

The Commonwealth Commitment Participation Form



MASSACHUSETTS
Department of
Higher Education



Commonwealth Commitment Participation Form Berkshire Community College

Dear Future College Graduate,

We are thrilled that you want to participate in Massachusetts' new *MassTransfer* Pathway Commonwealth Commitment! The Commonwealth Commitment seeks to help you achieve college savings while you earn your degree.

By participating in a *MassTransfer* Pathway, you may be eligible¹ to receive Commonwealth Commitment benefits:

- A freeze on tuition and mandatory fee rates from the moment you enter the Commonwealth Commitment until you graduate from a community college and a freeze on mandatory fee rates from the state university or University of Massachusetts (UMass) campus to which you transfer².
- A ten percent (10%) rebate off frozen community college tuition and mandatory fees at the end of every successfully completed semester.
- Upon transfer to a baccalaureate institution, a *MassTransfer* Pathway 100% tuition waiver (or "credit" at UMass campuses), and a 10% rebate off frozen mandatory fees at the end of every successfully completed semester.

Carefully review the program details listed **on the back of this page**. Your academic advisor will help you determine if the Commonwealth Commitment is a good fit for you. More information, including a *Fact Sheet* and *Frequently Asked Questions*, is available at www.mass.edu/macomcom.

Available *MassTransfer* Pathways at the Community Colleges

For transfer to most State Universities & UMass Campuses

Available beginning Fall 2016

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Economics
- History
- Political Science
- Psychology

Available beginning Fall 2017

- Business
- Communications & Media Studies
- Computer Science
- Criminal Justice
- Early Childhood Education
- English
- Liberal Arts
- Mathematics
- Sociology
- STEM Physical or Natural Sciences

For transfer to Massachusetts College of Art & Design

Available beginning Fall 2016

- Painting
- Printmaking
- Sculpture

For transfer to Massachusetts Maritime Academy

Available beginning Fall 2016

- Emergency Management
- Marine Safety & Environmental Protection
- Energy Systems Engineering
- Facilities Engineering
- International Maritime Business

¹ Students must meet all eligibility criteria to receive benefits.

² Freeze reflects the tuition and mandatory fees rates in effect the year the student enters the program. For example: If a student enters the Commonwealth Commitment at Bunker Hill Community College in Fall 2016, that student will be charged the same rates while at BHCC. If the student transfers to UMass Boston in Fall 2018, the student will pay the mandatory fees rates at UMass Boston at their Fall 2016 rates for the next two years and get the *MassTransfer* 100% tuition waiver (or "credit" at UMass campuses). This freeze does not include discretionary fees and non-mandatory fees.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY

STUDENT INFORMATION

Last Name/Family	First Name	Middle Name	Other Name that may appear on official records	Date Form Completed	
Community College Student ID # (if known)	Date of Birth	Phone Numbers	Email Address	Participation Form Start Term	Must complete Associate Degree by the end of
		() -		<input type="checkbox"/> Fall 2016	-- Fall 2018
		() -		<input type="checkbox"/> Spring 2017	-- Spring 2019
				<input type="checkbox"/> Fall 2017	-- Fall 2019

COMMUNITY COLLEGE INFORMATION

Community College	<i>MassTransfer</i> Pathway
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STATE UNIVERSITY OR UMASS INFORMATION

Intended <i>MassTransfer</i> Institution	Intended <i>MassTransfer</i> Major
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Participant Checklist

- Massachusetts resident eligible for in-state tuition under the terms of the Board of Higher Education's residency policy.
- Student who has a high school diploma or its equivalent.
- Student who has earned no more than 15 college credits (including developmental course work). This requirement does not pertain to any dual-degree coursework taken while enrolled in high school.

Eligibility Requirements

- At the **community college**:
 - a. Enroll as a degree-seeking student in an approved *MassTransfer* Pathway (continuous Fall/Spring semesters).
 - b. Enroll in at least 12 college-level credits per semester at the same community college.
 - c. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above (not including developmental course work).
 - d. Complete a *MassTransfer* Pathway associate degree within two and a half years of signing the Participation Form³.
- When transferring to **Massachusetts state university or UMass campus**:
 - a. Immediately following completion of a *MassTransfer* associate degree, enroll as a degree-seeking student in a *MassTransfer* Pathway major (continuous Fall/Spring semesters).
 - *Additional forms may be required for admission, students should read correspondence sent from the institution.*
 - b. Enroll in at least 15 college-level credits per semester at the same university.
 - c. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above (not including developmental course work).
 - d. Complete a bachelor degree within two years of transferring.
- When transferring to **Massachusetts College of Art and Design or Massachusetts Maritime Academy**:
 - a. After 1.5 years of signing the Participation Form at the community college, enroll as a degree-seeking student in a *MassTransfer* Pathway major (continuous Fall/Spring semesters)³.
 - *Students may be required to produce a portfolio as part of the acceptance criteria to Massachusetts College of Art & Design.*
 - *Additional forms may be required for admission, students should read correspondence sent from the institution.*
 - b. Enroll in at least 15 college-level credits per semester at the same institution.
 - c. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above (not including developmental course work).
 - d. Complete a bachelor degree within three years of transferring (may require more than 120 total credits to graduate).
 - *Reverse transfer credits back to the community college to complete an associate degree.*

³ If intending to transfer to Massachusetts College of Art and Design or Massachusetts Maritime Academy, students must transfer prior to earning an associate degree (45 credits within three semesters) at the community college.

Please NOTE: Institutions reserve the right to remove students from the Commonwealth Commitment who fail to maintain all eligibility requirements. Individual student applications will be kept confidential. 08.01.2016

Student Signature		Date	
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY - DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE			
Participation Form Reviewed by		Date	
Participation Form Entered into Student Record by		Date	

Contact Person: Geoff Tabor, Coordinator of Transfer Affairs, 413-236-1610, gtabor@berkshirecc.edu