

## Comments from MassBay's Transitional Scholars...

"I like going to college because I get to meet people and take classes that are important to my goals."  
- Jonathan Bullock

"My favorite things about MassBay are the staff, inclusion with other students, community, and freedom. I plan to continue at MassBay and gain better life skills. At some point I would like to get a job and live on my own."  
- Nolan Tierce

"For me, college is about independence and learning."  
- Ben Majewski

"Having friends around me is a good thing and being there for one another."  
- Antonio Watty

"Why college? Well, I have a lot of career ideas. Plus, I love to read and I like seeing people from the community."  
- Brian Heffernan



## Contact Information



For more information about the  
**MassBay Community College**  
**Transitional Scholars Program**  
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## Transitional Scholars

Postsecondary Education Options for Students  
with Intellectual Disabilities



## What is MassBay's Transitional Scholars Program?

The Transitional Scholars Program offers students 18-22 years of age with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to participate in inclusive college courses. The Program goals are to increase these students' academic success, develop career-planning and employment skills, and to improve self-advocacy and new life skills.

Successful participants in the Program include those students who have:

- ✓ An intellectual disability and benefit from specialized College support;
- ✓ Passed the MCAS and are still receiving special education services through their district; or
- ✓ Not passed the MCAS or other state's assessment exams.

## How does the Program work?

Through the Transitional Scholars Program, students learn to function independently on the College campus, use self-determination skills in adult settings, request accommodations and other College services while preparing for employment.

- Courses are matched with student goals and career interests.
- Action plans are developed through the Person Centered Planning process and implemented throughout the semester.
- Students are enrolled in one 3-credit course per semester with an option to audit or take the class for credit.
- Students have access to educational coaches for support both in and out of the classroom setting.
- Students have access to all College offerings and programs including tutoring, student clubs, campus activities, counseling services, career services, peer mentoring.
- The Program Coordinator collaborates with the student's high school to provide continuity of IEP goals and transition progress monitoring.



## What are the Program's requirements?

- A completed Transitional Scholars Program application.
- Two letters of recommendation from individuals who have known the applicant for six months or longer.
  1. One recommendation from an educator and
  2. One recommendation from an employer and/or supervisor.*Guidelines for recommendation letters are included in the application.*
- Official copy of the applicant's high school transcript.
- Attendance at a 30 minute interview with the Selection Committee.  
*Interview settings are chosen that best accommodate the applicant.*

## Key support services integrated into the Program

- Educational coaching.
- Tuition and fees for one 3-credit course.
- Textbooks (and/or classroom materials).
- Person Centered Planning.
- Social skills and life skills development.
- Self-advocacy skills.
- Tutoring and peer mentoring.

