Massachusetts Department of Higher Education

MAIN OFFICE One Ashburton Place, Room 1401
Boston, MA 02108
TEL (617) 994-6950
FAX (617) 727-0955
WEB www.mass.edu

OFFICE of STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 135 Santilli Highway
Everett, MA 02149
TEL (617) 391-6070
FAX (617) 391-6085
WEB www.mass.edu/osfa

José Luis Santos
Interim Commissioner

Chris Gabrieli
Board Chair

NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD

Notice is hereby given pursuant to M.G.L. c. 69, § 30 and the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education's Policy Establishing a Process for Public Comment that the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education (Department) will open a comment period relative to **the revocation of the degree-granting authority of Hampshire College in the Commonwealth.**

Hampshire College, located in Amherst, Massachusetts, is an independent institution of higher education accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education. The College was established in 1965 as an innovative alternative to a traditional liberal arts education and enrolled its first students in 1970. Hampshire is authorized to "confer all such degrees and honors (except medical degrees) as universities and colleges in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are empowered to confer."

In April 2026, Hampshire College notified the Department of Higher Education of its intention to cease academic operations as a degree-granting institution of higher education in December 2026. The College will continue to provide support and transitional services to students through the completion of the Fall 2026 semester.

The public comment period for the revocation of Hampshire College's degree-granting authority begins on November 4, 2026, and will close 21 days thereafter, on November 25, 2026. At the end of the comment period, Department staff will review and take into consideration any and all comments received.

Submission of Comments

Written comments on the revocation of degree-granting authority of Hampshire College may be submitted at any time prior to 5:00 pm on November 25, 2026, directing the same to the following:

Email:

PublicComment@dhe.mass.edu

Postal Mail:

Massachusetts Department of Higher Education
One Ashburton Place
Room 1401
Boston, MA 02108
Attn: Kristen Stone, Ed.D., Director for Academic & Veterans Affairs

Please submit electronic comments as an attached Word document and type " Hampshire College Public Comment" in the subject line. All submissions must include the sender's full name and address. For special accommodations for submission of public comments or information regarding submission of public comments in an alternative format, please contact Department Staff at PublicComment@dhe.mass.edu.