\$ 227,511,420	\$ 217,474,430	5%

EXPENDITURES

Functional Category	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Plant Fund	County Fund	Agency Fund	FY26 Budget	Approved FY25 Budget	Change
Instruction	\$ 58,134,779	\$ 4,420,080	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	62,554,859	61,179,860	2%
Public Service	1,440,608	3,899,266	-	-	-	5,339,874	1,608,977	232%
Academic Support	20,558,314	3,731,060	-	-	-	24,289,374	23,506,049	3%
Student services	16,665,322	1,676,191	-	-	-	18,341,513	16,866,794	9%
Facilities	20,444,752	520,000	12,000,000	-	-	32,964,752	32,385,458	2%
Institutional support	32,405,367	500,000	-	-	-	32,905,367	29,035,311	13%
Scholarships and related	5,289,253	27,410,013	-	-	-	32,699,266	36,592,911	-11%
Auxiliary	1,227,701	370,065	-	-	-	1,597,766	1,371,330	17%
Agency	-	-	-	-	127,559	127,559	127,559	0%
Contingency	1,000,000	-	-	-	-	1,000,000	1,000,000	0%
Subtotal	157,166,095	42,526,675	12,000,000	0	127,559	211,820,329	203,674,249	4%
Debt Service	-	-	907,660	14,539,920	-	15,447,580	13,556,670	14%
OPEB	-	-	-	243,511	-	243,511	243,511	0%
TOTAL	\$ 157,166,095	\$ 42,526,675	\$ 12,907,660	\$ 14,783,431	\$ 127,559	\$ 227,511,420	\$ 217,474,430	5%

Functional Areas

Instruction—The instruction function is responsible for the development of a broad variety of curricula and learning programs that emphasize quality. They are responsive to student, community, and workforce needs, the employment of competent faculty, as well as supplying materials and laboratory facilities to support instruction. Howard Community College provides high-quality instruction through the delivery of: (1) occupational (associate of applied science and certificate options) programs, which prepare students for employment at the semi-professional and professional levels; (2) transfer curricula, which articulate with degree programs at four-year institutions; (3) general studies and development programs, which ensure an appropriate level of competency in communications, computational, and human relations skills.

Public Service—This function includes funds expended for activities that are established to provide non-instructional services. An example of public service expenses includes the college's cable/tv radio station.

Academic Support—The academic support area includes funds expended primarily to provide support services for instruction. It incorporates the following areas: audio\visual, library, instructional telecommunications, faculty and instructional development, learning communities, learning outcomes assessment support, as well as the academic administration department and student computer support.

Student Services—Student services assist students in reaching their educational and career-related goals, as well as providing opportunities for personal, social, and leadership development outside of the classroom. Functions include admissions, testing, student records, counseling, career development, job placement, registration, transfer articulation, financial aid services, orientation, veterans' services, retention, student activities, curricular activities, and athletics.

Institutional Support—The institutional support function provides the executive and supporting administrative services to the college. This includes the board of trustees and the offices of the president and the vice presidents. It also includes the offices of human resources, public relations and marketing, development, administrative information technology, finance, planning, research, and organizational development, computer network services, campus-wide telephone, legal, insurance, and auditing expenses.

Facilities—The facilities department is responsible for the operation, maintenance, and safety of buildings, grounds, and other physical facilities of the college. The major facilities areas are engineering/maintenance, environmental services, grounds, construction renovations, mailroom, central receiving, motor pool, and public safety.

Scholarship—This function provides scholarships for tuition, fees, and books to students who face financial barriers. State-mandated waivers and approved discounts are budgeted as tuition income and as expense. The waiver and discount expense portion is in this function.

Unrestricted Budget Detail

The FY 2026 Unrestricted Budget for the Howard Community College is \$157,166,095.

This is an increase of \$8.0 million, or 3.7%, over the FY 2025 Approved Budget. The increase is driven by general operating costs and increased salaries.

The table on the following page depicts the proposed source of funding, e.g., revenue and support, versus proposed expenditures by fund for the College's unrestricted activities for FY 2026.

Fund 10 represents college operating expenses, but we have segregated workforce programs to Fund 11. This allows us to better track these costs. Finally, Fund 13 represents one-time projects which do not qualify as operations, and Fund 60 represents expenditures which are related to the auxiliary units of the college.

