



MHEC
MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

**REPORT ON THE INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS
FOR TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM**

March 2005

MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION
839 Bestgate Rd. • Suite 400 • Annapolis, MD 21401-3013

BACKGROUND

The Innovative Partnerships for Technology Program (IPT) provides State-matching funds for donations from the private sector or public foundations for the technology needs of eligible community colleges. Community colleges may receive contributions in the form of cash or non-cash donations. All donations must be earmarked specifically for technology. The purpose of the program is to enhance the technology resources available to the community colleges and to leverage private and foundation support through the use of State matching funds. This program attempts to address the burgeoning demands for technology at the community colleges, which must develop and sustain strong technological infrastructures, services and training vital to continue their role for academic and professional success. As community colleges work to develop new business alliances and working partnerships, as well as new technology endowments, contributions earmarked specifically for technology are matched by the State, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$700,000 per eligible institution over the grant period (fiscal 1999 to fiscal 2006).

Chapters 600 and 601, Acts of 1998 initially established the IPT program. Under this program, the State agreed to match a maximum of \$400,000, which was broken down into two, \$200,000 increments over a four-year period (fiscal 1999 to fiscal 2002) for each community college. This initial four years of the IPT program was a great success with all but one eligible institution achieving the maximum State match. The State is required to pay the match in the third fiscal year following the eligible donation.

In 2002, the General Assembly passed legislation, which extended the eligibility period of the IPT program for four additional fiscal years and changed the maximum State match amount (Chapter 413, Acts of 2002). With the modification and extension of this program, the State has agreed to match a maximum of \$300,000, which is broken down into two \$150,000 increments over a four-year period (fiscal 2003 to fiscal 2006) for each community college. Once again, the State is required to pay this match in the third fiscal year following the eligible donation. Therefore, fiscal 2005 will be the first year in which donations up to \$150,000 must be matched and fiscal 2009 will be the fourth and final year for providing State-matching grants under Chapter 413.

The first round of the second phase of the IPT program has ended with donations exceeding \$ 2.9 million. Between fiscal 1999 to fiscal 2004, eligible State-matching donations totaled over \$11.6 million, however fiscal constraints in recent years led the State to defer its matching obligations. Currently, \$7.1 million of the \$11.6 million in State matching payments have been made with a balance due of \$4.5 million. The Governor's fiscal year 2006 allowance includes matching funds of \$1.6 million with the remaining balances to be deferred to future years (Table I).

ELIGIBLE DONATIONS

For a donation to be considered eligible, it must be made by an eligible donor and designated for technology, which is defined under statute as "any hardware, software, communication infrastructure, associated training, and contracted services that enable local or global presentation, exchange, and transmission of information in digital or analog form for teaching, learning, student support services and administration." The definition of technology includes capital expenditures but does not include staff. Any individual, private or public foundation (including the affiliated foundation of a community college), non-profit organization, or business may be an eligible donor. However, no local, State, federal or foreign government entity can be an eligible donor. Donations of equipment are assessed at fair market (monetary) values by an independent evaluator. Given the

expense of upgrading old equipment and of making different systems compatible, a campus has the right to refuse equipment on a case-by-case basis.

IMPACT OF THE PROGRAM

The community college campuses participating in IPT report that the program has had an immediate impact on their institutions, accruing both short-term and long-term benefits to instruction, student services, and administration. It is clear that the IPT program acts as a catalyst for developing community partnerships that will remain an important part of the institutions' efforts to keep up with the demand for rapidly evolving instructional and administrative technology. In general, the colleges focused their efforts first on instructional technology to benefit students directly. More specifically, they note the following program benefits:

- New curricular programs for workforce development generated by college-corporate partnerships;
- Increased communication between the community colleges and area organizations, resulting in curricular innovation, new instructional sites, and technology advisory boards;
- New and upgraded computer labs for students;
- New instructional equipment and software for faculty and students, including specialized software and equipment for mathematics, electronics, manufacturing, nursing, and allied health;
- The addition of "smart classrooms," which are equipped with multimedia instructional;
- The creation of technology endowments to support current and future technology needs;
- Improved administrative computing, including better software for tracking enrollment and providing student services; and
- Servers and software to enhance or allow online courses and related means of distance learning.

