

Massachusetts Community College System Segmental Mission Statement

The fifteen Massachusetts community colleges offer open access to high quality, affordable academic programs, including associate degree and certificate programs. They are committed to excellence in teaching and learning and provide academic preparation for transfer for four-year institutions, career preparation for entry into high demand occupational fields, developmental coursework and lifelong learning opportunities.

Community colleges have a special responsibility for workforce development through partnerships with business and industry; provide job training, retraining, certification and skills improvement. In addition, they assume primary responsibility, in the public system, for offering developmental courses, programs and other services for individuals who seek to develop the skills needed to pursue college-level study or to enter the workforce.

Rooted in their communities, the colleges serve as community leaders, identifying opportunities and solutions to community problems and contributing to the region's intellectual, cultural and economic development. They collaborate with elementary and secondary education and work to ensure a smooth transition from secondary to post-secondary education. Through partnerships with baccalaureate institutions, they help to promote an efficient system of public higher education.

The community colleges offer an environment where the ideas and contributions of all students are respected. Academic and personal support services are provided to ensure that all students have an opportunity to achieve academic and career success. No eligible student shall be deprived of the opportunity for a community college education in Massachusetts because of an inability to pay tuition and fees.