

Mary Price, Director, MA Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Initiative

Creating Higher Education Opportunities for **Students** with Intellectual Disabilities, Autism and Developmental Disabilities

Agenda



- Briefly explain what the new bill means
- Review the current status of MAICEI
- Share the national landscape of inclusive higher education
- Discuss the proposed rollout to expand inclusive postsecondary education in MA
- Questions

New Higher Education Bill in Massachusetts Advances Inclusive Postsecondary Education

First-of-its-kind law improves college access for students with autism, intellectual disabilities

By [Jenna Russell](#) Globe Staff, Updated August 7, 2022, 4:26 p.m.



- Provisions remove barriers precluding persons with Intellectual Disabilities and Autism from participating in state colleges and universities.
- Provisions ensure state colleges and universities establish guidelines governing selection of individuals with ID and autism as well as course selection.



MAICEI

What's new?

- Budget makes it possible to support more MA public colleges and universities to apply for funding.
- Massachusetts public IHE's are not required but encouraged to apply for MAICEI funding.
- Individuals who have exited school without a diploma, with intellectual disabilities, autism spectrum disorders and other developmental disabilities have the opportunity to participate in college as non-matriculated students, in consultation with and support from the Department of Higher Education and Think College.

Expanded partnerships

- In addition to colleges and K-12 partners, MA adult service agencies will be encouraged to collaborate with MA Inclusive Higher Education partners on funding, policies and practices that best support individuals participating in college.



MAICEI



Comparison Between 2007 and 2022 Inclusive Higher Education Legislation

The new higher education bill advances the work of the Massachusetts Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Initiative so that people with severe disabilities who are 18 and over have more opportunities to attend public institutions of higher education. The table below outlines changes between 2007 and 2022.

*Note: changes specific to the 2022 legislation are highlighted in bold script.

	2007 Legislation	2022 Legislation*
Name	Massachusetts Inclusive Concurrent Higher Education Initiative (MAICEI)	Massachusetts Inclusive Higher Education (MAIHE)
Status	Discretionary—grant program supporting public institutions of higher education in offering inclusion opportunities for students with severe disabilities as non-matriculating students	Mandatory —all state colleges and universities must develop guidelines and selection criteria to create higher education opportunities for students with severe intellectual disability, autism, and other developmental disabilities to participate as non-matriculating students
Disability Type	Intellectual and developmental disabilities	Severe disabilities, including intellectual disability, autism, and other developmental disabilities
Age	18-22	18+
Eligibility	Students between 18-20 who have not passed MCAS Students 20-21 who have passed MCAS but are eligible for special education services due to significant functional disabilities, transition needs, etc.	Students 18-22 who were eligible under MAICEI Persons over 21 with severe disabilities, including intellectual disability, autism, and other developmental disabilities, subject to guidelines to be developed by institutions and BHE regulations
Partnership	School districts and public state Colleges and Universities through a Partnership Leadership Team that includes families and state agencies.	School districts, public state colleges and universities, state disability agencies, families through a Partnership Leadership Team
Funding	Funds available annually for college-school partnership expected to become self-sustaining	Initial grant available, programs are expected to become self-sustaining using IDEA funds, adult agency funds, self-pay
Funding Source	Department of Higher Education	Department of Higher Education

What's been happening around the State?

Overview of MAICEI IHE Model to Mass State College group

State outreach – Information session webinar reviewing new law

College/university outreach – Information session on how to prepare a MAICEI planning proposal

Present to MA Transition Coordinator Group – Post secondary options in Massachusetts

Creation of informational handouts – FAQ's and comparison 2007/2022 Legislation

Informational videos – Dennis Baker, Federation of Children with Special Needs and Ali Ullrich, Easter Seals discussing funding options for families

