



Letter of Information

Appropriations Committee *House Bill 912 (Guyton) Institutions of Higher Education – Instructor Training – Accommodations for Students With Disabilities*

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On behalf of the member institutions of the Maryland Independent College and University Association (MICUA) and the nearly 55,000 students we serve, I thank you for the opportunity to provide this letter of information for [House Bill 912 \(Guyton\) Institutions of Higher Education - Instructor Training - Accommodations for Students with Disabilities](#). This legislation requires institutions of higher education to provide instructors with training on institutional obligations toward students with disabilities under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, including information on academic accommodations and adjustments for qualified students; requires the Maryland Higher Education Commission to develop a model training program; and generally relates to instructor training on accommodations for students with disabilities and institutions of higher education.

MICUA supports the training of faculty on institutional obligations related to accommodations for students with disabilities. MICUA institutions provide the training described in HB 912 in a variety of ways, often during new faculty orientation. Some MICUA institutions provide training to full-time faculty; however, it is not currently mandated for adjunct faculty. As such, by expanding the list to include adjuncts, it would push the schools to allocate additional resources at a time when MICUA institutions are already experiencing overburdened budgets.

A consideration that is absent from the legislation is the availability of grant funding to develop training programs to help faculty address the needs of students with disabilities. Some training programs are available online at no cost and may serve as a resource to the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information related to House Bill 912 on behalf of our member institutions. If you have any questions or would like additional information please contact Angela Sherman, Vice President for Academic Affairs, asherman@micua.org.