Build a Stronger Future
Our Moment

With a productive port and an intricate network of highways and railroads, Maryland is within an overnight trip of fully one-third of the national population, making us a lynchpin of American commerce—and a beacon for international trade.

We have one of the most educated workforces in the country, with some of its best public schools and 66 institutions of higher education. We are the nation’s wealthiest state per capita.

We are exceptionally diverse. We support every industry, from government to grocery stores, construction to computer science, manufacturing to medical technology, and more.

Yet, with all that makes Maryland extraordinary, we face significant challenges to a strong, vibrant, workforce-driven economy. Our growing population needs jobs now
Maryland is a state in motion.

and for generations to come, at all levels of ability and in all types of industry. Our students are struggling for the connection between school and career. Our employers’ No. 1 concern is finding people with the right hard- and soft skills to be ready for work on Day One. Despite mountains to the west, the sea to the east, the Chesapeake in between, and all our state’s beauty, Maryland is less attractive to employers and their employees because of its high personal and property taxes. And our international trade market is below 2 percent.

This is a critical time for Maryland’s private sector. Neighboring states are making their moves. Now is when we must decide: Do we forge new paths, or fall behind?

The Maryland Chamber Foundation is geared to drive economic competitiveness and success, so that Maryland keeps moving forward.
Our Mission

The Maryland Chamber Foundation is a 501(c)(3) supporting the shared vision of a better Maryland. With priorities like research, development and education, the foundation is a cornerstone of community-building in business.
Policymakers and the public tend to focus too much on the next four years and not enough on the next four generations. Maryland’s business community needs original ideas to tackle the state’s unique current and future challenges. It’s time for Maryland’s business community to share a new vision for success: an innovative, all-industry, all-encompassing approach that drives, with focus and resolve, toward greater growth.
Established in 1988, the Maryland Chamber Foundation focuses on the **research and educational objectives** of the Maryland Chamber of Commerce. We support research on issues important to businesses, including analyses of the Maryland economy and business climate. This research drives solutions in education, talent pipeline, and workforce development. The Foundation focuses on building partnerships to leverage and enhance existing programs, improving the connection between business, education and all Marylanders.
Our first job is securing Maryland’s future with a stronger economy and business climate. We do this with evaluation, original research, innovative solutions, and purposeful collaboration.

Our unique partnership with the independent Regional Economic Studies Institute at Towson University (RESI) aligns our educational and economic priorities. RESI provides:

- real-time economic data
- original analysis on Maryland’s economic climate
- insights on trends and forecasts across a range of key indicators
- multi-sourced, synthesized, real-time county- and statewide information
- transparency for all Marylanders

**Regional Economic Studies Institute**
TOWSON UNIVERSITY

**ABOUT RESI**
With more than 25 years of experience, the Regional Economic Studies Institute at Towson University provides a vast array of economic and policy analysis services to empower public, private, and nonprofit organizational decision-making throughout Maryland and across the region.
Finding the Answers

The Maryland Chamber Foundation seeks to build an asset map and/or employer index to identify answers to the following basic questions that will steer us toward a stronger state.

- What resources do career and workforce development organizations need from employers?
- How can employers effectively and efficiently inform educators on how to ensure their students’ immediate and long-term workforce success?
- How can collaborators across sectors and industries identify, target, and work to fill gaps, while avoiding overlap and redundancies?
More for Maryland

Our work doesn’t stop at the data. With the research, development, and dedication forged by the Maryland Chamber Foundation, we will strive toward sustainable solutions for growth.

- business education on workforce best practices
- talent pipeline support
- workforce development needs
- partnerships between businesses and schools to support underserved communities in career-focused education, licensure, CTE, apprenticeships and more

Maryland Chamber of Commerce members are partners in the state’s P-TECH program, providing six-year pathways from high school to career, at no cost, to cohorts of students in the state’s most economically underperforming areas

PTECH partner members*
- Community College of Baltimore County
- Johns Hopkins University
- Kaiser Permanente
- KCI Technologies, Inc.
- Marriott International
- MedStar Health
- Stanley Black & Decker
- University of Maryland–Baltimore
- Whiting-Turner Construction

*As of February 2018
Advisory Groups

When we say we value collaboration, we mean it.

Experts need not belong to the Maryland Chamber of Commerce to be part of our industry advisory groups. These groups discuss best practices, strategies and needs in their fields, focused on what the next 20 years looks like and how we can shape them. Their insights will help determine our research.

Current Maryland Chamber Foundation advisory groups:

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS**
Potential topics include rural broadband; internet consumer privacy; small-cell deployment

**HUMAN RESOURCES**
Potential topics include overtime pay & jurisdiction; sexual harassment policies and legislation; labor relations regulations; risk management

**RURAL**
Potential topics include rural health care issues; transportation; agricultural concerns; land preservation/legacy penalties
Forward Looking: The Maryland 2030 Blueprint

Maryland 2030, the blueprint for success, will guide the development of strategies to ensure Maryland is at the forefront of global competitiveness and economic prosperity, attracting and retaining quality jobs, and developing vibrant, sustainable communities. This project is a collaborative, two-year research effort designed to stimulate strategic thinking, identify key trends, and engage business and community leaders in each of Maryland’s 23 counties and Baltimore City.

Produced as part of Maryland 2030, in cooperation with the Regional Economic Studies Institute at Towson University (RESI), the Foundation’s 2030 Blueprint will answer those questions and more to prepare the state for continued growth and ensure its continued success.

It will design strategies built around the factors that drive Maryland’s future economy: talent, education, innovation, economic diversity, infrastructure, business climate, governance, and quality of life.
The Maryland Chamber Foundation is leading the charge to write the next chapter of Maryland's story. If you are ready to put the long-term ahead of the short-term, then we are ready for you.

Are You Ready?

Join us in moving Maryland forward.
The Maryland Chamber Foundation sponsors, publishes, promotes and distributes research on issues of importance to the business community and the Maryland economy. The Foundation also provides educational forums that facilitate the discussion and debate of public policy.