



President's Office

Letters to the UMB Community

State Budget

June 26, 2020

Dear UMB Community,

We are all aware that the COVID-19 pandemic has affected all aspects of our lives, from how we work, play, and interact with one another, to the economy. We feel the effects of drastic change and increased anxiety about the unknown — all of which are normal responses to a very abnormal situation.

You may have seen the news that the state of Maryland will need to enact budget cuts due to the pandemic. The Board of Public Works will vote on the proposed cuts, including cuts to the University System of Maryland, on Wednesday, July 1. The cuts are likely to be broad-based, and we do not know the University of Maryland, Baltimore's (UMB) precise portion of that reduction yet.

Throughout UMB's COVID-19 response and recovery planning, we have put processes in place to minimize the impact of proposed budget cuts. The Funding Model Workgroup has met frequently, and we have had ongoing, consistent dialogue with all of the deans and vice presidents pertaining to their unique budgetary needs.

I want you to know that we remain optimistic that UMB will be able to manage these proposed budget cuts without having to take any significant personnel actions, such as furloughs or layoffs.

This is a difficult time, and I know there are many unknowns and much speculation. I also know that the UMB community is resilient, strong, and committed to staying healthy and safe. As we learn more about the state's plan, we will communicate about what impact it may or may not have for us.

Sincerely,

Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS

Interim President

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