	Fund 10 Unrestricted	Fund 11 Workforce	Fund 13 Special Purpose	Fund 60 Auxiliary	Total	Percentage of Budget
Source of Funds: Revenue and support						
County contribution	\$ 45,835,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,835,000	29%
State aid	30,846,590	3,057,345	18,128	-	33,922,063	22%
Tuition and fees (gross)	33,547,691	7,372,611	3,920,964	-	44,841,266	29%
Other revenues	3,073,303	401,974	3,804,026	128,300	7,407,603	5%
WCCE contribution	1,040,604	(1,040,604)	-	-	-	0%
Auxiliary	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Unrestricted appropriation	10,969,680	-	12,091,082	1,099,401	24,160,163	15%
Contingency	1,000,000	-	-	-	1,000,000	
Total revenue and support	126,312,868	9,791,326	19,834,200	1,227,701	157,166,095	100%
Use of Funds: Expenses						
Compensation	71,274,649	5,657,006	1,605,066	248,446	78,766,953	50%
Taxes and fringe	17,771,986	1,198,915	217,139	104,765	19,292,805	12%
Contracted services	15,469,147	1,479,788	13,355,923	786,390	31,091,248	20%
Scholarships/waivers/ discounts	4,130,629	660,621	651,894	-	5,443,144	3%
Supplies and materials	3,219,801	452,052	523,779	29,000	4,224,632	3%
Communications	451,004	74,680	12,300	1,000	538,984	0%
Conferences/mtgs	2,391,708	108,185	1,112,700	43,100	3,655,693	2%
Utilities	3,721,885	-	400,000	-	4,121,885	3%
Fixed charges-insurance	1,469,082	-	-	-	1,469,082	1%
Bad debt expense	1,113,121	1,000	206,000	-	1,320,121	1%
Furniture and equipment	4,318,071	159,079	1,749,399	15,000	6,241,549	4%
Contingency	1,000,000	-	-	-	1,000,000	
Total expenses	126,331,082	9,791,326	19,834,200	1,227,701	157,166,095	100%
Net	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	

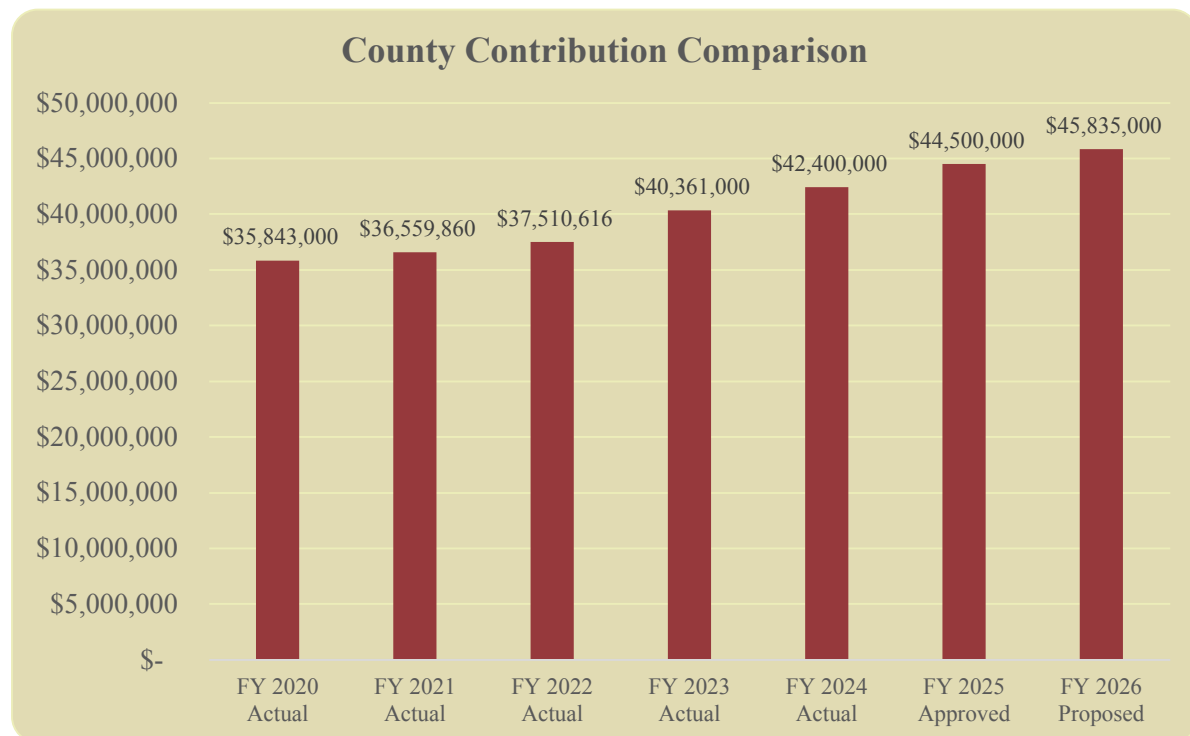
Comparative Revenue and Support

The table below shows FY 2024 approved budget numbers, FY 2025 approved budget numbers, and the FY 2026 budget.

Funding Source	FY 2024 Budget	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	\$ Change	% Change
County Contribution	44,535,000	44,500,000	45,835,000	1,335,000	3.00%
State Aid	38,318,471	33,050,277	33,922,063	871,786	2.64%
Tuition and Fees (gross)	42,715,705	44,491,315	44,841,266	349,951	0.79%
Investment income	2,750,000	3,200,000	2,850,000	(350,000)	-10.94%
Other Revenues	4,093,374	4,294,657	4,429,303	134,646	3.14%
Auxiliary	1,602,292	1,101,265	1,227,701	126,436	11.48%
Unrestricted appropriation	11,598,214	17,580,103	23,060,762	5,480,659	31.18%
Contingency	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	-	0.00%
TOTAL	\$146,613,056	\$149,217,617	\$157,166,095	\$7,948,478	5.33%