Presented at Federation of Children with Special Needs Conference

Planning and coordinating statewide **conference** in June

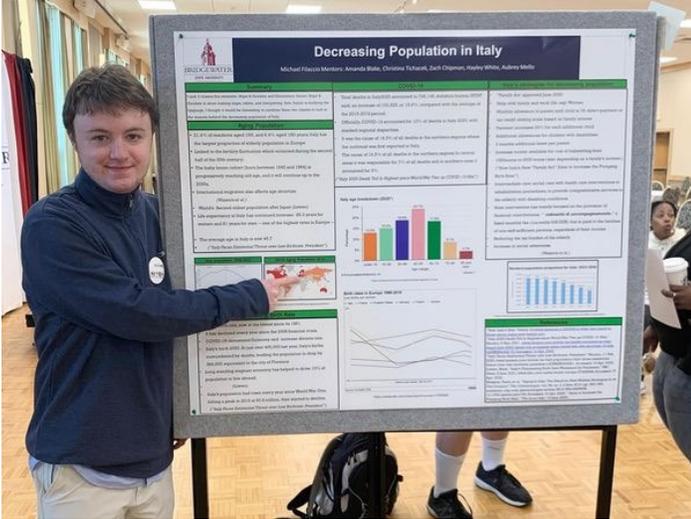
What is the Massachusetts Inclusive *Concurrent* Enrollment Initiative?

The MAICEI initiative funds public institutes of higher education that wish to initiate a MAICEI program that is designed to offer inclusive college options for students identified as having an intellectual disability, autism, or developmental disability.



Three important components of MAICEI based on student goals

Academics and course of study



Career development



Social opportunities



Examples of Inclusive Courses

An Introduction to the University	Criminal Law	Encounters in Human Diversity	Fundamentals of Food Preparation	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	General Psychology
Graphic Design I	Intermediate Algebra	Introduction to Sociology	Introduction to Acting	Introduction to Sculpture Studio	Math 101
Micro-computing Systems	Office Skills I	Principles of Marketing	Race and Social Justice	Strategies for Success in College	U.S. History Since 1877

Activities and Employment

- Activities

- Irish Step Dance Club
- Student Government
- Gaming Club
- Movie Club
- Community Service

- Employment

- College Radio Station
- Mail Room
- College Book Store
- Dining Halls
- Office Assistant
- Theatre Department
- Fitness Center
- Athletic Teams Assistant

Why is this initiative important for students with intellectual disabilities?

Special Education teachers are able to expand transition services for students with disabilities through a partnership with the college.

Students who are no longer in a transition program now have access to public higher education in Massachusetts where they have increased opportunities to learn new skills in an age appropriate setting.

- Students enroll in college courses and learn amongst their non-disabled peers.
- Students have direct communication with college faculty.
- Students have access to all campus resources.
- It is enriching for undergrad peers.



Why is the MAICEI Program important for the Higher Education Community?

Colleges prepare future citizens and leaders how to live, work, and lead their own lives.

College students, with and without disabilities, become comfortable, knowledgeable, and skilled working, supporting, and socializing with each other.



