

Touchpoint Tuesday

March 24, 2026



What We'll Cover

- ❖ Fiscal Updates
- ❖ Working Groups
- ❖ Leadership Convening
- ❖ Save the Date: Student Summit
- ❖ SIMS Data Collection
- ❖ Program Modification
- ❖ Early College Rising
- ❖ Upcoming Dates



Fiscal Updates: Upcoming Events and Deadlines

Upcoming Webinars and Events

❖ March 2nd -27th:

Early College Grantee **Mandatory** Mid-Year Reviews

If you have not scheduled your Mid-Year review, please do so using the following link:

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



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 2nd.**
- ❖ 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 or forfeited based on the status of reimbursements.



Fiscal Updates: Amendments

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 \$10,0000.
- ❖ The LAST opportunity for Amendments for ALL Early College grants is **May 25th, 2026**. Applications must be at the LEA Superintendent / Chief Executive Approved Step.



Fiscal Updates: Reimbursements

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. Please note, reimbursements are currently capped at 66%. Therefore, if you see a MAX reimbursement amount that is less than the full allocation, it is only because the full allocation is not available for reimbursement. The full allocation will be available by the end of the grant period (June 30th).
- ❖ The LAST opportunity to claim all funds AND to submit the FER (Financial Expenditure Report) for ALL grants ending on June 30th is **August 18th, 2026**.



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 in a timely manner.
- ❖ 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 for support.

Thank you for your patience and collaboration.

Happy Spending.



Working Group Meetings

Join us from **10:00 a.m. to noon on Thursday, April 9**, for our next working group meeting!

Topic: Scaffolding Student Learning and MyCAP/IHE Connection

Guest speakers: Lisa Harney, DESE and others to be confirmed

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



Leadership Convening



March 30, 2026

Westfield State University

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

Opening Session begins at 9:30 a.m.

Registration is closed. However, we look forward to seeing those of you who be there!



in partnership with



Student Summit

*Rooted in Vision. Ready as a Team.
Rising for Every Child.*

May 14, 2026

Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel and Trade Center
181 Boston Post Road West
Marlborough, MA

Email coming soon with additional details,
including registration instructions.

Click [HERE](#) to register.



SIMS Data Collection

SIMS March Reporting Window opened 3/2/2026

Certification Deadline is 3/27/2026

Support Resources:

- ❖ [Early College Data Reporting Training Fall 2025](#)
 - [Slides](#)
 - [Recording \(passcode: Uf?wk1YX\)](#)
 - [Guidance Document](#)

Email Renee.Poisson@Mass.Gov for questions and support!



Program Modification

- Please [access and review the draft program modification form](#).
- Provide feedback by clicking [HERE](#).



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 30** – Leadership Convening at Westfield State University
- ❖ **April 7** – Touchpoint Tuesday Meeting
- ❖ **April 9** – Working Group Meeting
- ❖ **May 14** – Early College Student Summit



Resource Site and Learning Hub

The screenshot shows the homepage of the MA Early College website. At the top, it features the logos for Pathway2Careers (P2C) and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (dese). The main heading is "MA Early College". Below this, there 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, a paragraph 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>

The banner features the P2C logo on the left and the text "LEARNING HUB" in large, bold letters. Below the main title, it says "Your gateway to professional growth." The background of the banner shows a close-up of hands typing on a laptop keyboard.



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

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