

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Education

David P. Driscoll
Commissioner of Education

State Funded Academic Support Programs Line Item 7061-9404 January 20, 2006 FY06 REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

Pursuant to Chapter 149 of the Acts of 2005, Section 2, Line Item 7061-9404, the Department of Education respectfully submits the following report, due February 1, 2006. **This report provides information regarding fiscal year 2006 (FY06) MCAS support programs for the classes of 2003-2007 funded by line items 7061-9404 and 7027-0019.** The programs serving students through these line items are funded through five school year and summer grant programs and one annual competitive contract.

As requested in the FY06 state budget line item 7061-9404, this report includes information on the number of students eligible to participate in these programs. While the Department of Education has already begun collecting data on all FY06 MCAS support programs, data regarding actual participation numbers has not yet been received. The best current indication available of the number of students to be served by MCAS support programs in FY06 is the number of students proposed to be served by all grants that have been approved as of December 15, 2005 to run programs during the 2005-2006 school year and summer.

The Department will provide additional information in a subsequent report that will be submitted as an addendum to this FY06 report, including the number of students who have passed the MCAS assessment and obtained a competency determination through these programs, as well as how many of these students have and have not met local graduation requirements. Similarly, an addendum to the January 2005 report regarding FY05 programs will be submitted by the end of April 2006, after complete post-test score information is available and compiled for students who participated in the FY05 summer programs and took the November 2005 retest.

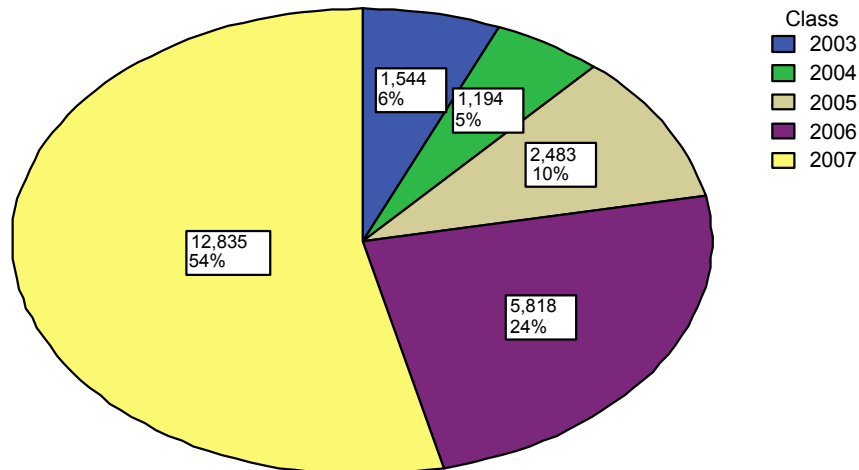
Please contact Rachelle M. Engler, Director of School Support Services, by phone (781-338-3205) or email (rengler@doe.mass.edu) with any questions you have regarding this report.

MCAS Support Program Data for Line Items 7061-9404 & 7027-0019

This report provides information regarding fiscal year 2006 (FY06) MCAS support programs for the classes of 2003-2007 funded by line items 7061-9404 and 7027-0019. The table below includes all currently available information regarding the number of students eligible to be served (23,874), the number of funded entities (168), and the number of students proposed to be served (12,186) through the Massachusetts Department of Education's FY06 MCAS Low-Scoring Student Support programs. See endnotes for related information, and the following section for brief descriptions of each program. The Department will provide additional information in a subsequent report that will be submitted as an addendum to this FY06 report, including the number of students who have passed the MCAS assessment and obtained a competency determination through these programs, as well as how many of these students have and have not met local graduation requirements. This report does not include information on the \$2.455M set aside by the legislature in line item 7061-9404 to operate seven separate programs.

Program	# Students Eligible ¹	# Entities Funded ²	# Students Proposed to be Served in FY06
Districts/ Approved Private Special Education Schools & Collaboratives (Allocation Grants)	23,874	120 ³	7,129 ⁴
High Schools & Partnering Organizations (Competitive Grants)	TBD ⁵	TBD ⁵	TBD ⁵
Community Colleges (Competitive Grants)	6,721 ⁶	9	731
Work & Learning Programs (Competitive Grants)	11,274	16	1,632
One Stop Career Centers (Competitive Grants)	2,493 ⁷	7	1,080
Workforce Investment Boards for Connecting Activities (Competitive Contracts)	23,874 ⁸	16	1,614
TOTALS	23,874	168	12,186⁹

FY06 Eligibility by Class¹⁰ for All MCAS Support Programs



MCAS Support Program Descriptions

- *Programs funded through line item 7061-9404:*

Districts & Approved Private Special Ed. Schools/Collaboratives (Allocation Grants)

The purpose of this program is to enhance academic support services for students in the classes of 2003-2007 who have not yet passed the English language arts and/or mathematics 10th grade MCAS needed to earn their competency determination¹¹ required for high school graduation. Because this is an allocation grant, all school districts and charter schools as well as approved Private Special Education Schools and Collaboratives serving eligible students are able to receive these funds. Remediation may also be provided for students in grades 9-10 who scored in the warning level on the 7th grade English language arts MCAS or the 8th grade mathematics MCAS tests.¹²

High Schools & Partnering Organizations (Competitive Grants)

The purpose of this program is to provide academic instruction (English language arts and mathematics) and support services that encourage and enable students (in high school as well as post 12th grade) to pursue a competency determination.¹¹

Community Colleges & Partners (Competitive Grants)

The purpose of this program is to provide academic instruction (English language arts and mathematics) and support services that enable students from the classes of 2003-2006 to continue to pursue their competency determination¹⁰ while providing pathways to further education.

