

# OUR REPUTATION FOR EXCELLENCE



## U.S. News & World Report 2026

#5 National Liberal Arts College (Public Schools)

Top 100 Liberal Arts Colleges (National)

Included among schools on the lists of:

25 Colleges Near the Beach

10 Uncommon Student Clubs



## The Princeton Review 2025-2026

#2 Top 20 Best Schools for Making an Impact (Public Schools)

#9 Green Matters: Everyone Cares About Conservation (National)

#13 Friendliest Students (National)

Top 50 Best Value Colleges (Public Schools)



Washington Monthly 2025  
Best Bang for the Buck



College Raptor 2026  
Hidden Gems in the Mid-East U.S.



Forbes Top College 2026



Military Friendly School '25-26  
Silver



Niche 2026  
Top 100 Best Liberal Arts Colleges  
in America



Niche 2026  
#1 Best College Food in Maryland

Updated 10/28/25

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The Princeton Review is not affiliated with Princeton University.

*The* **NATIONAL PUBLIC HONORS** *College*

The first standalone public honors college, SMCM is the model for transformative and experiential education.



Learn more about  
our reputation

[www.smcm.edu/  
rankings](http://www.smcm.edu/rankings)

# KEY FACTS

## INSTITUTION

- Public liberal arts mission, co-educational, non-religious
- Accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education
- Member of the **Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC)**
- Officially designated as **Maryland's Public Honors College**, the first standalone public honors college in the nation.

## ENROLLMENT

- The majority of St. Mary's College students are Maryland residents, although students from **29 states** and **6 countries** are represented in our community.
- As of Fall 2024, 1646 students were enrolled
- **31% historically underrepresented and/or marginalized** (Fall 2024)

## CAMPUS LIFE

- 82% of St. Mary's College students live on campus (Fall 2024)
- SMCM has 60+ student-led clubs and organizations (11 club sports)



**Varsity athletic teams**  
(NCAA, Division III, Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association, Mid-Atlantic Rowing Conference)

- United East Presidents' Cup awardee 2023-2025

## DATES

- 1840:** The school was founded when the Maryland legislature authorized a lottery to finance the construction of a "female seminary" (girls' boarding school) in St. Mary's City.
- 1846:** The school was incorporated by an act of legislation.
- 1927:** St. Mary's College became Maryland's first junior college.
- 1964:** The school changed its name to St. Mary's College of Maryland.
- 1967:** St. Mary's became a four-year baccalaureate college.
- 1992:** The state General Assembly designated the school Maryland's public honors college; the state also granted the College an institutional status designed to assure stable public funding.

## LOCATION

- **361 acres of waterfront campus** adjacent to historic St. Mary's City, MD, founded in 1634 (Fourth oldest permanent English settlement in North America).

**75** miles southeast of Washington, D.C. and **97** miles south of Baltimore near the confluence of the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay.



## ACADEMICS

- Popular degree programs: **psychology, biology, business administration, marine science, environmental studies** and **English**
- **30 study and intern abroad programs** in 23 countries around the world
- **Most scholar-athletes earning All-Academic honors** (228) from the United East Conference (2024-25)
- **95%** of our faculty hold the highest attainable degrees in their respective fields of study (Fall 2024)
- Among the highest percentage of any Maryland school, **32% of all students graduate with a STEM major** (Class of 2024 grads)
- Degrees offered: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)
- Joint Degree Programs: B.S Environmental Studies/M.S. Climate Science & Policy or Environmental Policy through Bard Graduate Programs; B.S. Physics/B.S. Engineering through Washington University in St. Louis
- Among the **highest four-year graduation rate** and the lowest average debt of graduates from Maryland public 4-year institutions
- 13 current faculty are **Fulbright awardees** (Fall 2023)

**127** full-time faculty  
(Fall 2024)

**10:1** student-to-faculty ratio  
(Fall 2024)

**69** Academic Programs,  
**29 Majors and 30 Minors**  
(Fall 2025)

**ST MARY'S**  
COLLEGE of MARYLAND

*The National Public Honors College*