

STEM STARTER ACADEMY

Statewide

STEM Starter Academy is a state-funded initiative to inform, engage, recruit, retain, and graduate significantly more students in STEM at all 15 community colleges.

Program Goals:

1. To graduate more community college students with STEM degrees and certificates, prepared to enter the workforce or transfer to a four-year institution.
2. To recruit more students into the STEM pipeline at the community colleges.

For More Information:

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MASSACHUSETTS
Department of
Higher Education

www.mass.edu/stem

At Northern Essex Community College

At NECC, we strive to utilize a multi-layered wrap around support system to introduce, engage, retain and network students through a series of well-planned events.

STEM Events	Student Support	Orientation, Persistence & Completion
Students are exposed to various careers in STEM fields	Students are supported throughout their programs to ensure success.	Students are given the tools to be successful in their STEM majors.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student Externships• STEM Speaker Series• STEM Book Club• STEM Tech. Academy• Networking Night	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supplemental Instruction• Professional Tutoring• Peer Tutoring Center• Bilingual Science Class	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduction of Financial Barriers• Boot Camps in Various STEM Courses• STEM student Events• STEM Transfer Pathways• STEM Lending Library

Our STEM boot camps have become extremely popular and provide valuable contact with STEM faculty in a non-pressured relaxed environment. As a result, we needed to increase the number as well as the diversity of offerings.

"I have learned more in this one week boot camp than in all of my educational years combined. I finally feel that math is not the enemy." STEM Boot Camp Student

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Statewide

Key highlights from the first two years of the statewide STEM Starter Academy program:

More than **10,000 students**
directly participated

Another **20,000 students**
participated in recruitment events
and information sessions

SSA population reflects the overall demographics
of the community colleges:

12% African American

14% Latino/a

51% Female

SSA students are more likely to
enroll full time
compared to general community college students

75% of SSA students
who completed developmental math in summer 2015
enrolled in college-level math in fall 2015

70% of
degrees & certificates
earned by SSA students are in STEM