Fund through state budget line item 7061-9404, MCAS Academic Support programs are designed for students who have not scored high enough on the MCAS to earn their Competency Determinations required for high school graduation. Student grade eligibility varies by program, but may include grades 8-12 and post-12th graders. During fiscal year 2010-2011 (FY11), MCAS Academic Support grants served approximately 16,500 of 161,600 eligible students from the classes of 2003-2015. Overall, participants in these MCAS support programs were 1.6 times (28 percentage points) more likely to have met the state’s English Language Arts and Mathematics MCAS testing requirements by November 2011 than eligible youth who did not participate. Moreover, as can be seen in the charts below, this difference held true when looking at students by class year as well as by selected population.

More than 87 percent of students served through this line item participated in programs funded through 357 school district allocation grants. The additional 13 percent of students were served through 4 types of competitive grants awarded to districts, community colleges, One Stop Career Centers, and other partners such as Regional Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). In all, the Department funded a total of 457 programs during the 2010-2011 school year and the following summer.