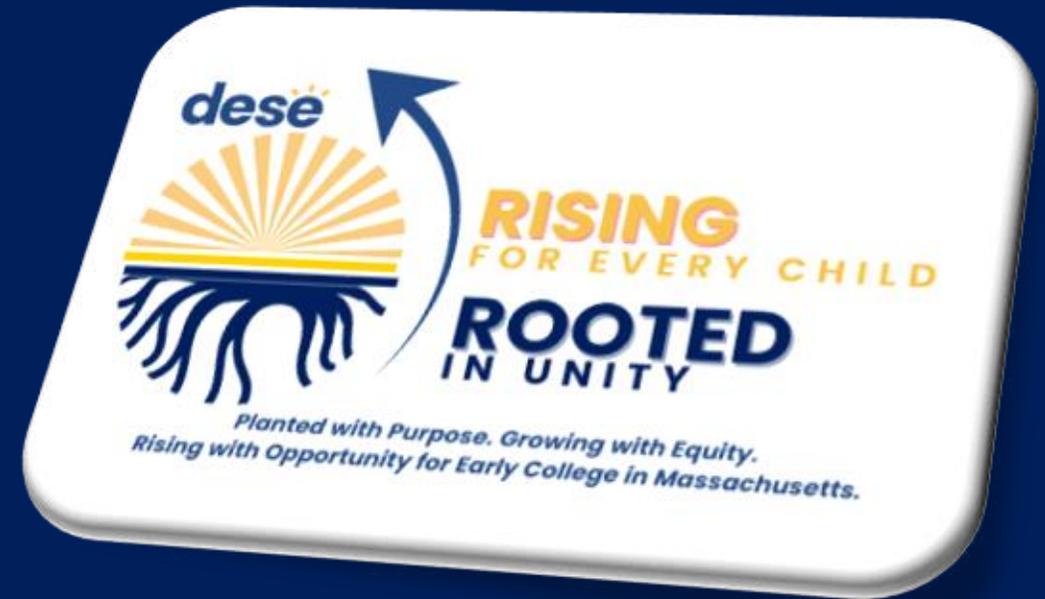


# Touchpoint Tuesday

February 24, 2026



# What We'll Cover

- ❖ Fiscal Updates
- ❖ Working Group Meeting Recap, Leadership, and Schedule
- ❖ Save the date: Leadership Convening
- ❖ Designation Process Update
- ❖ Early College Rising
- ❖ Upcoming Dates



# Fiscal Updates: Upcoming Events and Deadlines

## Upcoming Events

❖ March 2nd -27th:

Early College Grantee Mandatory Mid-Year Reviews

Please use the link below to schedule:

<https://outlook.office365.com/book/FY26FiscalMidYearReviews@massgov.onmicrosoft.com/?ismsaljsauthenabled>



# Fiscal Updates: Mandatory Fiscal Mid-Year Review

## ❖ Please come prepared to review the following:

- Updates on current spending and budget changes
- Pending action items in GEMS
- Completed and updates on reimbursements to date
- If all funding will be spent by June 30th, or will additional time be needed. If additional time is needed, I will go over the PAC process.

## Use of funds during the summer (PAC)

- ❖ If programs would like to use funds beyond June 30th or need additional time to spend all funds, programs have the option to PAC funds during July 1 – August 31, 2026. Come prepared with projected amounts for spending until June 30th and amounts from July 1 to August 31, 2026. **FINAL numbers will be required via a shared spreadsheet by April 6th.**
- ❖ Please note that if programs do not complete the mid-year review funds will expire June 30, 2026, with no option to use these funds during the summer.



# Fiscal Updates: Amendments and Claiming Funding

## Amendments

- ❖ Applications do not need to be amended if there is no significant change in program objectives or if the change is less than or equal to \$100 or 10% of the line (whichever is greater) but must not exceed \$10,000.

