Dear Applicant:

I am pleased to release the FY2026 Continuation Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for Adult Education. With this RFPs, the Department will continue to fund Community Adult Learning Centers (CALCs) across all 16 workforce areas to provide adult education services to Massachusetts residents who seek high school credential (HiSET/GED) and/or need to learn English to succeed in the workforce.

The Adult and Community Learning Services (ACLS) Unit at the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) envisions a future where every adult in Massachusetts has the knowledge, skills, and support they need to lead the life they aspire to live.

With this RFP ACLS is looking to continue the partnership with adult education programs to ensure that all students have access to quality instruction, advising, job training, and career pathways that are culturally responsive. ACLS sets high expectations and provides support to achieve them, promotes flexible options for learning that honor the diversity of students and advance equity and inclusion, fosters collaborations that enhance student success in employment and higher education, and holds ourselves and our providers accountable for results.

The Massachusetts adult education system serves as an on-ramp to the workforce development system, enabling individuals not yet ready to participate in that system with opportunities to advance students to career pathways and employment in jobs that pay family-sustaining wages and opportunities that would be otherwise out of their reach. This RFP is one of many continuation RFPs that are being released by the Department to offer comprehensive adult education system in Massachusetts in FY26.

Sincerely,

Wyvonne Stevens-Carter

Adult Education State Director