

## ACM Program Access Updates FAQs

- 1. Why are you removing these programs?**
  - a. These programs have been determined to be duplicative of programs in the state of Maryland. Programs are assessed based on curricular content; any program with a curriculum that is 51% or more similar to a Maryland program is considered “duplicative”.
- 2. Why are you removing these programs *now*?**
  - a. Programs are assessed annually to ensure there is no duplication.
- 3. When will this take effect?**
  - a. Programs will be removed prior to the start of the Spring semester application cycle (this will take effect sometime between July 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 and August 30<sup>th</sup> 2023).
- 4. What if I am already enrolled in my college in one of the majors that are being removed? Will I lose access to my tuition savings?**
  - a. No. If you have been certified for the ACM, you will be grandfathered in, and your tuition savings will continue for the duration of your time in the major. This is true unless any of the following conditions apply:
    - i. You take a break from school and/or drop below full time enrollment (summers/winter breaks do not count).
    - ii. You are no longer in good academic standing as defined by your school.
    - iii. You change your major or add a minor/double major.
- 5. There are other programs in the ACM Inventory that I think are duplicative. Why are those allowed to stay?**
  - a. Please email us about your concerns. We do our best to review all of the ACM programs, but sometimes we miss a few. Alternatively, those programs may have already been determined to be different enough to keep in the ACM Inventory.

## General ACM FAQs for Approved Programs

- 1. Do I need to re-certify every year/semester?**
  - a. No, you do not need to ever re-certify, unless any of the following conditions apply:
    - i. You take a break from school and/or drop below full time enrollment (summers/winter breaks do not count).
    - ii. You are no longer in good academic standing as defined by your school.
    - iii. You change your major or add a minor/double major.
- 2. Do I need to notify MHEC if any of the above conditions happen?**
  - a. Yes, please email us. You should also notify the ACM coordinator at your school.
- 3. Can my parent fill out the ACM application for me?**
  - a. Technically, yes, although we do recommend that the student fill out the application. Whoever fills out the application should check their email regularly for communications regarding their application.
- 4. If I am already certified, can I add a minor or double major?**

- a. The minor or double major must be unique (i.e. not offered in Maryland). Please email us if first you are considering this.
- 5. What if the program I am interested in pursuing is not in the ACM Inventory?**
- a. If you believe the program is unique (i.e. not offered in Maryland) AND
  - b. The school offering the program is a school that [participates in the ACM](#) AND
  - c. You have been officially admitted to the program

Then you can submit a “request for access” to MHEC. Please email us for more information.

- 6. I have submitted my ACM application. Why is it taking so long to process?**
- a. Applications are processed in the order they are received. Last cycle, we received upwards of 300 applications, so we do appreciate your patience as we work as quickly as possible.
  - b. Please check your email. There’s a chance we returned your application to you for corrections and are awaiting your action.
- 7. I submitted my corrections. Will my application be pushed to the front of the line?**
- a. No, applications and corrections are processed in the order they are received.
- 8. How do I know if my ACM application has been completed?**
- a. When your ACM certificate is ready, MHEC will email you at the email address you provided on your application. We will also cc your school’s ACM Coordinator. Once that happens, your school’s ACM Coordinator will work with the Financial Aid Office at your school to process the tuition savings. Please email your ACM Coordinator at your school if you have further questions about their processes.
- 9. I have been trying to call you and nobody is answering. Why is that?**
- a. There are multiple people at MHEC managing the ACM, so it is more efficient for us to work with parents and students via email for documentation purposes. Please email us and we will get back to you as soon as possible:  
[acm.mhec@maryland.gov](mailto:acm.mhec@maryland.gov)
- 10. I filled out a contact form with the SREB but did not get a confirmation! Did it go through?**
- a. If you submitted this [form](#), then yes it likely went through. The SREB is working to update their website so students will get a confirmation email when they fill this out. As of now, MHEC receives the confirmation email. If we did not receive it, we will email you and let you know.
- 11. I am trying to search for programs on the SREB website but it’s not working. How do I fix this?**
- a. When you go to the [Search for Programs](#) page, you choose your state of residence from the drop down and then more options will appear beneath that. When you choose “Degree Level”, you must wait for the page to update before moving on to “State Offering Program” and so on. Each time you choose a new option, the page needs to update before you move to the next drop-down.