Maryland community colleges have received donations from national and regional corporations, local businesses, foundations, and individuals. These contributions came in the form of:

- Cash, including funds earmarked for technology endowments;
- Donated installation, consulting, and maintenance services;
- Price discounts on hardware and software; and
- Donated software and hardware and other equipment.

Though significant technology needs persist, overall the IPT Program is a public-private endeavor that has provided markedly improved technology to Maryland community colleges and has been instrumental in forging new means of addressing the technology needs of the community colleges.

Although participation in this program has been outstanding, the community colleges have expressed their concerns regarding the timing of State-matching payments. In general, fiscal constraints have led the State to defer its matching obligations. As previously mentioned, only \$7.1 million of the \$8.7 million in State matching payments for Phase I of this program have been made with the remaining Phase I balance to be paid from the fiscal 2006 allowance. The funding for the new round (Phase II) will be deferred until at least fiscal 2007. Many institutions are concerned that with the continued delay of these payments, donors may be apprehensive of making significant contributions until the State matches its previous commitments.

Table I. Innovative Partnerships For Technology Donations and Eligible Match: FY 1999-2004

03/30/05

Institution	FY 1999-2000		FY 2001-2002		FY 2003-2004		FY 2006		Balance Due
	1st Eligible Period	2nd Eligible Period	2nd Eligible Period	3rd Eligible Period	3rd Eligible Period	Donations	Payments	Allowance	
Allegany College of Maryland	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 550,000	\$ 333,500	\$ 66,500	\$ 150,000	
Anne Arundel Community College	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	312,131	87,869	150,000	
Baltimore City Community College	200,000	200,000	200,000	-	400,000	342,880	57,120	-	
Carroll Community College	200,000	137,252	150,000	150,000	487,252	268,626	68,626	150,000	
Cecil Community College	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	303,287	96,713	150,000	
College of Southern MD--Calvert Co./Prince Frederick	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	318,536	81,464	150,000	
College of Southern MD--Charles Co./Waldorf/La Plata	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	365,740	34,260	150,000	
College of Southern MD--St. Mary's Co./Leonardtown	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	345,017	54,983	150,000	
Chesapeake College	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	324,449	75,551	150,000	
Community College of Baltimore Co.--Catonsville	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	340,606	59,394	150,000	
Comm. Coll. of Baltimore Co.--Dundalk	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	320,910	79,090	150,000	
Comm. Coll. of Baltimore Co.--Essex	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	339,662	60,338	150,000	
Frederick Community College	200,000	200,000	200,000	-	400,000	302,154	97,846	-	
Garrett College	200,000	200,000	200,000	78,699	478,699	304,103	95,897	78,699	
Hagerstown Community College	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	314,540	85,460	150,000	
Harford Community College	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	299,458	100,542	150,000	
Howard Community College	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	299,184	100,816	150,000	
Montgomery College--Germantown	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	348,326	51,674	150,000	
Montgomery College--Rockville	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	342,714	57,286	150,000	
Montgomery College--Takoma Park	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	316,534	83,466	150,000	
Prince George's Community College	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	298,748	101,252	150,000	
Wor-Wic Community College	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	550,000	363,767	36,233	150,000	
Total	\$ 4,400,000	\$ 4,337,252	\$ 4,337,252	\$ 2,928,699	\$11,665,951	\$ 7,104,870	\$ 1,632,382	\$ 2,928,699	

Note: First IPT eligible period consists of Fiscal Years 1999 & 2000
 Note: Second IPT eligible period consists of Fiscal Years 2001 & 2002
 Note: Third IPT eligible period consists of Fiscal Years 2003 & 2004
 Note: The fourth IPT eligible period will be Fiscal Years 2005 & 2006

**Innovative Partnerships for Technology
Fiscal 1999-2004**

