



MassReconnect & Education H1 Budget Highlights

**MassHire Board Meeting
March 15, 2023
Secretary Tutwiler
Executive Office of Education**



MassReconnect

- 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.
- 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.
- Eligibility requirements including residency are the same as other in-state financial aid programs

MassReconnect Strategic Workforce Impact Community College, MassHire and Industry Collaboration

- ☐ Technical Skill oriented Associate Degrees
- ☐ Transfer programs to high demand Bachelors Degrees
- ☐ Industry Credential Certificate Programs
- ☐ Learn to Earn Work Based Learning / Internship models
- ☐ Preapprentice / Apprentice Programs



Additional Investments in Workforce Development

- **Fully funding the Student Opportunity Act.** The over six-and-a-half billion dollar commitment to fund Chapter 70 is the largest investment in K-12 schools in our state's history and the largest percentage increase in funding in over two decades at 9.8%
- **\$128.1 million for MASSGrant Plus.** This represents a **\$93 million, or 165 percent increase** over the current fiscal year to provide need-based financial assistance to undergraduate students who reside in Massachusetts to help with the cost of tuition, fees and books.
- To provide more access for students to career and college readiness programming, House 1 includes **\$46.9 million for Early College and Innovation Pathways, a \$14.4 million expansion** over fiscal year 2023.
- The budget include **\$18 million for the Community College SUCCESS fund**, an increase of \$4 million
- The budget includes \$475 million fully supporting the continuation of **Commonwealth Cares for Children (C3) stabilization** grants to child care providers.
- The budget includes **\$1 million to support teachers working under emergency licensure in getting their provisional license**, and funds a **\$200,000 expansion** of the STEM Pipeline to **increase professional development for educators** in critical STEM subjects.