

Comprehensive Joint Admissions and Transfer Partnership Agreement

Between

Bunker Hill Community College

And

The University of Massachusetts Boston

Agreement made this 16th day of August 2024 between the University of Massachusetts Boston and Bunker Hill Community College pursuant to which the parties agree to cooperate in providing a comprehensive Joint Admissions and Transfer Partnership Agreement (Agreement), known as the Future Beacon Joint Admissions Program.

I. Context and Purpose

- a. This Agreement between the University of Massachusetts Boston (UMass Boston) and Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC), collectively “the parties,” stipulates the benefits to students who participate in the joint admissions program and transfer from BHCC to UMass Boston with an Associate of Arts Degree (A.A.) or Associate of Science Degree (A.S.).
- b. The parties affirm their mutual commitment to the success of all students and the importance of providing clear transfer pathways to improve outcomes for the community college transfer students in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- c. This agreement also addresses the responsibility of designated individuals at each institution to communicate these benefits to all relevant constituents to facilitate an informed transfer process for all involved.

II. Admission

Joint Admissions Participation & Conditional Acceptance

UMass Boston Referred Students

Students who apply to UMass Boston and do not meet UMass Boston’s admission requirements will be referred to the Future Beacon Joint Admissions program at BHCC. Interested students will meet with UMass Boston’s Transfer Enrollment Counselor to learn more about the requirements for the program and get assistance with next steps. Students who decide to participate in the program will complete a Joint Admissions Participation form, provided by UMass Boston.

The Joint Admissions Participation form will include FERPA releases from both institutions for the purposes of sharing information between the Parties and will be used to conditionally admit the student to UMass Boston. UMass Boston's Transfer Enrollment Counselor will be responsible for sending the student's application information to BHCC. BHCC will be responsible for appropriately coding these students in their systems.

See Appendix A for full details of the Transfer Enrollment Counselor Collaboration Agreement.

Prospective or Enrolled BHCC Students

Prospective and enrolled BHCC students will have opportunities through their enrollment and advising experience at BHCC to learn about and participate in the Future Beacon Joint Admissions program. Students who indicate their interest through the BHCC application will be contacted by the BHCC Enrollment Coordinator or designee to learn more about the benefits of the joint admissions partnership and complete the participation and FERPA forms.

Timeline and Stipulations

BHCC Students will have the opportunity to participate in Joint Admissions prior to the completion of 30 credits at BHCC. Students who do not opt-in prior to 30 credits may still be eligible to join the program on a case-by-case basis. Students in that category must meet with UMass Boston's Transfer Enrollment Counselor to discuss their transfer plans to ensure the Joint Admissions program fits their goals.

Matriculation at UMass Boston will occur upon graduation from BHCC for students who meet the criteria specified in this Agreement. Students may only matriculate in the fall and spring semesters. A student is considered graduated when the associate degree is conferred on their official BHCC transcript.

Students who previously attended UMass Boston prior to enrolling at BHCC will not be eligible for this agreement.

Application Process & Requirements

UMass Boston agrees to waive the application fee, application essay, and the enrollment deposit fee for students participating in the joint admissions program. The UMass Boston Transfer Enrollment Counselor will proactively notify participating students with 45+ credits of priority application deadlines. The UMass Boston application will be streamlined and Bunker Hill will provide official BHCC college transcripts for students once they submit their application with no charge to the student.

Students who wish to transfer prior to receiving their associate degree must meet the UMass Boston general transfer admissions criteria, which includes a minimum 2.5 GPA. Students who attended other postsecondary institutions in addition to UMass Boston must provide all official college transcripts for admission.

BHCC graduates will be admitted to UMass Boston with a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 or required cumulative GPA for graduation from BHCC.