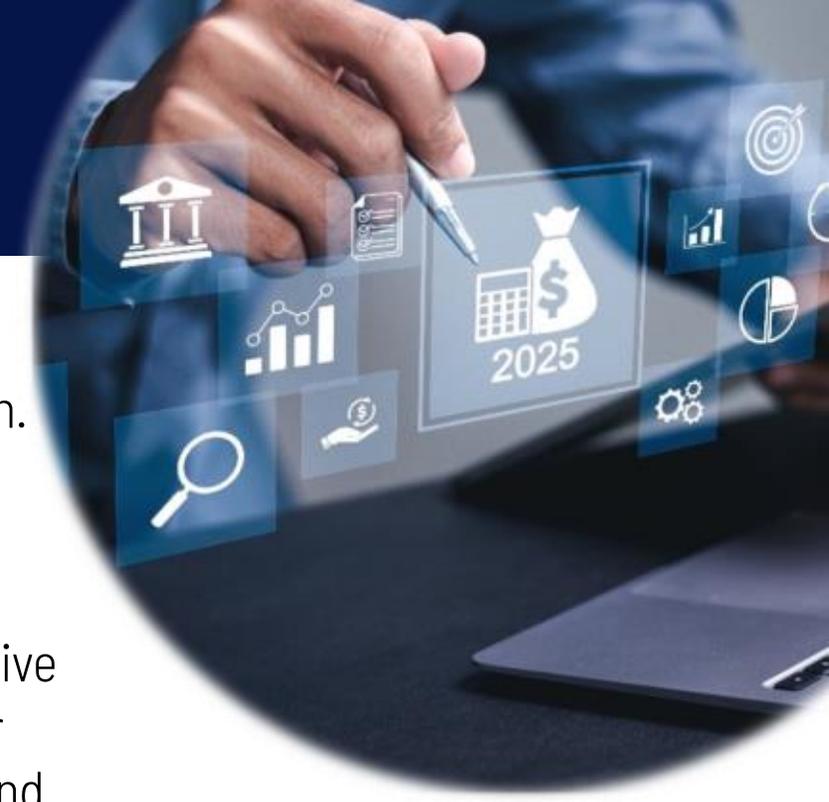
## Reimbursements

- ❖ Please remember to submit all reimbursement requests monthly or at least quarterly. Only request funds used and do not submit reimbursement requests for funds that are not yet used, and/ or grantees do not plan to use.



# Fiscal Updates: Reminders

- ❖ If applications are returned for edits, please review the comment section to understand what is being requested. Do not let the application sit for any reason. Grantees will not be able to use funding as desired until applications are DESE fiscally approved.
- ❖ When contacting Cashay regarding issues or concerns, be as clear and descriptive as possible, including the fiscal year and accurate fund code. If there is an error message, also include a screenshot. This allows Cashay to effectively support and address all concerns promptly.
- ❖ Do not miss deadlines or wait until the last minute to complete tasks and address action items. Programs run the risk of forfeiting funding with no option for funding to be returned.
- ❖ If there are changes and/or concerns that affect the ability to spend all funding, contact Cashay ASAP.



# Fiscal Updates

If you have any issues or concerns, please email Cashay Grant-Woods at [Cashay.c.grant-woods@mass.gov](mailto:Cashay.c.grant-woods@mass.gov) for support.

Thank you for your patience and collaboration.

Happy Spending.



# Working Group Meeting Recap

- ❖ Our fourth meeting was held on February 12, 2026.
- ❖ Guest Speaker, Brian Boecherer
- ❖ We then went into breakout rooms by focus group for further discussion:
  - Early College Advising
  - Multilingual Learners in Early College
  - Students with Disabilities in Early College



# Working Group Meetings

The joint Early College Working Group Meetings will be held on the second Thursday from **10:00 a.m. to noon.**

Remaining Dates for the 2025-2026 academic year are:

- ❖ March 12, 2026
- ❖ April 9, 2026

To join Working Group meetings, click [HERE](#).  
Registration is not required.



# Save the date!



**WHO:** Designated Early College Leaders  
**WHAT:** Early College Leadership Convening  
**WHEN:** March 30, 2026  
**WHERE:** Westfield State University



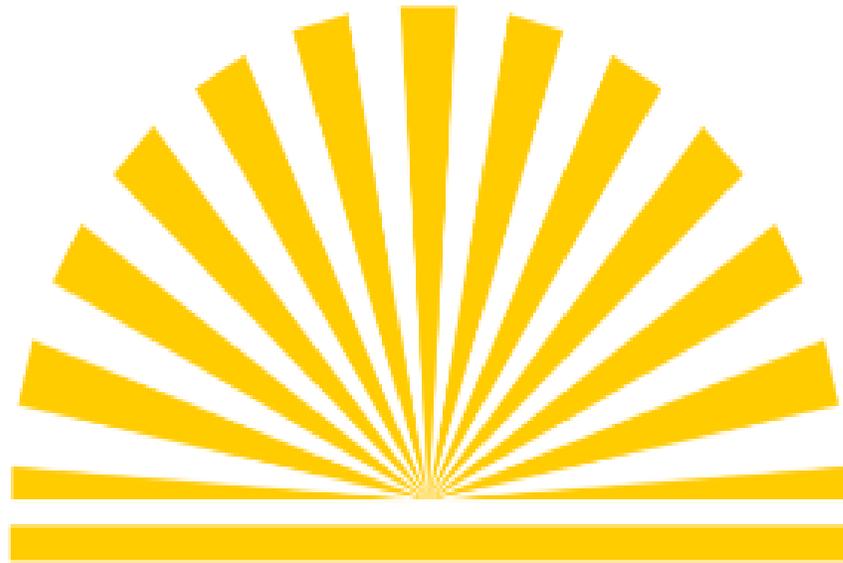
Click [HERE](#) or scan QR code to right for registration and additional details.