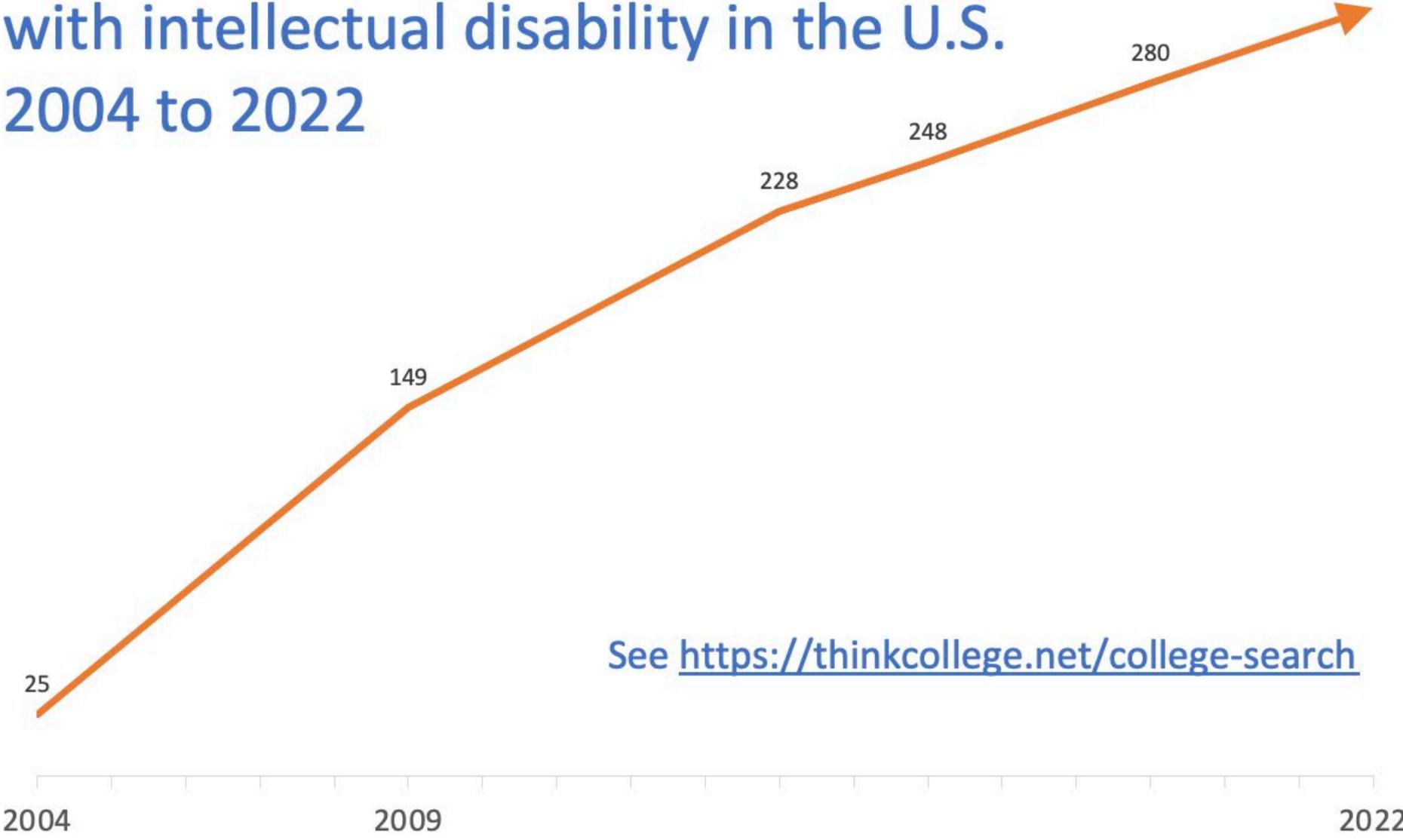


Current Massachusetts MAICEI Campuses

- Bridgewater State University
- **Bridgewater State Residence Life**
- Bristol Community College
- Cape Cod Community College
- Framingham State University
- Northern Essex Community College
- Holyoke Community College
- Massasoit Community College
- Mass Bay Community College
- Mass College of Art & Design
- Middlesex Community College
- Salem State University
- **Salem State Residence Life**
- UMASS Amherst
- UMASS Boston
- Westfield State University

Higher education programs for students with intellectual disability in the U.S.
2004 to 2022

310



See <https://thinkcollege.net/college-search>

Alternate Pathway to College

Traditional
Matriculated

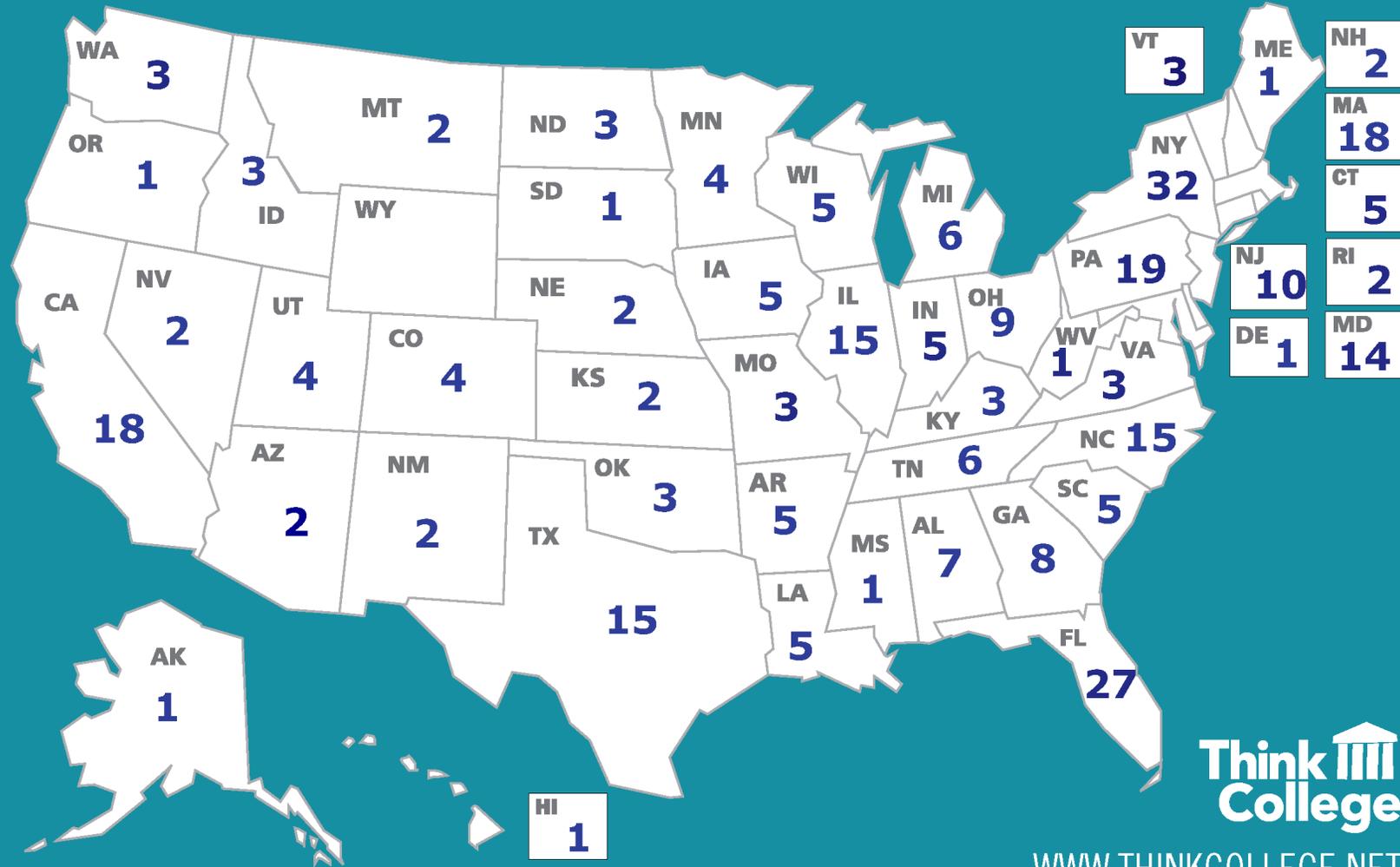
- Placement tests, essays
- Pursuing a degree
- Reasonable accommodations

Alternate
Non-
Matriculated

- Person centered planning
- Individual support plan
- Focus on employment goals
- May not pursue degree/credit

COLLEGE OPTIONS for STUDENTS with INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY, April 2022