- This agreement does not guarantee acceptance to the Traditional or Accelerated Nursing programs (for students who will not hold an RN license prior to enrolling at UMass Boston), Engineering, or Management programs.
- Students interested in Traditional Nursing, Accelerated Nursing, Engineering or Management may apply through the Joint Admissions process but will not be guaranteed admissions into these academic programs. Traditional and Accelerated Nursing students are required to submit letters of recommendation and an additional essay. Space in the nursing program is limited and not all applicants can be accommodated.
- Engineering or Management students are required to meet higher admissions standards and are also not guaranteed admission into these majors. Students not offered admissions into Accelerated Nursing, Traditional Nursing, Engineering or Management will be given the opportunity to enroll in a second choice non-competitive major.

To facilitate the process of admission, UMass Boston agrees to continue assigning a specific Transfer Enrollment Counselor to BHCC and dedicate individual appointment days at BHCC to students in the Joint Admissions Program.

UMass Boston will coordinate with BHCC to schedule at least two transfer events per year, where students will be counseled at BHCC about programs, admissions processes, and scholarships.

In addition, UMass Boston will provide transportation at least once a year to the UMass Boston campus for events and activities that help BHCC students participating in joint admissions interact with the UMass Boston community and learn more about academic and extracurricular offerings.

III. Reverse Transfer

Both parties commit to educating students about the Reverse Transfer process. Stipulations on data sharing as it relates to Reverse Transfer can be found in Section IX: Data-Sharing and Assessment.

IV. Transfer Credits

BHCC A.A. and A.S. graduates can receive up to 70 transfer credits earned at BHCC or a community college and up to 90 credits when factoring in credits from a 4-year institution and test credits. Only courses completed with a grade of C- or higher will be accepted for transfer.

To prepare BHCC students for transfer, BHCC shall encourage students to meet with UMass Boston's Transfer Enrollment Counselor to identify which requirements have been completed.

The Parties agree to co-host advising and curriculum update meetings each year for advisors and admissions counselors. During these meetings, designated parties from each institution will focus on building 2+2 maps for key academic programs and incorporating faculty representation where deemed necessary. UMass Boston's Transfer Enrollment Counselor and BHCC's Enrollment Coordinator, or designee, will be responsible for coordinating the convenings.

Transfer guides will be developed where MassTransfer pathways and/or articulation agreements do not already exist. UMass Boston and Bunker Hill designated staff will collaborate to develop dedicated advising resources for students in the Joint Admissions Program.

Students who complete an associate degree at BHCC shall be exempt from completing the Core Curriculum, as defined by the MassTransfer program, as those requirements are considered to have been met at BHCC. Student's transcript must say "Mass Transfer Block Complete".

Any terms in this agreement that conflict with the Mass Transfer and Commonwealth Commitment shall be superseded by the established [Mass Transfer and Commonwealth Commitment Program](#). This Joint Admissions Agreement is unrelated to any prior Joint Admissions Programs formerly held by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

V. Financial Commitment

In addition to the vast financial support currently provided to BHCC students, including:

- Massachusetts residents who submit the FAFSA to UMass Boston by posted priority deadlines and are Pell Eligible generally receive state, federal, or institutional grants and scholarships that cover tuition and mandatory fees (contingent upon continued state and federal funding based on full-time enrollment).
- Students graduating in the top 10 percent of their class who meet the overall eligibility requirements will be awarded the Community

College Advantage Scholarship, in the form of \$5,000 annually for up to two years.

- Each year, UMass Boston will award one Foster Furcolo Scholarship which will cover mandatory tuition and fees.

Students formally participating in the Future Beacon Joint Admissions program will have these added financial benefits:

- The \$250 Enrollment Deposit Fee will be waived upon the completion of a student's Enrollment Confirmation Form.
- Students with a 3.0 GPA who enroll at UMass Boston within one year of graduating with an associate degree will receive the value of MassTransfer Tuition credit regardless of mapped or linked program.
- Eligible for one of four Transfer Merit Scholarships dedicated to Future Beacon Joint Admissions students. These scholarships will be up to \$2,000 annually.
- Access to an expense expectation sheet that details the cost of attendance for two full-time years at UMass Boston with plans to update annually. The sheet will include scholarship, financial aid, and tuition credit information.

