

## **MASSACHUSETTS CTE PROFILE**

### 1. Governance Structure/Delivery Model

Career and Technical Education in Massachusetts is delivered through a variety of delivery models including 28 regional technical schools, 2 regional agricultural schools, comprehensive city high schools that include CTE programs, and two independent/collaborative based vocational schools, all of which combined comprise the MA Chapter 74 system. Information on Ch. 74 programs can be found on the MA DESE website.

Each regional technical district is run by a Superintendent /Director who is the operational manager who is overseen by a school committee as are the agricultural schools except that they are overseen by a Board of Trustees. Comprehensive/City schools are also overseen by a Superintendent with a Vocational Director responsible for oversight of CTE programs. The school principal is the instructional leader of each school. Approximately fifty thousand students are enrolled in Chapter 74 programs.

### 2. Primary Funding Sources

Chapter 74 programs are administered directly by the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, specifically by the Office for Career/Vocational Technical Education. The regional technical schools function as a municipality and are funded through a combination of state funding and assessments to the member towns based on enrollment from each town. Agricultural schools are funded through the county they represent. Comprehensive/city schools are funded through the state and city or town budget. Budget information on each district and individual school is located on the MA DESE website.

### 3. Transportation

Each regional school district, including agricultural schools, is required to provide transportation for all students by regulation. Regional districts are reimbursed for the cost of transporting students to and from school at annual amount as appropriated by the Governor and the legislature through the budget process. Transportation for sports, field trips, and to a worksite is provided by the district at their own expense. Comprehensive/city schools are responsible for providing transportation within their budget as part of the LEA budget.

#### 4. School Calendar

Each regional technical school develops their own calendar, and each follow their own policies and practices.

#### 5. Program Model

Several different delivery models exist within the state:

##### Week about cycle

Cycle A: Grades 9 & 11 in academics Cycle B: Grades 10 & 12 in shop (may be a 5, 6, 9, or 10 day cycle)

##### Half-day

Students participate in academics for ½ day and Ch. 74 program for ½ day

##### Comprehensive model

Students participate in CTE programs for 2 hours per day every day.

##### Exploratory

Freshmen go through at least a half year Exploratory experience. This may vary in structure. Commonly students experience every program for at least one day and then choose a specific number of programs to explore for an extended time (1 week or longer). After completing Exploratory students will select their choices by priority and will be placed based on rank in the program selected.

##### Program Advisory

Each Chapter 74 program has long-standing partnerships through various Program Advisory Committees, which are comprised of businesses, industry leaders, parents, students, and post-secondary representatives. The goal of these committees is to ensure that in every capacity programs are meeting and exceeding current industry standards in:

- Program curricula;
- Program facilities;
- State-of-the-art equipment;
- Employability skills; and
- Workplace credentials.