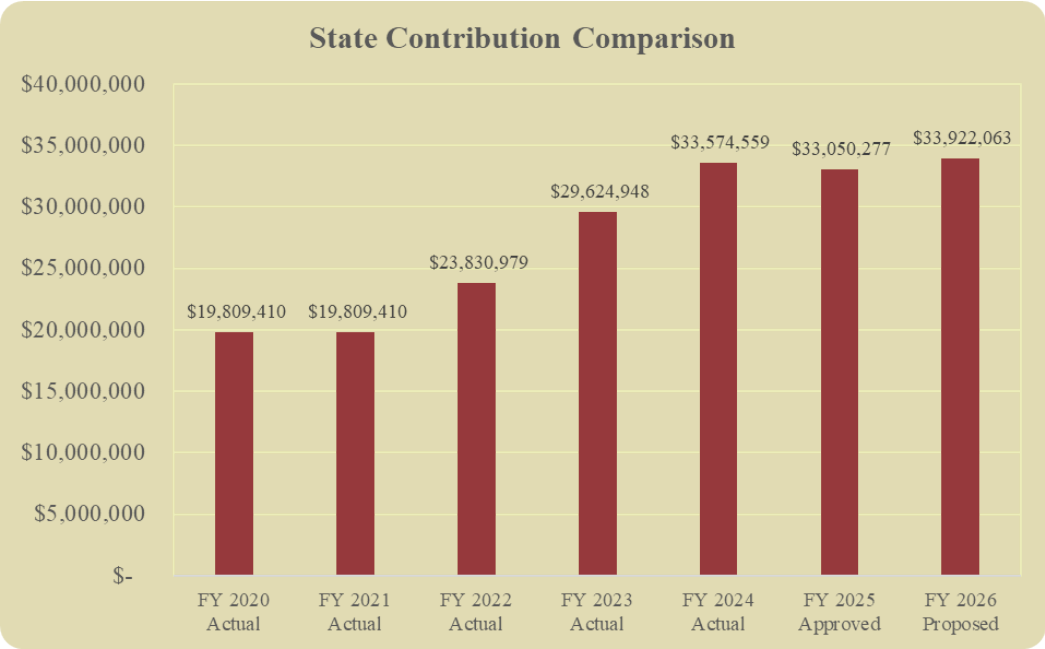
County Contribution

- The FY 2026 County contribution to the College is \$45,835,000, an increase of \$1,335,000 or 3%, over the FY 2025 Approved Budget. The County's contribution represents 29% of the proposed funding.
- According to the Annotated Code of Maryland's Cade Funding Formula (Section 16-305), local support must match at least the funding level of the previous year's contribution.



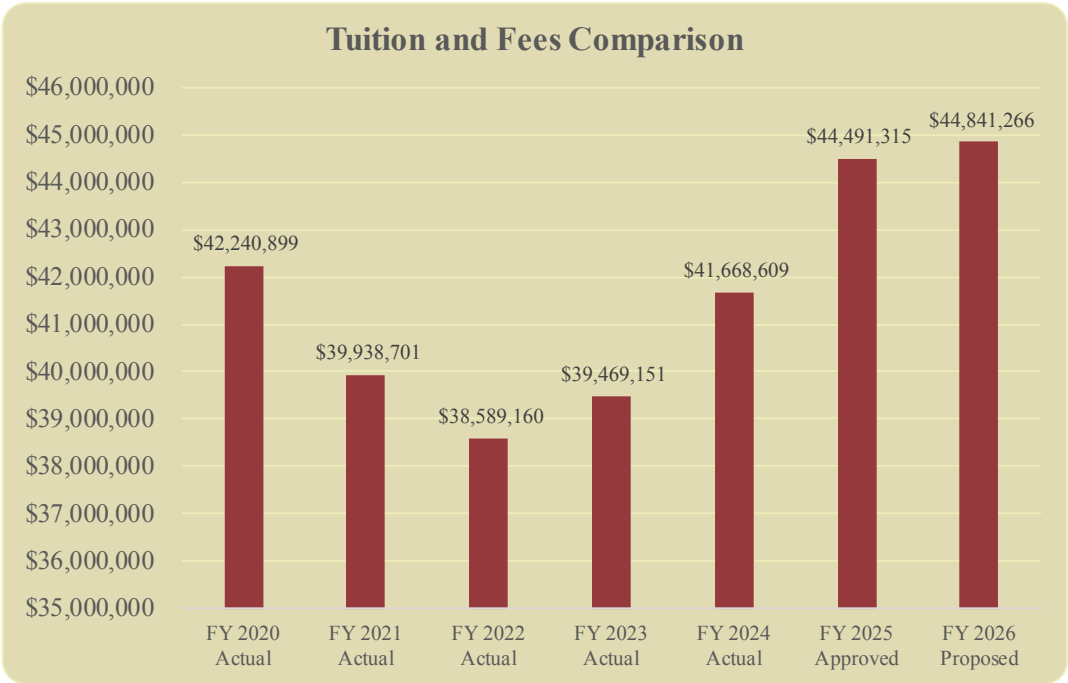
State Aid

- The FY 2026 State Aid to the College is \$ 33,922,063, which represents an increase of 2.6% from the approved budget for FY 2025. State Aid comprises 22% of the total proposed funding.



Tuition and Fees

- The FY 2026 tuition and fees budget is \$44.8 million, an increase of \$349,951 or .79% above the FY 2025 Approved Budget. Tuition and fees comprise 30% of the proposed funding.



