



***House Bill 167: Higher Education - State Payments to Private Institutions –  
Unserved Student Populations***

**House Appropriations Committee**

**Support with Amendments**

**Roger N. Casey, President**

**February 11, 2020**

On behalf of McDaniel College and the 2,900 undergraduate and graduate students we serve, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on *HB 167: Higher Education - State Payments to Private Institutions - Unserved Student Populations*. We appreciate Delegate Kerr's commitment and attention to access, affordability, and choice for Maryland community college students who are transferring to pursue a bachelor's degree. **McDaniel supports the amendments to the bill as proposed by the sponsor.** We believe that increasing the award amount of the State's 2+2 Transfer Scholarship will provide the greatest benefit to this population of students and will help incentivize the completion of the associate's degree prior to transfer.

On average, McDaniel enrolls 35-45 Maryland community college transfer students each fall. The largest sending transfer institution is Carroll Community College, which is located less than five miles from McDaniel. McDaniel is a participating institution in ARTSYS, the State's online course articulation system for transferring credits from one Maryland institution to another. Further, transfer students are eligible for numerous McDaniel merit scholarships, including the Educator's Legacy, Military Legacy, and Alumni Legacy scholarship programs, as well as the Presidential Scholarship for transfer students admitted into McDaniel's Honors Program.

McDaniel has a number of partnerships and articulations with Maryland community colleges. In 2019, for example, McDaniel and Carroll signed a new articulation agreement for Carroll students who transfer and complete their bachelor's degree in elementary education or the secondary education/PreK-12 education minor at McDaniel. Under this agreement, Carroll students who have completed the Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.) with a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA receive guaranteed admission to McDaniel. These students are eligible to receive at least a \$16,000 per year transfer scholarship, with additional funding considerations for Phi Theta Kappa academic honor society members. Carroll students are then able to complete their bachelor's degree at McDaniel in two years.

**For all of these reasons, McDaniel respectfully urges a FWA report.**