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

**Funds Allocated:** $250,000 (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 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 and Integritus Healthcare. Springfield Technical Community College will offer an Adult Basic Education Information Technlogy 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** |