During FY 2021 through FY 2023 the COVID-19 pandemic affected student enrollment. The chart on the previous page shows that tuition and fees revenue decreased in FY 2021 through FY 2022 and began to rebound in FY 2023 with the return to in-person learning.

- The College has not increased tuition since 2021; however, to keep up with increased expenses, the college expects to institute tuition and fee increases as follows:

Tuition Increases (per credit)	
Tuition Type	FY 2026 Increase
County Resident	\$2
MD Resident, other counties	\$5
Out-of-State resident	\$15
Consolidated Fee	\$1

- The \$2 in-county proposed tuition increase reflects an adjustment of 1.4%.

Tuition rates are recommended by the Senior Leadership Team for approval by the Board of Trustees. The recommended tuition rates are as follows:

Tuition Rate (per credit)			
Tuition Type	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
	Rate	Rate	Rate
County Resident	\$142	\$142	\$144
MD Resident, other counties	\$265	\$273	\$278
Out-of-State resident	\$346	\$373	\$388
Consolidated Fee	\$28	\$28	\$29

Other Funding Sources

- Other revenue is budgeted at \$7,407,063 for FY 2026, a decrease of \$232,461, or 3% below the FY 2025 approved budget. These revenues are generated from investment income of \$2.8 million, and other miscellaneous funding sources.

Fund Balance

- The College's FY 2024 fund balance totals \$50,057,840, of which \$30,100,000 is allocated to emergency and board reserve.
- To date, the College has not used any of its fund balance requested in FY 2025.
- For FY 2026, the college proposes to use \$34,112,909 of its fund balance for purposes illustrated in the table below:

Estimated General Fund Balance			
Designation	FY 2024 Balance	FY 2026 Appropriation	Estimated Remaining
Emergency and board reserve	\$ 30,100,000	\$ -	\$ 30,100,000
Student success and academic projects	4,000,000	-	4,000,000
Technology and unplanned capital repairs	20,414,575	17,295,572	3,119,004
Talent cultivation	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
Strategic planning and future proofing	16,000,000	5,765,191	10,234,810
Facility funds	25,413,418	11,052,147	14,361,271
OPEB*	(46,870,153)	-	(46,870,153)
Total	\$ 50,057,840	\$ 34,112,909	\$ 15,944,931

*This portion of the College's fund balance represents the liability which is associated with future benefits for retirees. It is paid by the County. Accounting rules require that we include this in our fund balance.

Comparative Expenses

Expenditures by Function

The table below shows comparative expenditures of the FY 2026 budget by expense category compared the approved budgets from FY 2024 and FY 2025.

Expenditures	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	\$	%
	Approved	Approved	Proposed	Change	Change
Compensation	\$ 76,012,493	\$ 72,573,556	\$ 78,776,952	\$ 6,203,396	9%
Taxes and fringe	18,525,451	17,849,334	19,292,805	1,443,471	8%
Contracted Services	24,141,231	32,954,280	31,091,248	(1,863,032)	-6%
Scholarships/Waivers/ Discounts	4,383,666	5,694,124	5,433,144	(260,980)	-5%
Supplies and materials	3,000,002	4,030,579	4,224,632	194,053	5%
Communications	699,249	686,190	538,984	(147,206)	-21%
Conferences/mtgs	2,308,788	3,133,352	3,655,693	522,341	17%
Utilities	3,733,415	3,990,430	4,121,885	131,455	3%
Fixed charges-insurance	1,192,341	1,067,560	1,469,082	401,522	38%
Bad debt expense	1,143,676	1,283,676	1,320,121	36,445	3%
Furniture and equipment	2,657,989	4,954,536	6,241,549	1,287,013	26%
Total	\$137,798,302	\$148,217,617	\$156,166,095	\$7,948,478	5%

- The FY 2026 compensation is \$78,776,952, an increase of \$6.2 million or 9% over the FY 2025 Approved Budget. This represents an increase of 3% for cost of living adjustment (COLA), a 1% merit pool increase, as well as an adjustment to midpoint for vacant positions.

Salaries, Taxes and Benefits by Function

Staffing by Function

Category	Salaries, taxes, benefits				
	FY 2024 (Approved)	FY 2025 (Approved)	FY 2026 (Proposed)	Change \$	Change %
Instruction	\$ 45,546,481	\$ 44,584,342	\$ 46,624,026	\$ 2,039,684	4.57%
Public service	917,819	935,072	964,666	29,594	3.16%
Academic support	12,700,095	12,348,387	12,970,154	621,767	5.04%
Student services	9,606,474	10,859,150	12,092,604	1,233,454	11.36%
Facilities	13,124,516	7,716,285	8,073,455	357,170	4.63%
Institutional support	12,049,653	13,636,429	14,045,804	409,375	3.00%
Auxiliary	592,906	343,227	353,211	9,984	2.91%
Total	\$ 94,537,944	\$ 90,422,892	\$ 95,123,920	\$ 4,701,028	5.20%

**This chart reflects the FTE in fund 10 only.*

- No new positions will be requested from the county. Existing positions will be repurposed to meet the needs of the College.
- According to information obtained from the 2022 Databook published by the Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC), the College's 10-month full-time credit instructional faculty's overall weighted average salary ranks 6th highest, at \$76,574, among the 16 Maryland Community Colleges (after Montgomery College (\$92,391), Community College of Baltimore County (\$82,312), College of Southern Maryland (\$81,702), Anne Arundel Community College (\$80,980) and Prince George's Community College (\$79,354)). Compensation remains a key factor in resignations; however, increased demand for telework opportunities tends to be the primary reason.
- At the end of FY 2024, the College's total unfunded Pension, Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) liability, and compensated absences was \$46,870,153.