Work & Learning Programs (Competitive Grants)

The purpose of this program is to provide quality innovative and intensive instruction in English language arts and mathematics through work and learning programs to students in the classes of 2003-2007 who have not yet earned their competency determination.¹¹

One Stop Career Centers (Competitive Grants)

The purpose of this grant program is to broker options that address the unique academic, employment, and career needs of post-12th grade students (classes 2003-2006) who need further remediation to attain the skills necessary to earn their competency determination.¹¹ The services designed as part of this initiative leverage existing opportunities within a region available to students that offer remediation services in English language arts and mathematics.

- *Programs funded through line item 7027-0019:*

Workforce Investment Boards for Connecting Activities (Competitive Contracts)

The purpose of this program is to drive and sustain the statewide school-to-career system. The state line item leverages the initial federal School to Work investment in Massachusetts that created self-sustaining Local Partnerships throughout the Commonwealth. Connecting Activities contracts support local Workforce Investment Boards working in concert with their local Youth Councils to implement school-to-career policy and programming connected to MCAS remediation services in English language arts and mathematics.

END NOTES

¹ Students eligible for these programs include individuals across the state from the classes of 2003-2007 who have not yet earned their competency determination (passed both the mathematics and English language arts sections of the 10th grade MCAS test or retests needed for high school graduation since 2003). Eligible classes vary by grant program. The numbers listed under the competitive grant programs are limited to the eligible students in the districts served by the organizations awarded grants. Students no longer in the system, as indicated from their status distinctions in June 2005 Student Information Management System (SIMS) data captured on November 22, 2005, are not included in eligibility counts. *Those eliminated from eligibility include the following students: graduated with competency determination, permanent exclusions, dropped out, and deceased.

² Some entities receive more than one grant per program, e.g. for school year and summer programs.

³ This number includes only entities funded for school year programs as of December 15, 2005. Eligible entities can submit applications for school year programs through March 3, 2006; summer program proposals are due April 7, 2006.

⁴ This number includes only the number proposed to be served from the classes of 2003-2007, as requested in the 7061-9404 FY06 line item language.

⁵ Competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) applications for high schools and partnering organizations were released in December 2005 for spring/summer programs. The number of eligible students, entities funded, and students proposed to be served through these grants are to be determined (TBD) in March 2006.

⁶ Eligibility includes only students from the classes of 2003-2006.

⁷ The number listed here includes currently eligible post-12th grade students (classes of 2003-2005). In the summer 2006 programs, students from the class of 2006 (who have not yet earned their competency determination) will also be eligible.

⁸ These contracts do not have eligibility requirements based on MCAS scores. The number listed here includes eligible students across the state from the classes of 2003-2007 who have not yet earned their competency determination. The proposed number to be served includes those who have not yet earned their competency determination and will receive "integrated" MCAS remediation services with a structured internship. An additional 4,969 students are proposed to be served who have not yet earned their competency determination *or* scored at "needs improvement" on the 10th grade MCAS test or retests and will receive "connected" MCAS remediation services with a structured internship. ("Integrated" = Integrated work and learning model; "Connected" = Connected to career *or* academic development.)

⁹ This is *not* an unduplicated count. Students may have been proposed to be served under more than one grant and, as a result, may have been counted twice. Actual enrollment data received after the end of FY06 will allow counts to be unduplicated based on state assigned student identification numbers (SASIDs).

¹⁰ Students' class is the one most recently reported in SIMS data. For example, a student reported to be in grade 12 in June of 2003 (class of 2003), who is also in grade 12 in June of 2004, is listed in this data as a class of 2004 student. A student given a grade distinction of "SP" (special education beyond 12th) is reported in the corresponding class year in which they were last reported in SIMS data as grade 12.

Note: 152 students in the class of 2003 who are eligible for services in FY06 were not included in the number of eligible students listed in the FY05 report submitted to the legislature in January 2005. This difference results from an enrollment status in SIMS that precluded* them from being classified as eligible for FY05 programs (see end note #1), combined with a new enrollment status that now makes them eligible for services in FY06 (e.g. enrolled, transferred, reached maximum age, or received certificate of attainment).

¹¹ "**Competency Determination (CD)**" = Students need to pass the 10th grade English language arts and mathematics MCAS tests or retests in order to earn their **competency determination**, which has been required for high school graduation (in addition to meeting local graduation requirements) since 2003.

¹² Student numbers listed in this report only pertain to the classes of 2003-2007, as requested in the 7061-9404 FY06 line item language.