*****Massachusetts Department of***

***Elementary and Secondary Education***

*75 Pleasant Street, Malden, Massachusetts 02148-4906 Telephone: (781) 338-3000  
 TTY: N.E.T. Relay 1-800-439-2370*

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| Jeffrey C. Riley  *Commissioner* |  |

Adult and Community Learning Services

April, 2019

Dear Grant Applicant:

Enclosed for your review and response is the FY 2020 Request for Proposals (RFP) for Adult Education (AE) Transitions to Community College Continuation Grants. This RFP is intended for grantees currently funded by the Adult and Community Learning Services (ACLS) unit of the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (ESE). The grant program and fund code included in this RFP is **AE Transition to Community College** – Fund Code: 668 (State)

To be considered for refunding, programs must meet the requirements and intent of authorizing state legislation governing the program and must have conducted a successful program in FY 2019.

Applications for state-funded projects are due by **May 20, 2019.**

Applicants should refer to the RFP for funding amounts. ***It is important to note* *that funding levels are subject to performance and the approval of state and federal appropriations. Programs will be notified of any changes in funding levels*.** Please note that no expense may be charged to the grant until ESE has approved the budget. State and federal regulations require that separate and auditable records be maintained for each grant program that is funded. This is the last year of the funding cycle for these programs. A multi-year Open and Competitive Request for Proposals for Transition to Community College programs will be issued in the fall for implementation in FY21.

**Guidance for Agencies Operating Grant-funded Adult Education Programs**

Agencies are advised to read ***Grants for Schools: Getting Them and Using Them***, A Procedural Manual, available at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/grants/procedure/manual.html>, and to seek counsel from their own auditors to ensure that multiple funding sources are handled appropriately. Personnel funded by the AE grant must dedicate all grant-funded time to work under the AE grant, and to provide services to students funded by the AE grant. Administrators must inform program staff what portion of their time is funded by the AE grant, and for how many hours per week they must provide services to grant-funded clients.

For non-personnel resources charged to the ESE grant, the agency must provide a rationale and methodology for how costs are charged to the grant, and for how costs are allocated across programs that use the resources. When space is shared between the AE grant-funded program and programs supported through fees, foundation grants, or other funding sources, only the percent of space and percent of time that the space is used by the AE grant-funded program may be charged to the AE grant.

The agency must maintain separate auditable financial records which adequately identify the source and the application of individual grant funds, and which include source documentation (i.e., time and attendance records, payrolls, contracts, purchase orders, checks, and paid bills).

We look forward to reviewing your grant application and continuing our work together in providing highly effective services to undereducated and limited-English proficient adults in the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

Wyvonne Stevens-Carter

Acting Adult Education State Director