DESCRIPTION OF UMBC FOR EXTERNAL REVIEWERS

Founded in 1966, the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) is a public research university within the University System of Maryland known for its distinctive undergraduate educational experience and nationally ranked graduate programs. UMBC has officially reached the nation’s highest level of research performance. The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education today announced that UMBC has been placed into the category of [**doctoral universities with very high research activity**](https://carnegieclassifications.iu.edu/lookup/view_institution.php?unit_id=163268&), popularly known as Research 1 (or R1). UMBC is now ranked as one of only 146 R1 institutions nationally, including 107 public and 39 private universities.

UMBC offers 59 majors and 35 minors, as well as 25 certificate programs, spanning visual and performing arts, engineering and information technology, sciences, humanities, social sciences and pre-professional studies. UMBC’s Graduate School offers 39 master’s degree programs, 24 doctoral degree programs, and 24 graduate certificate programs. In addition to traditional degree programs, the campus offers several interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate degrees and also serves students in summer and winter programs, the English Language Institute, the Training Centers, and the Division of Professional Studies.

The campus is home to 533 full-time instructional faculty and nearly 14,000 enrolled students, including 5508 graduate students. The average SAT score for freshman who joined UMBC in the fall of 2016 was 1220 for the two-part SAT and 1800 for the three-part SAT. Approximately half of all full-time undergraduates and 75 percent of freshmen live on campus. Our student body reflects the diversity of Maryland from which we draw more than 80 percent of our students. In 2016, 16 percent were African American, 19 percent were Asian American and 6 percent were Hispanic or Native American.