



MassHire MassReconnect Update

June 15, 2023



Overview of MassReconnect



[Bunker Hill Community College \(bhcc.edu\)](http://bhcc.edu)

- The Governor's FY24 budget proposal includes \$20 million in funding for the creation of **MassReconnect** to cover the cost for all Massachusetts residents aged 25 or older who have not yet earned a college degree or industry credential.
- Funding provide last-dollar financial support to cover the cost of tuition, fees, books and supplies as well as provide funding Community Colleges to provide career and wraparound support services to encourage retention and degree-completion.
- Nearly 700,000 Massachusetts residents have some college credit but no degree – the majority of whom are over 25. There are currently 1.8 million Massachusetts residents, many of whom are people of color, with a high school diploma or equivalency.
- Eligibility requirements including residency are the same as other in-state financial aid programs



Framework for Student Eligibility

DHE, MACC and EOE are collaborating to support a launch to enroll students this Fall.

- be at least 25 years of age
- be a permanent legal resident of Massachusetts for at least one year, as of the start of the enrolled term
- be a U.S. Citizen or non-citizen eligible under federal and state requirements
- has not earned a prior associate or baccalaureate degree, or the equivalent
- enroll, as a matriculated student, on a full-time or part-time basis (minimum of 6 credits, or the equivalent) in an undergraduate program of study leading to a certificate or an associate degree
- complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- demonstrate unmet need toward costs of tuition, fees, books and supplies after all other grant and scholarship aid has been accounted for
- comply with Federal financial aid verification requirements
- not be in default on any federal or state student loans for attendance at any institution, or owe a refund for any previous state financial aid program
- meet satisfactory academic progress

- The Board of Higher Education will establish the program guidelines including student eligibility



Areas for Collaboration

Strategic Workforce Impact

- ☐ Technical Skill oriented Associate Degrees
- ☐ Industry credential Certificate Programs
- ☐ Transfer programs to high demand Bachelors Degrees
- ☐ Learn to Earn, Work Based Learning & Internship models
- ☐ Preapprentice and Apprentice Programs
- ☐ ESL and ABE Bridge Programs

Collaborating Roles

- ☐ Spread the word about the program with community organizations, employers, trade associations, etc.
- ☐ Inform potential student candidates about the program (degree completion and new student) and advocate they enroll and complete a FAFSA asap
- ☐ Inform and refer employers to partner for internship and hiring of graduates
- ☐ Share informational material and news of event (FAFSA completion days) as they become available including echoing on social media platform.