VI. Registration

BHCC students transferring to UMass Boston under this Agreement shall be permitted to register for their first semester on the same date as current UMass Boston students with the same number or more credits. (For example, they can register during the normal registration period for incoming juniors rather than wait for transfer orientation; however, students must still attend orientation).

VII. Advising Support

- All students have access to BHCC Pathway Coaching staff and Departmental advisors
- Students have access to UMass Boston Transfer Enrollment Counselor on the BHCC campus
- BHCC advisors will help students track their progress toward A.A. or A.S. degree completion
- UMass Boston Transfer Enrollment Counselor(s) will help students track their progress toward Bachelor degree completion
- Students enrolled in the Future Beacon Joint Admissions program will be invited to special group advising and class registration sessions each semester
- Sessions will focus on A.A./A.S. degree completion with the specific goal of transferring to UMass Boston.
- UMass Boston Transfer Enrollment Counselor(s) will be invited to advising staff meetings that pertain to advising practices and policies

and will have opportunities throughout the semester to engage with and collaborate with the BHCC advising team.

VIII. Campus Resources

Students admitted and actively participating in the Joint Admissions agreement will receive access to the following UMass Boston campus resources while still enrolled at BHCC and prior to becoming a matriculated student at UMass Boston:

- BeaconCard Student ID
- Access to in-person and online Healy Library resources
- Access to campus Wi-Fi
- On-Campus Student Events
- Beacon Fitness Center

Students who are part of the Future Beacon Joint Admissions Program must adhere to UMass Boston's Student Code of Conduct (umb.edu/campus-life/dean-of-students) while on campus and must also adhere to UMass Boston's Information Technology Acceptable Use Policy (umb.edu/it/about/policies) when accessing campus resources.

IX. Communication

The parties agree to cooperate in communicating with each other and with their respective constituents about the relationship between the institutions. Faculty and staff at both institutions will share the information provided in this agreement with interested and qualified students. BHCC agrees to provide academic counseling and advising to all current and prospective students about this partnership and its inherent benefits.

UMass Boston will encourage students to graduate from BHCC prior to transferring and explain the benefits of earning an associate degree during recruiting events and on printed partnership materials.

An administrator at UMass Boston will implement this agreement at UMass Boston and communicate changes to those parties to whom the information is pertinent. The same will be true at BHCC.

X. Terms of Agreement

This agreement becomes effective on the date of the last signature and shall terminate 3 years after signature. This Agreement may be renewed annually by mutual, written consent and agreement. Either party may terminate this Agreement upon ninety (90) days' written notice; provided, however, that the parties shall discuss and attempt to resolve the issues that led to the notice of termination during the sixty (60) day period. Notwithstanding the termination of the Agreement, any student who has applied for

transfer from BHCC to UMass Boston prior to or during the sixty (60) day period shall be treated as if this Agreement continues to be in effect.

This Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement between the parties. No modification or amendment of this Agreement, whether in whole or in part, shall be effective unless made in writing and signed by the parties.

In carrying out the responsibilities and obligations of this Agreement, neither party shall be acting as the agent or principal of the other regarding dealings with third parties, including students. Neither party shall have the authority to make any statements, representations, nor commitments of any kind or to take any action binding the other except as provided herein or authorized in writing by the party to be bound.

XI. Data Sharing and Assessment

The Parties agree to sharing data and information to facilitate communication with students regarding the Agreement, to enhance collaborative advising for participating students, and to assess the impact of the Agreement.

BHCC agrees to share data with the Transfer Enrollment Counselor of UMass Boston on students who are planning to transfer to UMass Boston through this Agreement for the purposes of coordinated communication from the university. BHCC will provide a list of students who indicated their interest in the Joint Admissions program within two weeks of each semester's start. This list will contain the following information:

Data to be shared with UMass Boston

- i) Student name
- ii) Student gender, race and ethnicity
- iii) Academic Program
- iv) Semesters of attendance
- v) Current enrollment status
- vi) Contact information

When completing the Joint Admissions participation form and FERPA forms, a student agrees to allow their UMass Boston transcript to be shared with BHCC to verify Reverse Transfer eligibility.

