Growing Demand for Micro-Credentials & Other Short-Term Programs

Dr. Kathy Rentsch
Vice President of Academic Affairs
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krentsch@qcc.mass.edu



Trends Across the Country

Intense Workforce Shortages

- Massachusetts has 42 available workers for every 100 open jobs
 - ➤ Understanding America's Labor Shortage: The Most Impacted States | U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Shift from Credential-Based to Skills-Based Hiring

Skills-Based Hiring Toolkit | Mass.gov

Apprenticeship growth across industry sectors

Introduction of <u>apprenticeship degrees</u>-embedded job learning



Trends in MA: Community College Priorities

Affordability & Student Support

- SUCCESS
- Free Community College

Workforce Development

- Workforce Education & Training Fund
- Early College & Dual Enrollment
- EEC Provider Opportunities
- CC Workforce Training Incentive Grants
- STEM Starter Academy



Trends @ QCC

- FTE grew by 15% in FA 2024
- Part-Time/Full-Time Ratio 74% (PT; less than 12 cr) v. 26% (FT)
- Campus Locations:
 - West Boylston St/Worcester
 - Federal St/Worcester
 - Southbridge
 - Specialized Program Sites (2)

Top Programs by Enrollment

- Healthcare
- Undecided
 - High School/Dual Enrollment Program
- Liberal Arts/General Studies
- Business Administration
- Nursing
- Computer Systems Engineering Tech (IT)
- Human Services
- Criminal Justice



What Does QCC Offer?

- <u>Degree & Certificates Programs</u>:
 - Business, Computing & Applied Technologies
 - English & Humanities
 - Healthcare
 - Math, Science & Engineering
 - Public Service, Education & Social Science
- Robust <u>Academic & Student Supports</u>
- Credit for Prior Learning
- Advantageous <u>Transfer Agreements</u>
- "Free" Community College
- Apprenticeship Degree Pathways-Coming in 2025

- Center for Workforce Development & Continuing Education
 - Short-term Skills Focused Training
 - Customized Corporate Training
 - Apprenticeships





What does it cost?

For Workforce Development/Short-Term Programs:

- Costs vary by training
- Many grant-funded and are offered at low/no cost to participant

For Credit-Bearing Programs: <u>Tuition & Fees</u>

But let's talk "free".....

- Or as we like to say *FUNDED* community college
- Go to QCC for Free! | Quinsigamond