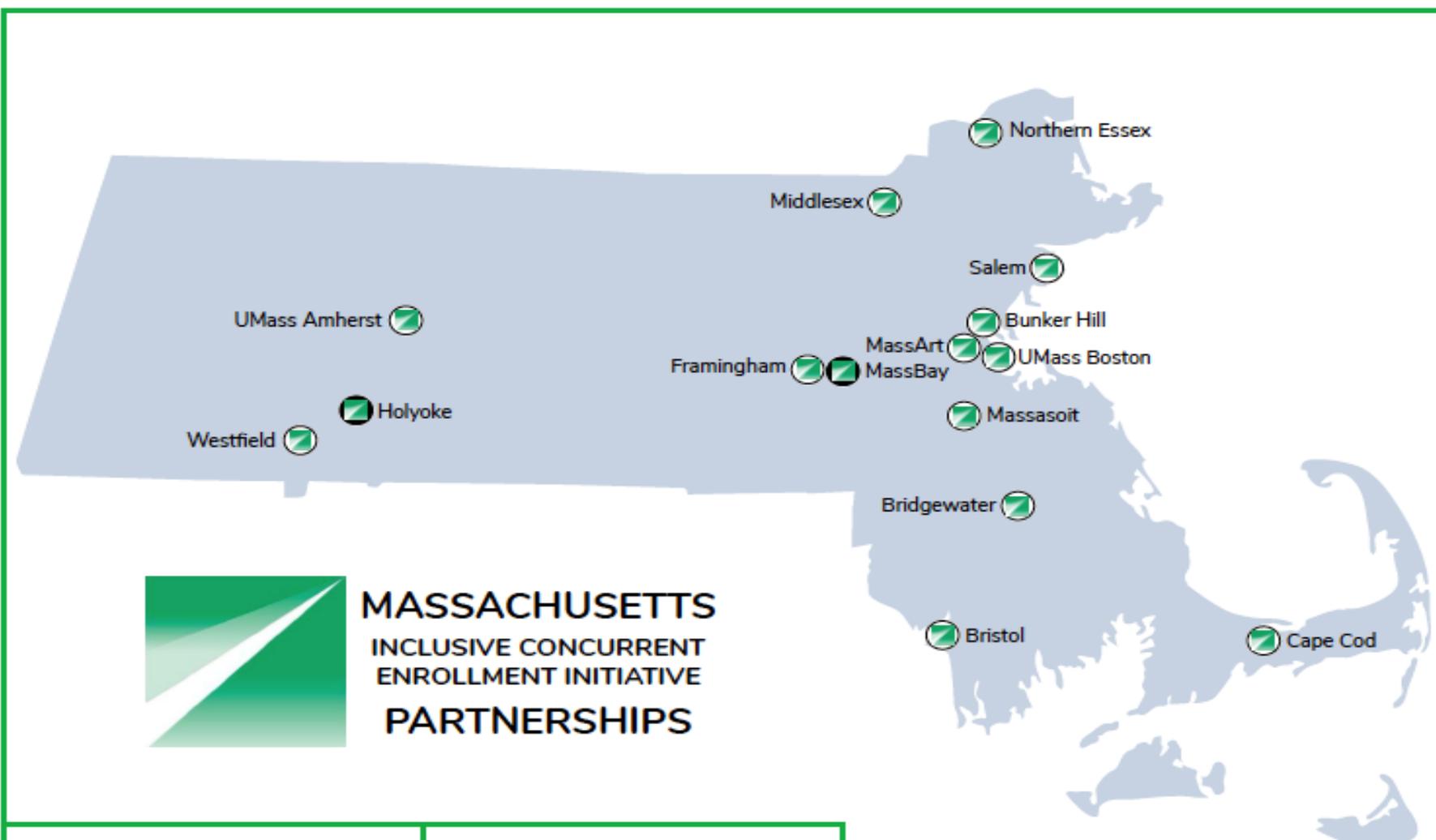
TOTAL NUMBER OF PROGRAMS: **314**



last updated 4-22-22



WWW.THINKCOLLEGE.NET



**MASSACHUSETTS
INCLUSIVE CONCURRENT
ENROLLMENT INITIATIVE
PARTNERSHIPS**

-  Currently funded partnerships
-  Independent partnerships

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Massachusetts Inclusive Higher Education Initiative: FY22-23

Recommended Timeline for Planning and Initial Implementation



Fall 2022	Spring 2023	May 2023	June 2023	August 30, 2023	Fall 2023
<p>Planning grants available to hire coordinator and start planning inclusive postsecondary education opportunities</p>	<p>Ongoing planning for Fall 2023 student enrollment</p>	<p>Implementation grants available FY23-24</p>	<p>Statewide conference</p>	<p>Deadline for planning grant funds to be spent</p>	<p>Student enrollment</p>
<p>Expected outcome:</p> <p>Colleges submit planning grant; hire coordinator.</p> <p>Begin planning (e.g., identify partners, form advisory group, develop guidelines for student selection, develop course selection guidelines)</p>	<p>Expected outcome:</p> <p>Coordinator facilitates planning and action plans.</p> <p>Activities include student interviews and acceptance, preparing students for fall start; professional development for faculty and instructors, student meetings with disability services</p>	<p>Expected outcome:</p> <p>Colleges submit implementation proposal to support students in the 2023-2024 academic year</p>	<p>Expected outcome:</p> <p>College representatives and coordinators attend statewide conference for inclusive higher education.</p> <p>Recruit for peer mentors; prepare for student orientation activities, onboarding staff.</p>	<p>Expected outcome:</p> <p>Complete activities proposed in planning grant</p>	<p>Expected outcome:</p> <p>Support first cohort of students (1-3)</p> <p>Advisory group meets regularly to support work and develop goals and measures to expand activities.</p>

Thank you for
your time.

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