Annually, UMass Boston will share a list of participating students with BHCC to determine eligibility for Reverse Transfer. Both Parties will encourage students to complete their associate degree at BHCC before transferring to UMass Boston.

Every three years, upon review of this agreement, UMass Boston shall provide BHCC with data on BHCC students transferring under the terms of this agreement.

Data to be shared with BHCC:

- i) Number of BHCC students who transferred to UMass Boston under the terms of this agreement
- ii) Date of enrollment at UMass Boston
- iii) Date of Bachelor degree completion
- iv) Cumulative grade point average
- v) Data on student gender, race, and ethnicity

This data shall not contain any personal identifying information and will be used solely for the purposes described. With the exception of the Data Recipient of BHCC, the Dean of Enrollment Management and LifeMap the data shall not be shared or made available to any unauthorized personnel or other third party unless otherwise specified in this agreement.

Signature page to follow

In witness whereof, the parties have duly executed this agreement as of the date written below.

Agreed and accepted by:

Signature _____ Date _____
Dr. Pam Eddinger
President
Bunker Hill Community College

Signature _____ Date _____
Dr. James Canniff
Provost and Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs
Bunker Hill Community College

Signature _____ Date _____
Dr. Alicia D'Oyley
Dean of Enrollment Management and LifeMap
Bunker Hill Community College

Signature _____ Date _____
Dr. Marcelo Suárez-Orozco
Chancellor
University of Massachusetts Boston

Signature _____ Date _____
Dr. Joseph B. Berger
Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
University of Massachusetts Boston

Signature _____ Date _____
Dr. John Drew
Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management
University of Massachusetts Boston

APPENDIX A: Transfer Enrollment Counselor Collaboration Agreement

Transfer Enrollment Counselor Collaboration Agreement

This collaboration agreement ("Agreement") is entered into by and between the University of Massachusetts Boston with an address of 100 William T. Morrissey Blvd., Boston, Massachusetts 02125 ("UMass Boston") and Bunker Hill Community College with an address of 250 New Rutherford Avenue, Charlestown, Massachusetts ("Bunker Hill"), collectively, the "Parties," individually a "Party."

Whereas, the Parties have engaged in a number of collaborative engagements, including; but not limited to student referrals, recruitment visits, application events, articulation agreements and the recently developed Liberal Arts Pathway;

Whereas UMass Boston wishes to place a Transfer Enrollment Counselor physically at Bunker Hill to support Bunker Hill students who wish to ultimately transfer to UMass Boston; and

Whereas Bunker Hill agrees to such placement and to provide space for UMass Boston's Transfer Enrollment

Now Therefore, in consideration of the mutual provision and covenants contained herein and for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

A. UMASS BOSTON RESPONSIBILITIES.

1. UMass Boston will hire a full time Transfer Enrollment Counselor (see Appendix A – position description) and train the Transfer Enrollment Counselor ("Counselor") with regard to application deadlines, university information including but not limited to academic programs, student life, and general financial aid and scholarship information. Additionally, Counselor will be trained on application reading and transfer credit evaluation including any related technical competencies.
2. UMass Boston shall place the Counselor at Bunker Hill. The Counselor shall work approximately twenty (20) hours a week at Bunker Hill during the academic year. Bunker Hill and UMass Boston acknowledge and agree that this position shall be in addition to any current informal arrangement that allows UMass Boston occasional recruitment visits ("Tabling") and transfer application days.
3. The Counselor shall work with Bunker Hill transfer employees and be responsible for developing widely accessible resources for Bunker Hill students, staff and faculty that wish to transfer to UMass Boston. These resources will assist Bunker Hill students, staff and faculty in understanding the transfer application process, transfer of credit, and program and course selection as it specifically relates to UMass Boston.

