# **MEMORANDUM**

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| **To:** | Members of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education |
| **From:** | Pedro Martinez, Commissioner |
| **Date:** | October 21, 2025 |
| **Subject:** | Grant Packages for the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (October) |

**Pursuant to the authority given to me by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education at its October 21, 2008 meeting, I approved the following competitive grants.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **FUND**  **CODE** | **GRANT PROGRAM** | **NUMBER OF**  **PROPOSALS**  **APPROVED** | **AMOUNT** |
| 0511 | Intensive Assistance Grant\* | 5 | $1,630,189 |
| 0589 | Civics Teaching and Learning Grant **\*** | 35 | $971,712 |
| 0661 0671 359B | MassSTEP ABE and MassSTEP ESOL | 4 | $200,000 |
| **TOTAL** |  | **44** | **$2,801,901** |

\*Approved by Interim Commissioner Patrick Tutwiler

## FY2026 Intensive Assistance Grant Fund Code: 0511

**Funds Allocated:** $4,619,121 (Federal)

**Funds Requested**: $4,619,121

**Purpose:** Support our state’s persistently lowest performing schools.

**Number of Proposals Received:** 5

**Number of Proposals Recommended:** 5

**Number of Proposals Not Recommended:** 0

**Result of Funding:** Improving the quality of instruction in every classroom in schools that have been low-performing for at least the past five school years.

| **Recipients** | **Amounts** |
| --- | --- |
| Brockton- Arnone Elementary School | $300,000 |
| Chelsea-Clark Avenue Middle School | $300,000 |
| Framingham- Harmony Grove Elementary School | $501,450 |
| Springfield- Lincoln Elementary School | $305,000 |
| Worcester- North High School | $223,739 |
| **Total Federal Funds** | **$1,630,189** |

## FY2026 Civics Teaching and Learning Grant Fund Code: 0589

**Funds Allocated:** $ 971,712 (State)

**Funds Requested**: $ 2,366,953

**Purpose:** The purpose of this competitive grant program is to support civics teaching and learning, as required by Chapter 296 of the Acts of 2018 and emphasized in the 2018 History and Social Science Framework. This grant supports curriculum, professional development, and/or collaborative planning designed to further students' civic knowledge, skills and dispositions.

**Number of Proposals Received:** 78

**Number of Proposals Recommended:** 35

**Number of Proposals Not Recommended:** 43

**Result of Funding:** With this grant, LEAs will engage in professional learning and collaborative planning to support civics teaching and learning, implement grade 8 and high school civics projects, host local civics project showcases, participate in Massachusetts Civics Project Showcases, and organize relevant experiential learning activities.

| **Recipients** | **Amounts** |
| --- | --- |
| Amherst | $11,500 |
| Andover | $32,000 |
| Argosy Collegiate Charter School | $13,200 |
| Avon | $16,000 |
| Barnstable | $8,320 |
| Belmont | $32,000 |
| Berkshire Arts and Technology Charter Public | $16,000 |
| Boston | $40,160 |
| Brockton | $48,000 |
| Chelsea | $48,000 |
| Collaborative for Regional Educational Service and Training (CREST) | $16,000 |
| Freetown-Lakeville | $32,000 |
| Gateway | $16,000 |
| Global Learning Charter Public | $14,580 |
| Greenfield | $30,360 |
| Haverhill | $48,000 |
| Hilltown Cooperative Charter Public | $16,000 |
| Hingham | $13,260 |
| Leicester | $32,000 |
| Lowell | $38,500 |
| Lowell Middlesex Academy Charter | $16,000 |
| Lynn | $48,000 |
| Malden | $20,576 |
| Methuen | $42,800 |
| Peabody | $32,000 |
| Pittsfield | $14,720 |
| Quaboag Regional | $26,840 |
| Quincy | $48,000 |
| Randolph | $15,216 |
| Salem Academy Charter | $16,000 |
| Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical | $32,000 |
| Springfield (with West Springfield and Easthampton) | $46,880 |
| Uxbridge | $29,600 |
| Wellesley | $32,000 |
| Westfield | $29,200 |
| **Total State Funds** | **$ 971,712** |

## FY2026 MassSTEP ABE and MassSTEP ESOL Fund Code: 671/661/359b

**Funds Allocated:** $200,000 (State and Federal)

**Funds Requested**: $311,402

**Purpose:** MassSTEP ABE provides adult education (AE) concurrently and contextually with workforce preparation activities and workforce training (occupational skills training) to accelerate learning outcomes, including student attainment of a high school credential and one or more relevant industry-recognized credentials (IRCs) and employment. MassSTEP ESOL provides ESOL instruction concurrently and contextually with civics education in addition to workforce preparation activities and workforce training (occupational skills training) to accelerate learning outcomes, including student attainment of one or more relevant IRCs and employment.

**Number of Proposals Received:** 7

**Number of Proposals Recommended:** 4

**Number of Proposals Not Recommended:** 3

**Result of Funding:** Three agencies were awarded new MassSTEP grants. Ascentria Community Services received two grants. The first is an ESOL Certified Nursing Assistant program in partnership with Holyoke Community College and Ally Adult Foster Care. The second is an ESOL Information Technology Help Desk program in collaboration with The Tech Foundry and Tech Hub. North Adams Public Schools will offer an Adult Basic Education Certified Nursing Assistant program in collaboration with the Berkshire MassHire Workforce Board and Integritus Healthcare. Springfield Technical Community College will offer an Adult Basic Education Information Technology program in collaboration with Baystate Health, Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, CyberTrust Massachusetts, Inc., Hampden MassHire Career Center, and the Hampden MassHire Workforce Board.

| **Recipients** | **Amounts** |
| --- | --- |
| Ascentria Community Services, Inc. – Certified Nursing Assistant | $50,000 |
| Ascentria Community Services, Inc. – Information Technology | $50,000 |
| North Adams Public Schools – Certified Nursing Assistant | $50,000 |
| Springfield Technical Community College – Information Technology | $50,000 |
| **Total State and Federal Funds** | **$200,000** |