

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 12 (Senator Ellis)
Education, Energy, and the Environment

College of Southern Maryland - Board of Trustees Membership - Alterations

This bill adds two members from Charles County to the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) Board of Trustees. The term of one new member must begin July 1, 2024. The term of the second new member must begin July 1, 2026, such that, by July 1, 2026, Charles County must be represented on the board by at least five members who are residents of Charles County. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2024.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill is directed at CSM. Further, the bill is assumed to have no impact on CSM’s eligibility for the 75% State share for capital improvement projects, as explained below.

Local Effect: CSM expenditures for new board member expense reimbursements (up to \$600 per board member annually) beginning in FY 2025 are minimal and absorbable with existing resources. It is assumed that there are no additional expenses reimbursements in FY 2024. Revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: State law generally establishes that community college boards have seven members serving staggered six-year terms, with several specified exceptions. Therefore, there are variations in the number and terms of board members. **Appendix 1** shows characteristics of the various boards. The CSM Board of Trustees consists of nine members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Each

member must be a resident of the State who has completed at least 60 hours of accredited college work, and none may be an elected official of the State, a county, municipal corporation, or county board. Members serve five-year terms and may not serve more than two consecutive full terms. Each member of the board is entitled to receive up to \$600 a year for expenses.

Each of the southern Maryland counties (Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties) must be represented by at least three members who are residents of that county.

Additional Comments: Charles County advises that, should the bill alter CSM's status as a regional community college and resultant eligibility for a State cost share of 75% for capital improvement projects, county costs increase by approximately \$18.8 million over the next five years. State costs for community college construction would likewise decrease by \$18.8 million in such a scenario as CSM capital improvement plan projects would be funded under a 50% State, 50% local cost share. However, the Department of Legislative Services advises that altering the board composition has no effect on CSM's eligibility for a 75% State and 25% local cost share for capital improvement projects under § 11-105(j) of the Education Article. Section 16-603(f) of the Education Article specifies that CSM is eligible for the capital improvement cost share of a regional community college, regardless of CSM's status as a regional community college under § 16-202(b) of the Education Article. Therefore, this analysis assumes that altering the board to include additional representation from Charles County has no impact on CSM's capital improvement plan cost shares.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): College of Southern Maryland; Charles County; St. Mary's County; Maryland Higher Education Commission; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 22, 2024
km/clb

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Appendix 1 - Selected Requirements for Board Members of Community Colleges

<u>Community College</u>	<u>Number of Members</u>	<u>Term Length (in Years)</u>	<u>Term Limits</u>	<u>Residency Requirements</u>
Allegany	7	6	No Limit	None
Anne Arundel	8 ¹	4	3 ²	Yes ³
Baltimore City	9 ¹	6	2 ⁴	Some ⁵
Baltimore	15	5	2 ⁴	See Note ⁶
Carroll	7	6	No Limit	None
Cecil	7	6	No Limit	None
Chesapeake	10	5	3	Yes ⁷
Frederick	7	5	3	Yes ⁸
Garrett	7	6	No Limit	None
Hagerstown	7	6	No Limit	Yes ⁹
Harford	9	5	2 ⁴	Yes ¹⁰
Howard	7	6	No Limit	Some ¹¹
Montgomery	10 ^{1,12}	6	No Limit	Some ¹³
Prince George's	9 ¹	5	2 ⁴	Yes ¹⁴
Southern Maryland	9	5	2 ⁴	Yes ¹⁵
Wor-Wic	7	6	No Limit	None

¹The board includes a student member serving a one-year term. The student body elects the student board member in Prince George's County.

²Consecutive full terms.

³All members must be a resident of Anne Arundel County.

⁴Consecutive terms.

⁵All members must be a resident of the State. The majority must be residents of Baltimore City.

⁶Of the members, one serves at large and the other 14 serve from the seven councilmanic districts in Baltimore County, two from each district.

⁷Two members from each county that supports Chesapeake College (Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot).

⁸All seven members must be a resident of Frederick County.

⁹All members must be a resident of Washington County at the time of appointment and maintain residency in Washington County throughout their term of appointment.

¹⁰All members must be a resident of Harford County. The Harford County board includes three at-large members and one from each of the six council districts.

¹¹Of the seven members, at least six must be residents of Howard County at the time of appointment and maintain residency in Howard County throughout the term of appointment.

¹²A local nominating committee must submit to the Governor the names of two to four candidates per vacancy, from which the Governor must appoint a new member.

¹³The student member must be a resident of the county.

¹⁴All members must be a resident of Prince George's County.

¹⁵Members must be a resident of the State. Each of the southern Maryland counties must be represented by at least three members who are residents of the county.

Source: Annotated Code of Maryland