4. The Counselor will also oversee the creation and execution of an official referral program for Bunker Hill freshman student applicants that applied to UMass Boston; but, did not initially qualify for admission to UMass Boston. These Bunker Hill students will be provided a defined pathway which, if pursued, would lead automatically to admission at UMass Boston in a future semester (a process often termed "Reserve Placement." Additionally the Counselor will serve as point of contact for Bunker Hill faculty and staff with regard to any new or existing collaborations as they relate to transfer enrollment.
5. The Counselor will report semi-annually on their activities and provide data with regard to the freshman referral program and transfer from Bunker Hill to UMass Boston.
6. The Counselor will collaborate with Bunker Hill staff to create and maintain a dedicated webpage on the Bunker Hill website for the freshman referral program and a separate webpage with content and resources specifically designed for Bunker Hill students planning to transfer to UMass Boston.
7. UMass Boston agrees to notify Bunker Hill regarding any staffing changes as it relates to the Counselor.
8. UMass Boston agrees to provide a point of contact for the escalation of issues (Appendix B)
9. UMass Boston agrees to ensure that Counselor complies with Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99 in the performance of Counselor's duties as described in this Agreement.
10. The purpose of this new position is intended to ensure a more seamless transfer experience for Bunker Hill students, resulting in meaningful application of credits, increased completion rates, and shortened time to degree. Bunker Hill and UMass agree to support the work of the Counselor.

B. BUNKER HILL RESPONSIBILITIES.

1. Bunker Hill will provide office space for the Counselor. Since the Counselor will only be at Bunker Hill twenty (20) hours a week, the space may be shared space.
2. Bunker Hill will provide the Counselor access to the following resources: reliable internet connection, campus telephone access, copying machine, and parking permit machine

3. Bunker Hill will maintain links out to each of the Bunker Hill websites for the freshman referral program and separate webpage containing resources specifically designed for Bunker Hill students interested in transferring to UMass Boston.
4. Bunker Hill agrees to invite the Counselor to attend trainings and meetings regarding on-boarding to ensure that Counselor is providing advice and information consistent with Bunker Hill messaging and Bunker Hill's advising philosophy and practices.
5. Bunker Hill will provide a point of contact for the Counselor pertaining to day-to-day communication and needs. Bunker Hill will also provide a point of contact for the Counselor regarding broader matters.
6. Bunker Hill agrees to provide appropriate notice to UMass Boston and the Transfer Enrollment Counselor with regard to changes to provided work space, points of contact, curriculum and course changes, etc.

C. MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

1. UMass Boston and Bunker Hill mutually agree to routine review of the efficacy of this partnership as well as any issues, concerns or necessary modifications
2. The Parties agree to comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) when sharing personally identifiable information from student education records in accordance with this Agreement.
3. **Confidentiality/Privacy.** The Parties shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations relating to confidentiality and privacy. In addition, in the performance of this Agreement, a Party may acquire or have access to "personal data" and become a "holder" of such personal data (as defined in Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 66A) or personal information (as defined in Mass.Gen.Laws ch. 93H), or personally identifiable information from education records as defined under The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99). Personal data, personal information, and personally identifiable information from education records shall be deemed to be "Personal Information." The Parties shall implement feasible safeguards to restrict access and ensure the security, confidentiality and integrity of all Personal Information owned, controlled, stored, or maintained by a Party and provided to or accessed by a Party to the other Party in the performance of Agreement, irrespective of the medium in which it is held. The Parties agree that it shall inform each of their employees, servants or agents, having involvement with Personal Information of the laws and regulations relating to confidentiality and privacy.

