

JAMES P. McGOVERN
SECOND DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

CHAIRMAN
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SENIOR DEMOCRATIC WHIP



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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April 28, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the Early College Central Massachusetts (EC-CMass) project in fiscal year 2022. The entity to receive funding for this project is Worcester State University, located 486 Chandler St, Worcester, MA 01602. The funding would be used to provide low-income high school (HS) students in urban and rural areas of central Massachusetts with dual enrollment classes, student support services, and summer residential learning opportunities. In all, some 1,000 students will earn 3,000 college credits. This project increases access and success for under-represented high school students. Students graduate HS with significant college credits, reducing the time and cost needed to obtain a degree and achieve success through student support services. Our nation is experiencing a 30% drop in college enrollment among students of color. The city of Worcester and WSU recognized this challenge, and it is the first district in the state to establish EC in all HSs. EC students enroll in college at a rate 53% higher than peers and persist at higher rates. In 2021, EC students statewide will earn 24,000 credits saving their families \$5.2 million in tuition and fees. The median income in MA is \$41,000 with a HS diploma and \$69,000 with a bachelor's degrees. EC-CMass serves low-income, urban areas such as Leominster and low-income rural areas in north central MA. In all, some 1,000 students will earn 3,000 college credits on their way to full enrollment and a more prosperous future. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress