

Touchpoint Tuesday

May 12, 2026



Agenda

- ❖ Fiscal Updates
- ❖ Updates on New Designation Processes and Annual Reports
- ❖ Student Summit
- ❖ Data Dashboard
- ❖ Early College Rising
- ❖ Upcoming Dates



Fiscal Updates: Upcoming Deadlines

- ❖ May 25th: Last opportunity to amend grants.
- ❖ June 12th: FY27 Summer Applications Due in GEMS.
- ❖ August 14th: Last opportunity to claim all funds.
DESE cannot extend beyond this date
- ❖ August 14th: FER due to simultaneously close out the grant **AND** claim all funds.



Fiscal Updates: Summer PAC funding



❖ Next Steps:

For programs that moved funding to the summer and/ or accepted additional funding, the GEMS application will live in FY27 and run from July 1 to Aug 31, 2026.

The fund codes will be 460S, 470S, and 461S. For Early College Planning Grantees, both 461A and 461B will live in 461S. Application will be released in May and **due June 12th**.

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 \$10,000.
- ❖ Please be sure to use the correct Contractual Service line as GEMs has made a change to the max amount. The MAJOR Contractual Service line (04MC) is for single expenses that are over \$50K.
- ❖ 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: FERs and 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.
- ❖ After the first reimbursement request, for every request thereafter, you will need to enter the cumulative expenditures.
- ❖ The LAST opportunity to claim all funds AND to submit the FER (Financial Expenditure Report) for ALL grants ending on June 30th is **August 14th, 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.



Updates on New Designation Processes

- ❖ Planning Phase for New Programs
 - Welcome letters going out tomorrow
- ❖ Transitioning to Full Designation (2018 Cohort)
 - Transition Survey Open, email going out this week with sign up for Data Check Ins



Updates on Current Programs

❖ Annual Reports

- To be sent out by June 1 and will be due back Sept. 30).
- 2018 Cohort exempt

❖ Program Modification (all programs)

- Feedback all gathered. Form being updated and will become available after Annual Report due date (Sept. 30)



Student Summit

*Rooted in Readiness.
United for Student Success.*

May 14, 2026

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

(Onsite check-in begins at 9:00 a.m.)

Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel and Trade
Center

181 Boston Post Road West

Marlborough, MA

DOWNLOAD
ZOHO BACKSTAGE



MOBILE APP:

We encourage all participants to download our conference mobile app, which will serve as your go-to resource for accessing event schedules, session details, speaker information, and networking opportunities. The app will also allow you to engage with other participants and provide feedback on sessions.

APP DOWNLOAD INSTRUCTIONS:

For iOS users:



For Android users:



Thank you for your cooperation, and we look forward to welcoming you to the conference!

Data Dashboard

The Data Dashboard link has changed!

Be sure to update your bookmarks to the newest link by clicking [HERE](#).

This link can also be found on the DESE Early College page or the resource site.

Moving forward the link will stay the same even when we update the dashboard. No more new bookmarks!



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

- ❖ May 14 – Student Summit
- ❖ May 25 – Last day to submit amendments for all grants
- ❖ May 26 – Next TPT Meeting



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 the text "MASSACHUSETTS EARLY COLLEGE COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE RESOURCE SITE" and a sub-heading "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 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
Phylitia Jamerson , Executive Director of Early College, DESE	phylitia.jamerson@mass.gov	781.873.9803
Richard Riccardi , Deputy Commissioner, DHE	rriccardi@dhe.mass.edu	
Kristin Hunt , Sr Director of EC Planning and Policy, DESE	kristin.e.hunt@mass.gov	
Danielle Wheeler , Director of Early College Programs, DESE	danielle.wheeler@mass.gov	
Cashay Grant-Woods , Early College Fiscal Manager, DESE	cashay.c.grant-woods@mass.gov	
Renee Poisson , Early College Program Specialist, DESE	renee.poisson@mass.gov	
Chinna Mapp , Early College Project Manager	china.mapp2@mass.gov	
Kelly Kennedy , Program Manager, Education Services, P2C	kelly.kennedy@p2c.org	865.318.6465
Jamisa Williams , Vice President of School Services, P2C	jamisa.williams@p2c.org	