Personnel Information

Faculty Salary Scales

- Instructional staff salaries range from \$61,100 for 10-month contract Instructors to \$146,383 for 12-month contract professors. A full FY 2026 breakdown is found in the table below:

FACULTY SALARY SCALES				
10 Months				
	Instructor	Asst. Professor	Assoc. Professor	Professor
Minimum	\$ 61,100	\$ 67,210	\$ 73,931	\$ 81,324
Midpoint	\$ 73,320	\$ 84,013	\$ 92,414	\$ 101,655
Maximum	\$ 85,540	\$ 100,815	\$ 110,897	\$ 121,986
12 Months				
	Instructor	Asst. Professor	Assoc. Professor	Professor
Minimum	\$ 73,320	\$ 80,652	\$ 88,717	\$ 97,589
Midpoint	\$ 87,984	\$ 100,815	\$ 110,897	\$ 121,986
Maximum	\$ 102,648	\$ 120,978	\$ 133,076	\$ 146,383

- Adjunct faculty are paid on a per-credit basis. A breakdown for FY 2026 is found in the chart below:

ADJUNCT FACULTY PAY SCHEDULE			
	3 Credit	Credit Hour	Contact Hour
Title	Course Rate	Rate	Rate
Adjunct	\$ 3,138	\$ 1,046	\$ 69.73
Senior Adjunct	\$ 3,210	\$ 1,070	\$ 71.33
Master Adjunct	\$ 3,267	\$ 1,089	\$ 72.60

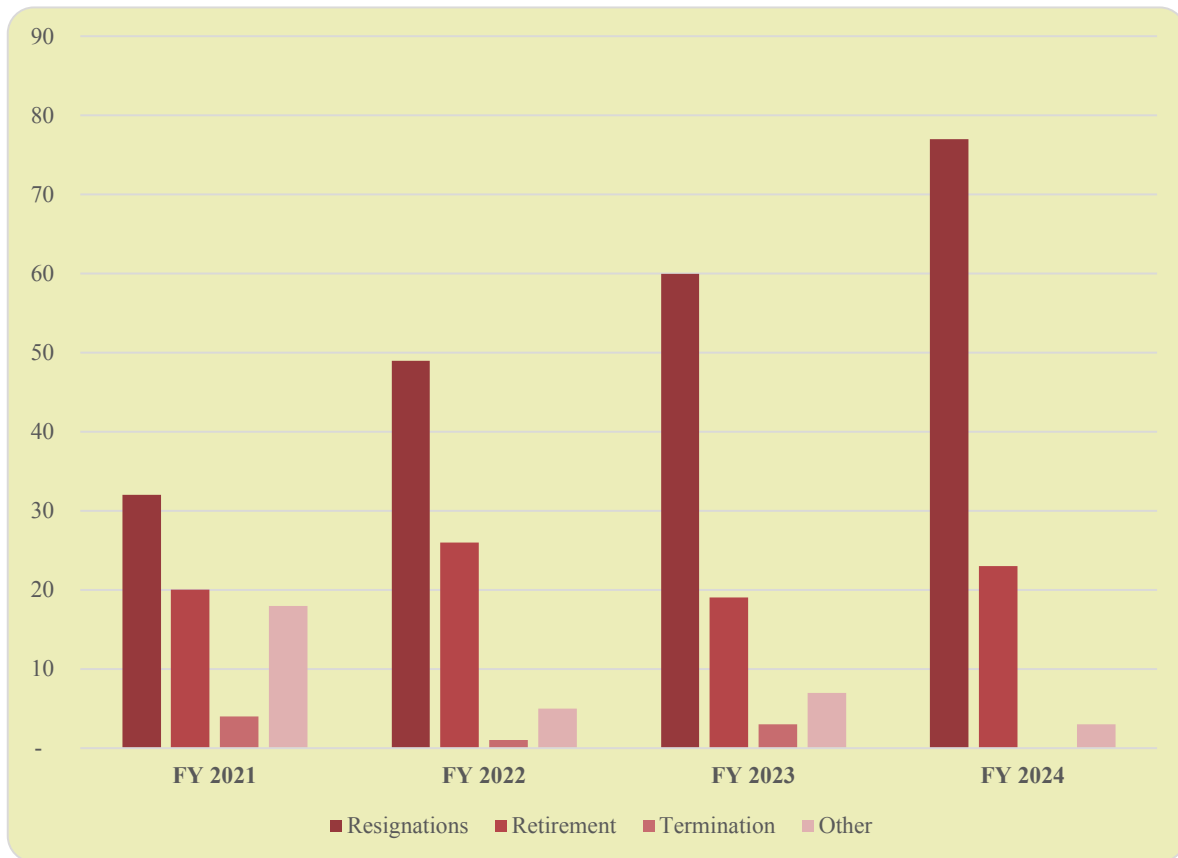
Fringe Benefits

- FY 2026 Fringe Benefit expenditures show an increase of \$863,434 or 5%, over FY 2025's approved budget. This primarily represents an anticipated increase in health insurance costs.

