Section 12-201 of Education, Annotated Code of Maryland, calls for the Board of Regents to establish a University System Student Council that "shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Chancellor" and "may from time to time make reports and recommendations to the Board." Such a Council will provide a mechanism for the consideration of matters of System-wide concern to students within the System and enable the students to speak on such matters with unity and visibility. Consistent with the principles of shared governance, the University System of Maryland Student Council and the Chancellor jointly will develop for submission to the Governor a list of at least three nominees, each from a different USM institution, for the Student Regent position.

The Council shall include two representatives from each degree-granting institution and regional center in the System, selected in a manner determined by each institution and regional center. The Council will vote on a one institution, one vote basis. In addition to the 26 Council representatives, there will be a chair elected by the membership. The Student Regent shall also serve on the council ex officio. The representatives shall serve one-year terms; they may be re-appointed for subsequent terms as long as they remain students in good standing.

The Student Council shall, from time to time, present reports to the Board of Regents at regular meetings.