# Designation Process for New Programs

- ❖ Two-part orientation for prospective programs on February 11 and March 5



# Early College Rising



*Planted with Purpose. Growing with Equity.  
Rising with Opportunity for Early College in Massachusetts.*

Let's hear it for those  
who rise for every  
child and one  
another!

# Coming Up

- ❖ **March 10** – 1:00 p.m. – Next Touchpoint Tuesday Meeting
- ❖ **March 12** – 10:00 a.m. to noon – Working Group Meeting
- ❖ **March 30** – Leadership Convening at Westfield State University – More info coming.



# Resource Site and Learning Hub

The screenshot shows the homepage of the MA Early College website. At the top, it features logos for Pathway2Careers, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (dese), and the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education. The main heading is "MA Early College". Below this are two navigation buttons: "DESIGNATED EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAMS HOME" and "EARLY COLLEGE DESIGNATION APPLICANTS HOME". A horizontal menu includes "About", "Designation Information", "MAECP Tools", "Data Dashboard", and "Contact Us". The main content area has a dark blue background with white text that reads: "MASSACHUSETTS EARLY COLLEGE COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE RESOURCE SITE". Below this, it states: "Massachusetts Early College provides a structured program of study and supports that increases college success and career readiness while prioritizing students historically underserved in higher education." To the right of the text is a photograph of a school building.

<https://www.maearlycollege.com/>

<https://p2c.instructure.com/courses/533>



## Welcome to the MA Early College Learning Hub

Pathway2Careers, in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and Department of Higher Education, provides technical assistance, coaching, and resources for Massachusetts Early College designees, applicants, and prospective applicants. You will find information specific to designated Early College programs in this Learning Hub.

**"Rising for Student Success. Rooted in Unity."**

*A shared commitment to building strong foundations and working collaboratively to ensure every student has the opportunity to thrive.*

This year's Early College theme embodies the collective spirit and strategic direction of our work across Massachusetts. Together, we are grounded in readiness, united in purpose, and rising with opportunity for every student.

## Quick Links



# Contact Us

NAME	EMAIL	PHONE
<b>Phylitia Jamerson</b> , Executive Director of Early College, DESE	<a href="mailto:phylitia.jamerson@mass.gov">phylitia.jamerson@mass.gov</a>	781.873.9803
<b>Richard Riccardi</b> , Deputy Commissioner, DHE	<a href="mailto:rriccardi@dhe.mass.edu">rriccardi@dhe.mass.edu</a>	
<b>Kristin Hunt</b> , Sr Director of EC Planning and Policy, DESE	<a href="mailto:kristin.e.hunt@mass.gov">kristin.e.hunt@mass.gov</a>	
<b>Danielle Wheeler</b> , Director of Early College Programs, DESE	<a href="mailto:danielle.wheeler@mass.gov">danielle.wheeler@mass.gov</a>	
<b>Cashay Grant-Woods</b> , Early College Fiscal Manager, DESE	<a href="mailto:cashay.c.grant-woods@mass.gov">cashay.c.grant-woods@mass.gov</a>	
<b>Renee Poisson</b> , Early College Program Specialist, DESE	<a href="mailto:renee.poisson@mass.gov">renee.poisson@mass.gov</a>	
<b>Chinna Mapp</b> , Early College Project Manager	<a href="mailto:china.mapp2@mass.gov">china.mapp2@mass.gov</a>	
<b>Kelly Kennedy</b> , Program Manager, Education Services, P2C	<a href="mailto:kelly.kennedy@p2c.org">kelly.kennedy@p2c.org</a>	865.318.6465
<b>Jamisa Williams</b> , Vice President of School Services, P2C	<a href="mailto:jamisa.williams@p2c.org">jamisa.williams@p2c.org</a>	