Taxes and Fringe Benefits			
	FY 2024 Approved	FY 2025 Approved	FY 2026 Proposed
Taxes and fringe	\$18,525,451	17,849,336	18,665,109
As a % of Compensation	24.37%	24.59%	24.47%
Annual % Change		-3.65%	4.57%

Attrition

The attrition rate for FY 2024 was 15%. Of the 103 employees who have left the college, 77 resigned, 23 retired, there were no terminations, and 3 were for unspecified reasons.



Non-personnel Operating Expenses

- FY 2026 non-personnel operating expenses are \$59,047,504, an increase of \$1.3 million or 2.2%, over FY 2025 approved operating expenses.
- The most significant changes to the FY 2026 budget are increases in contracted services, conferences/meetings and furniture and equipment in fund 10 and decreases in contracted services in fund 13.

Operating Objects	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2025 - FY 2026	
	Budget	Budget	Proposed	\$ Change	% Change
Contracted services	\$ 24,141,231	\$ 32,954,280	\$ 31,091,248	\$ (1,863,032)	-5.65%
Supplies and materials	3,000,002	4,056,579	5,443,144	1,386,565	34.18%
Communications	699,249	660,190	538,984	(121,206)	-18.36%
Conferences/meetings	2,308,788	3,133,352	3,655,693	522,341	16.67%
Grants/subsidies	4,383,666	5,694,124	5,297,253	(396,871)	-6.97%
Utilities	3,733,415	3,990,430	3,990,430	-	0.00%
Fixed charges-Insurance	1,192,341	1,067,560	1,469,082	401,522	37.61%
Bad debt expense	1,143,676	1,283,676	1,320,121	36,445	2.84%
Furniture and equipment	2,657,989	4,954,536	6,241,549	\$1,287,013	25.98%
TOTAL	\$43,260,358	\$57,794,727	\$59,047,504	\$1,252,777	2.17%

Contracted Services

- FY 2026 contracted services are \$31.1 million, a decrease of \$1.9 million or 5.7% over the FY 2025 Approved Budget. The decreased contracted services use in Fund 13 more than offsets the increases in Fund 10 that supports the annual Achieving the Dream contract, various professional development initiatives, and technology optimization.

Furniture and Equipment

- FY 2026 furniture and equipment expenditures are \$6,241,549, an increase of \$1.3 million or 26.0% over the FY 2025 Approved Budget. Purchases support small office equipment and office furniture but are primarily related to information technology initiatives.

Information Technology

- The College's technology initiatives for FY 2026 include:
 - ◇ Business continuity and disaster recovery of critical business systems
 - ◇ Comprehensive data strategy and predictive analytic infrastructure
 - ◇ Digital accessibility program
 - ◇ Cyber security assessment and remediation
 - ◇ Windows Upgrades
 - ◇ Network switching and routing hardware refresh
 - ◇ Public safety technology refresh
 - ◇ eLearning student success
- Many of these one-time projects will be funded use of the college's fund balance.
- The College continues to experience high vacancy rates in critical technology positions and low applicant response rates to position recruitment. The lack of personnel to provide in-house IT services has been bridged by outsourcing critical web applications and IT security services.
- The College hires students for some entry-level technical vacancies.

Student Enrollment Data

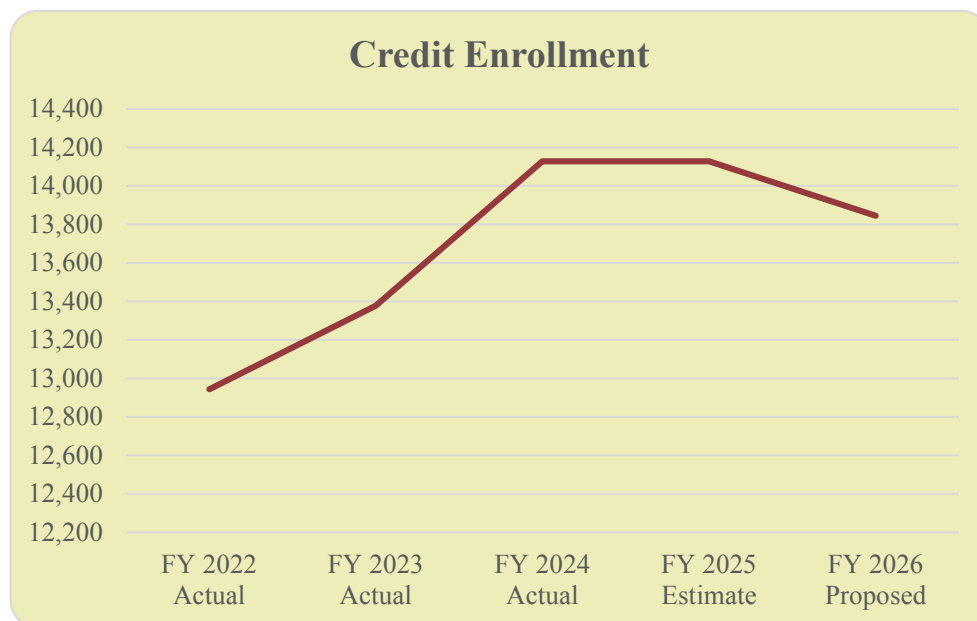
- FY 2026 student credit enrollment (13,845 students) and non-credit enrollment (9,370 students) is projected to decrease when compared to FY 2025 estimated enrollment.

