

**BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

**NO.:** BHE 26-33

**BOARD DATE:** December 9, 2025

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**APPROVAL OF THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND STATE UNIVERSITY FUNDING FORMULA  
ALLOCATIONS FOR FY2026**

**MOVED:** The Board of Higher Education (BHE) hereby approves allocations to provide additional operational funding for the Community Colleges and State Universities in FY2026, as set forth in Attachment A.

**VOTED:**  
Motion was adopted by the BHE on 12/9/2025.

**Authority:** M.G.L. c. 15A, § 9(dd); M.G.L. c. 15A, §15B; Line items 1596-2601 and 1596-2602.  
Section 2 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025.

**Contact:** Matthew Cole, Deputy Commissioner of Administration, Finance, and Operations

## **Background**

Under Massachusetts General Law, the Board of Higher Education is charged with developing funding formulas and approving allocations for the community colleges and state universities. M.G.L. c. 15A, § 9(dd); FY2026 GAA, 1596-2601 and 1596-2602.

Formula funding for the Community Colleges and State Universities was first established between 2013 and 2015. During that time, the Department formed planning committees to develop the formulas, and the work was facilitated and supported by the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS). While the formulas differ by segment, they reflect a combination of base funding variables, derived primarily from credit FTE enrollment, and performance outcomes, including primarily degree attainment.

Historically, the funding formula has been funded from appropriations 7066-1400 and 7100-4000 for the State Universities and Community Colleges, respectively. In addition, campuses receive direct appropriations from the Commonwealth to support their operational costs, with the majority of funding used for payroll. Direct appropriations are not administered by the DHE, however, the DHE supports this process by verifying that incremental increases in direct appropriations will provide operational support for anticipated cost growth.

In the FY2026 General Appropriations Act (GAA), the State University and Community College funding formulas are funded from two new appropriations, 1596-2601 and 1596-2602, respectively.

The funding levels in 1596-2601 and 1596-2602 exceed the historical averages of recent appropriations under line-items 7066-1400 and 7000-4000:

**Recent History of Funding Formula Appropriations**

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<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>State University Funding Formula Appropriation 7066-1400</b>	<b>Community College Funding Formula Appropriation 7100-4000</b>
2021	\$5,469,870	\$5,883,238
2022	\$5,834,270	\$6,271,863
2023	\$9,001,345	\$9,530,811
2024	\$9,820,456	\$10,078,100
2025	\$7,311,484	\$3,766,551

	<b>State University Funding Formula Appropriation 1596-2601</b>	<b>Community College Funding Formula Appropriation 1596-2602</b>
2026	\$21,716,729	\$20,950,395

The significant additional funds added to the traditional funding formula line item include operational funding historically provided through direct campus appropriations, in addition to funding that shall be allocated based on the existing, BHE-approved funding formula, Department staff have coordinated and consulted with campus leadership and Chief Financial Officers (CFOs) to determine allocations necessary to support anticipated cost growth in FY 2026. Campus allocations are shown in Attachment A.

**Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommendation is for approval of the allocations for FY2026 as set forth in Attachment A.

## Attachment A

### **FY26 Allocations (1596-2601 & 1596-2602)**

	FY26 Allocation
<b><u>State Universities</u></b>	
Bridgewater State University	\$3,395,193
Fitchburg State University	\$2,641,838
Framingham State University	\$2,576,171
Massachusetts College of Art and Design	\$1,610,660
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts	\$1,265,036
Massachusetts Maritime Academy	\$1,432,489
Salem State University	\$3,934,577
Westfield State University	\$2,453,167
Worcester State University	\$2,407,597
	<b>\$21,716,729</b>
<b><u>Community Colleges</u></b>	
Berkshire Community College	\$804,254
Bristol Community College	\$1,395,693
Bunker Hill Community College	\$1,663,757
Cape Cod Community College	\$884,955
Greenfield Community College	\$1,233,747
Holyoke Community College	\$1,329,610
Massachusetts Bay Community College	\$1,331,424
Massasoit Community college	\$1,443,659
Middlesex Community College	\$1,532,511
Mount Wachusett Community College	\$1,527,940
North Shore Community College	\$1,864,721
Northern Essex Community College	\$1,555,723
Quinsigamond Community College	\$1,188,062
Roxbury Community College	\$1,190,080
Springfield Technical Community College	\$2,004,259
	<b>\$20,950,395</b>