4. **Limitation of Liability.** Neither Party shall be liable to the other (whether in contract, tort (including negligence), breach of statutory duty or otherwise, arising out of, related to, or in connection with this Agreement for breach of contract, loss of goodwill, loss of data, loss of profit, business opportunities, or for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, punitive, or consequential losses or damages, even if the loss or damage was reasonably foreseeable or a Party was aware of the possibility of that loss or damage arising. Each Part shall be responsible for the negligent acts or omissions of their employees, servants, or agents, in accordance with applicable federal and/or Massachusetts laws.

D. ADDITIONAL TERMS.

Term/Termination of the Agreement. This Agreement shall be effective beginning the spring 2020 semester and terminate on August 31, 2024, ("Initial Term"), unless otherwise terminated in accordance with the Agreement. The Parties may mutually agree to extend the Initial Term of this Agreement for an additional five (5) years (the "Extended Term") upon each Party's written notice to the other Party at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the end of the Initial Term and the mutual execution of a written amendment to this Agreement. The Agreement shall be reviewed annually by the Parties.

This Agreement may be terminated at any time by either Party by giving written notice to the other Party, as provided in the Notice Section, at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the effective date of termination stated in the notice.

Amendments. This Agreement may be amended only by written agreement of the Parties, executed by the Parties' authorized representatives and in compliance with all other regulations and requirements of law.

Compliance With Laws. The Parties agree to comply with all applicable local, Massachusetts, and federal laws, regulations and ordinances in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

Independent Contractor Status. Bunker Hill is an independent contractor and not an employee or agent of the UMass Boston. No act or direction of the UMass Boston shall be deemed to create an employer/employee or joint employer relationship. UMass Boston shall not be obligated under any contract, subcontract, or other commitment made by Bunker Hill.

Choice of Law. This Agreement is entered into in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the laws of the Commonwealth, without giving effect to its conflicts of law principles, govern all matters arising out of or relating to this Agreement and all of the transactions it contemplates, including, without limitation, its validity, interpretation, construction, performance and enforcement.

Forum Selection. The Parties agree to bring any action arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the relationship between the Parties in the state courts of the

Commonwealth of Massachusetts which shall have exclusive jurisdiction thereof. The Parties expressly consent to the jurisdiction of the state courts of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in any action brought by the Commonwealth a Party arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the relationship between the Parties, waiving any claim or defense that such forum is not convenient or proper. This paragraph shall not be construed to limit any other legal rights of the Parties.

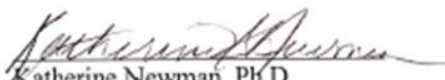
Severability. If any provision of this Contract is declared or found to be illegal, unenforceable, or void, then both Parties shall be relieved of all obligations under that provision. The remainder of the Contract shall be enforced to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Entire Agreement. The Parties understand and agree that this executed Agreement, as defined above, and any amendments (if any) constitute the entire understanding between the Parties and supersede all other verbal and written agreements and negotiations by the Parties.

Notice. Except as provided elsewhere in this Agreement, notice is effective only if the party giving the notice has sent the notice to the address provided in this Section (or such other address designated by a party in writing) and the addressee has received the notice. A notice is deemed to have been received if delivered in person or sent by registered, or certified mail (return receipt requested), or nationally recognized overnight courier, upon receipt as indicated by the date on the signed receipt. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, if notice is received after 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) on a business day or on a day that is not a business day then notice is deemed received at 9:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) on the next business day.


University of Massachusetts Boston

Bunker Hill Community College


Katherine Newman, Ph.D.
Interim Chancellor

Pam Eddinger 04/15/20

Pam Eddinger, Ph.D.
President

 3/3/2020
Emily McDermott, Ph.D.
Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for
Academic Affairs

James Canniff
James F. Canniff, Ed.D.
Provost/Vice President for Academic and
Student Affairs

Digitally signed by James Canniff
DN: cn=James Canniff, o=Bunker
Hill Community College,
ou=Provost,
email=jfcanniff@bhcc.edu, c=US
Date: 2020.04.15 16:13:07 -0400

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused this Contract to be executed by their respective duly authorized officers as of the date first above written.