FISCAL YEAR STUDENT ENROLLMENT					
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimate	Proposed
Credit	12,943	13,378	14,128	14,128	13,845
Non-Credit	10,156	8,897	9,370	9,370	9,370
Total Unduplicated	23,099	22,275	23,498	23,498	23,215

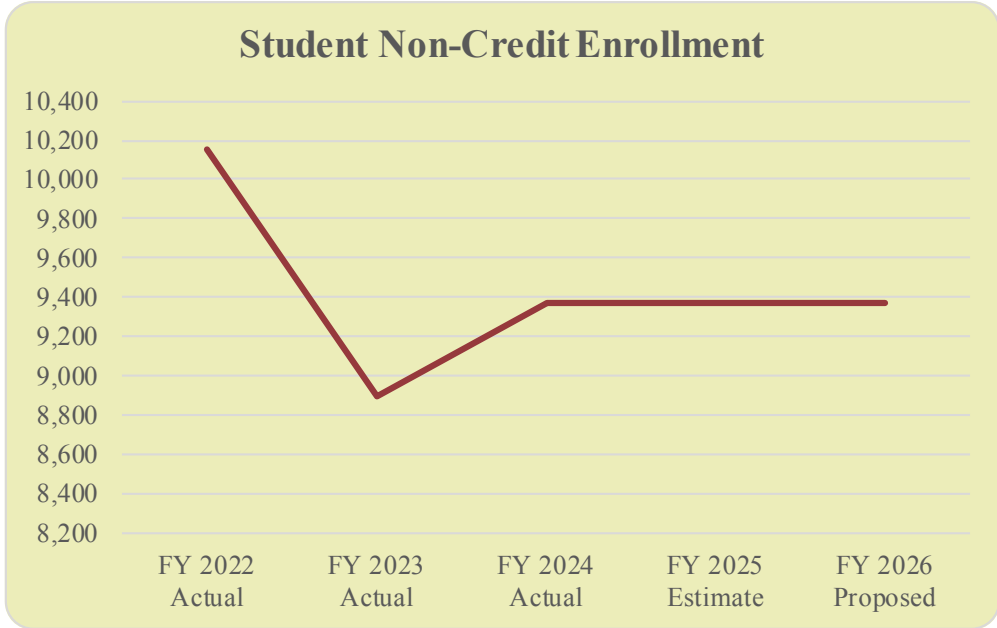
- In Spring 2024, according to the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE), 34.9% of credit students identified as first-generation college students, an increase of 11% over Spring 2018.
- Student enrollment data from fall semesters show that most students are County residents; however, there is an increasing population from other states.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT (By Residency)						
	FY 2023		FY 2024		FY 2025	
Howard County Resident	5,864	71.39%	6,251	76.10%	6,493	74.66%
Maryland Resident, Out of County	2,088	25.42%	2,060	25.08%	1,923	22.11%
Out of State Resident	240	2.92%	246	2.99%	266	3.06%
Employee	22	0.27%	17	0.21%	15	0.17%
Total	8,214		8,574		8,697	

Credit Enrollment



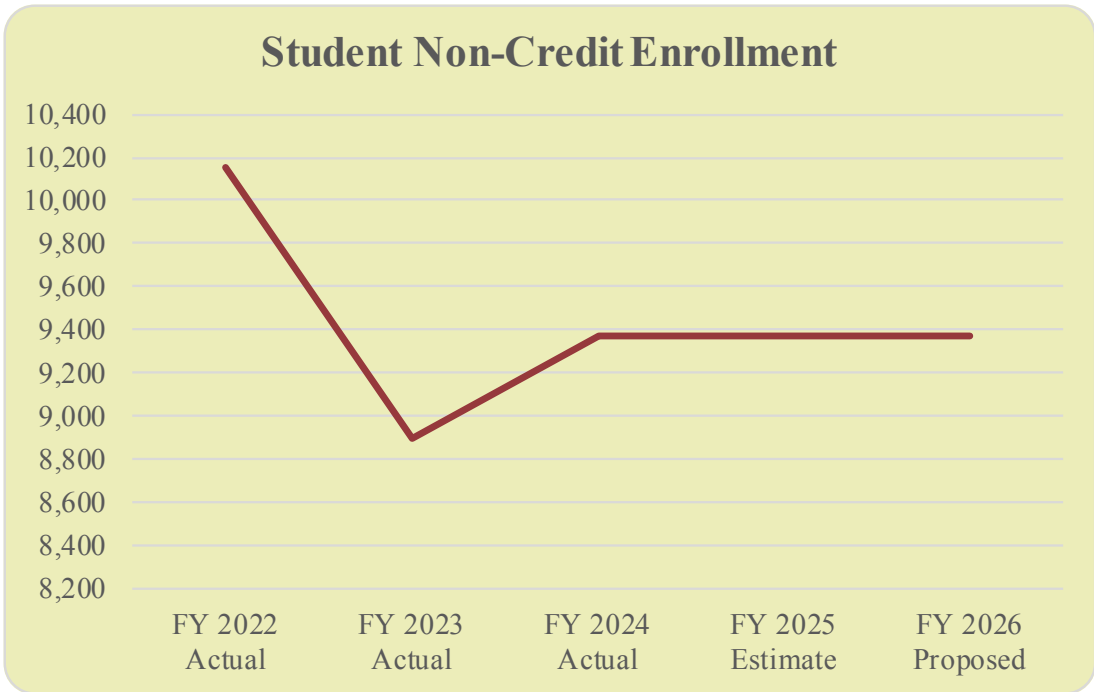
Non-Credit Enrollment



Dual Enrollment

HCC has fostered a highly successful dual enrollment partnership with the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS), known as JumpStart. In FY24, these dually enrolled students accounted for 27% of our total enrollment. Moreover, the state’s emphasis on dual enrollment through the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future aligns with our mission to provide access to quality higher education for Maryland students. To support these efforts, the college absorbs 50% of the tuition discount for all dual enrollment students, with HCPSS covering the remaining cost.

The College’s **Dual Enrollment Program** has expanded, with up to 33% of the College’s population being dually enrolled high school students. However, since the county is reducing the number of courses they will pay for, it may reduce the number of students that will engage in dual enrollment.



Capital Improvement Overview

Howard Community College operates from its Columbia campus. The Columbia campus consists of 120 acres with 12 permanent buildings and one building in progress. The Facilities Master Plan establishes strategic initiatives aligned with the interests of the Community College’s staff and Board to serve the County’s residents more effectively.

FY 2026 Capital Improvement Funding Sources

- As reflected in the statement of net position, the College noted an increase in capital improvement of \$31,758,000 in FY 2024 from FY 2023. This included the completion of the Athletics and Mathematics Complex and the start of the Workforce Development and Skilled Trades Center.
- In the FY 2026 Capital Budget, the funding source for projects is as follows:

College Funds	\$3,616,000
County Funds	\$6,000,000
State Funds	\$11,916,000
Total	\$21,532,000



Capital Improvement Expenditures

- The FY 2026 Capital Budget expenditures are \$21,532,000. Most of these funds will be used for the Workforce Development and Trades Center construction, with \$1,000,000 reserved for systemic renovations.
- Current projects for the College are listed in the accompanying tables on the next page:

Project Name	Estimated Completion	Approved FY 2025 Capital Budget	Total through FY 2024	FY 2026 Capital Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Workforce Development and Trades Center	FY 2027	17,218,000	5,300,000	20,532,000	3,314,000	19%
Systemic Renovations (FY25-FY29)	Ongoing	1,000,000	-	1,000,000	-	0%
TOTAL		18,218,000	5,300,000	21,532,000	3,314,000	18%

- Total project costs for the FY 2024 – FY 2027 CIP are \$52,250,000.

Project Name	Estimated Completion	Approved Project Cost FY2024 - FY2027	Total Project Cost	Change in Project Cost
Workforce Development and Trades Center	FY 2027	47,250,000	47,250,000	No change
Systemic Renovations	Ongoing	5,000,000	5,000,000	No change
TOTAL		52,250,000	52,250,000	-

- The college has one (1) construction project that is ongoing and/or planned for FY 2026. Details and funding requests are discussed below:
 - ◊ Workforce Development and Trades Center (FY 2024-FY 2027)
 - Project is currently in the construction phase and is on schedule and on budget.
 - ◊ Systemic Renovations (FY 2026 funding request: \$1,000,000)
 - Provides funding for replacing mechanical, life safety, environmental temperature building controls, and infrastructure items.
 - FY 2026 improvements include the Dental Hygiene expansion renovation, and the Howard Hub build out.



Values, Strategic Initiatives, and Leadership

The mission of the Howard Community College (HCC) is to provide pathways to success. The vision is to be a place to discover greatness in yourself and others. Our values are based on the word **INSPIRED**.

- Innovation
- Nurturing
- Service and sustainability
- Partnerships
- Integrity
- Respect
- Excellence
- Diversity, equity and inclusion

The College's Strategic Focus and Initiatives in FY 2026 are:

Strategic Goal 1 – *Student Success, Completion, and Lifelong Learning*

Strategic Goal 2 – *Organizational Excellence*

Strategic Goal 3 – *Build and Sustain Partnerships to Support Enrollment and Quality Services*

Strategic Goal 4 – *Support a Culture of Care and Belonging through Student and Employee Engagement*

The Board of Trustees

The college is governed by the Board of Trustees. The current members are:

	Board Member	Term Began	Term Ends
1	Vivian More Lawyer, Chair	June 2023	June 2027
2	Felícita Solá-Carter, Vice Chair	July 2020	June 2026
3	Alicia Vanessa Altamirano, Esq.	April 2025	June 2029
4	Michele Douglas	April 2025	June 2028
5	H. Russell Frisby Jr.	April 2025	June 2031
6	Carl S. Perkins, Ed.D.	July 2025	June 2031
7	Stacey Ullrich	April 2025	June 2030
8	President Daria J. Willis, Secretary/Treasurer President, Howard Community College		



