

# MEDA

Maryland Economic  
Development Association

Economic Development  
*Transforms lives.*



## MEDA'S MISSION

The Maryland Economic Development Association (MEDA) enhances the knowledge and skills of its members, encourages partnerships and networking among people committed to bringing jobs and capital to Maryland, and promotes economic development as an investment in Maryland.

## ABOUT MEDA

MEDA is a nonprofit organization of economic development professionals. Established in 1961, MEDA members promote the economic well-being of Maryland by working to improve the state's business climate and the professionalism of those in the field of economic development.



## MEDA Programs and Conferences

MEDA conducts three quarterly conferences and one annual conference each year. Members explore significant economic development issues, interact with colleagues and expert speakers, and elect and install association leaders.

## Professional Development

MEDA course offerings provide professionals with expanded knowledge in a variety of economic development disciplines. Members working to achieve Certified Economic Developer (CEcD) designation can receive credit from most courses offered.

The Chesapeake Basic Economic Development Course satisfies a key requirement of certification and provides an excellent foundation for anyone with an interest in economic development.

MEDA members can take advantage of the Lofton Scholarship Fund, which offsets tuition costs for those wishing to take approved professional development coursework.

## Economic Development...

- Creates opportunities
- Inspires innovation
- Enriches communities



## MEDA Awards

MEDA annually recognizes members through our Awards Program, which recognizes achievement in economic development projects and programs, and economic development marketing. MEDA also selects an economic development Volunteer of the Year, Rising Star, and inducts a recipient into the MEDA Hall of Fame.

All such awards are presented at the MEDA Annual Conference.

## Economic Development Week

MEDA's first Economic Development Week was celebrated in 2012 as a way to emphasize the importance of economic development in the State of Maryland. The weeklong celebration serves as a way for MEDA members to highlight the impact they've made in their communities.

## Partnerships and Networking

For more than 50 years, MEDA members have pioneered job creation and community renewal on behalf of all Marylanders. Our partners recognize the positive impact MEDA members are making every day and their investment allows MEDA to provide programs, courses, and services at affordable rates. There are opportunities for "Year Round" and "Conference" sponsorship.

Networking is a major component of any successful business plan. MEDA allows members and their colleagues from complimentary fields to connect through a number of networking functions.

## Public Policy Awareness

Although MEDA does not take a position on any bill and we do not lobby, we do work to make MEDA members aware of public policy issues related to jobs and investment at the state and local levels. We work on behalf of our members with elected and appointed officials to increase their understanding of economic development and the impact of public policy on creating and retaining jobs in Maryland. We also provide training assistance to MEDA members to help them become more effective in engaging with elected and appointed officials.

## Council of Past Presidents

MEDA's Council of Past Presidents is a leadership team whose primary objective is to provide confidential peer-to-peer mentorship to members.

Council of Past Presidents consists of former MEDA presidents who are available for consultancy on a targeted project, or on a broad issue affecting an economic development program. The combined experience of the council members enables us to provide flexible and supportive service that is focused on results. As a way to cater to all of our members, there is no fee for the services.

## Mentorship Program

MEDA Mentorship Program offers the opportunity for those new to economic development — or looking to the next level of their career — to seek guidance from others within the industry. The program matches mentors and mentees based on expertise, needs and geographic location.

## Young Leaders

Economic developers 40 and younger are invited to be part of Young Leaders. The group is open to those who are looking for collaborative opportunities and the chance to grow within his or her career. To be a part of Young Leaders, you must be a MEDA member.

# BE A PART OF MEDA

Apply online today at [MEDAmd.com](http://MEDAmd.com)

## MEDA Membership

MEDA members form a powerful, statewide network of professionals:

- Private sector professionals with an interest in economic development.
- State officials involved in economic development, workforce development, housing and community development, land use-planning, minority business, the environment, and other key areas.
- Local public sector professionals involved in economic development, planning, housing, and neighborhood revitalization programs in counties and municipalities.
- Other members include national and international economic development leaders, transportation leaders, business consultants, and educators.

## Types of Membership

There are three different classifications of membership in MEDA:

- **Active Membership**  
An individual employed by or affiliated with an organization whose primary mission is related to fostering economic growth in Maryland is eligible for Active Membership.
- **Student Membership**  
A college student with a professional interest in economic development may become a member of MEDA. A College Student Member has the rights and privileges of an Active Member.
- **Life Membership**  
Life Membership is bestowed upon an individual who has been inducted into the Hall of Fame as a result of their longstanding leadership in economic development. Life Members will have all the rights and privileges of Active Membership. A Life Member does not pay dues.
- **Retired Membership**  
If you are a MEDA member who has retired or are in a transitional job search, please contact us at [info@medamd.com](mailto:info@medamd.com) to learn more about our discounted renewal rates.



*Members are accepted into membership by election at the next MEDA Conference. Membership and all its benefits are by individual only. Membership and its benefits may not be transferred to another.*

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The  
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Foundation, Inc.



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