



mefa
pathway YOUR PLAN
FOR THE FUTURE®

User Guide

2020-21 Academic Year

MEFA Pathway is MEFA's free, online college and career planning tool that helps middle and high school students explore interests and talents and build a plan for post-secondary success.

Rather than a one-size-fits-all approach to planning for the future, MEFA Pathway is tailored to meet the needs of the Commonwealth's diverse student and workforce populations by offering comprehensive tools in one easily accessible website. The Student Portal is available in five languages (English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Portuguese).

MEFA Pathway offers interactive planning and college and career search tools, provides comprehensive data on student academic readiness and success, and offers communication tools and centralized student tracking. The platform is based on imported student data that leads to powerful reporting capabilities that incorporate both qualified student data and student preferences in one location.

When a school joins MEFA Pathway, the selected educators at that school then have access to the Counselor Portal. MEFA works with the designated data manager to upload the student data file and import it directly into the MEFA Pathway system. This creates a secure community that only users from that school can access, allowing educators to support and guide students through post-secondary planning in preparation for college and career success.

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Middle School

Grades 6-8

MEFA Pathway's middle school portal provides a fun, engaging, age-appropriate environment where students in grades 6-8 can plan for academic and career success. Student accounts created in grades 6-8 will follow the student into their high school years seamlessly.

Students can create an account by:

- Navigating to mefapathway.org
- Selecting *I am a Student*
- Selecting *Register Here*

Students will need to enter personal information, including name, date of birth, address, and the school they currently attend. For students under age 14 who do not attend an affiliate school, the system will prompt a parent consent that can be completed online or manually. Students will then select their year of graduation, which allows the system to connect the student to age-appropriate content. For example, a grade 7 student will view different suggested activities than that of a grade 11 student.



Dashboard

- The *Dashboard* is an easily accessible place to view tasks that can help students plan for their future
- As students complete activities, they will earn virtual badges as a reward to encourage use and progress

Hi, Willa B. MEFA | Grade 6 7 **8** 9 10 11 12

LAST ACTIVITY	DAYS SINCE LAST ACTIVITY	ACTIVITY DURING LAST 30 DAYS
February 16, 2021	7	Keep trekking! Continue planning for your future.

MESSAGING CENTER | MESSAGES | DOCUMENT LIBRARY

My Pathway - 8th Grade | As an 8th Grader, there are certain things you should be thinking about. This page has some fun games to help you learn about different careers. And don't miss the BADGES you can earn! Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on each one to see how you can earn it. Have fun!

Career Discovery Zone Play to learn what careers you might like!

Everyday Things
FIND CAREERS RELATED TO THINGS YOU LIKE!
PLAY NOW

says who?
IDENTIFY CAREERS THROUGH THEIR ON-THE-JOB LINGO!
PLAY NOW

FAVORITE SUBJECTS
See how your favorite subjects can help you FIND A CAREER!
PLAY NOW

WOULD YOU RATHER
What you like to do could help you DISCOVER A CAREER!
PLAY NOW

Grow your Digital Portfolio
Remember to keep it updated as your interests and skills develop and change.

Set Goals & Strategies
Add short and long-term Personal, Career, & Academic goals and match those goals up with strategies.

Prep for MCAS
Its time to prepare for your MCAS by taking the practice tests.

EARN YOUR BADGES!
Click on each badge to learn how to earn it!

PROFILE

DIGITAL PORTFOLIO

CAREERS

GOALS & STRATEGIES

FINANCIAL LITERACY

Digital Portfolio

- The *Digital Portfolio* is a visual representation of the student's journey through MEFA Pathway that will grow and change as they learn more about themselves, identify affinities, and expand their aptitudes and accomplishments
- Students can add favorite subjects, languages spoken, and interests
- The activities, skills, and honors & awards will populate as students fill in details on their *My Profile*
- Students can view *Career List* favorites
- The Digital Portfolio will transition to the high school portal with students

What's next? Remember to keep your Digital Portfolio updated as your interests and skills develop and change. And then download it to share with friends, family, and educators so they have a snapshot of who you are – and who you are becoming! Applying for a summer job? Send your Digital Portfolio along with your resume to your potential employer so he or she can see what you are all about.

ACTIVITIES | edit |

GRADES [6][7][8]

TENNIS

GRADES [6][7][8]

DANCE

GRADES [6][7]

DEBATE

GRADES [6]

DRAMA CLUB

Click edit buttons to add more

INTERESTS | edit |

ART

ENVIRONMENT

WRITING

LANGUAGES | edit |

Olá PORTUGUESE

MY RESUME | edit |

SKILLS | edit |

Ability to work under pressure

Communication

Confidence

Leadership

Organization

Perseverance

Team Work

Click edit buttons to add more

HONORS & AWARDS | edit |

Honor Roll
grades [6][7]

Water Color Art Contest
grades [7]

Click edit buttons to add more

Favorites

CAREERS | edit |

Fine Artists, Including Painters, Sculptors, and Illustrators

Architects, Except Landscape and Naval

Meeting, Convention, and Event Planners

Surveyors

Power Plant Operators

Biochemists and Biophysicists

FAVORITE SUBJECTS | edit |

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

ART

ENGLISH

FUTURE PATH

Your Future Path is:

4-year Public College

UPDATE PATH

GET TO KNOW YOURSELF

Your Learning Style is:

Tactile

RETAKE TEST

UPDATE RESULTS

7

Create Your Profile

The tasks within the *Create Your Profile* tab help students keep record of their interests, activities, and accomplishments.

Profile Details

- Students start by adding activities, honors & awards, skills & strengths, and employment to build the foundation for a resume
- Students should consider activities they are involved in both inside and outside of school
- Profile details will transition with students to the high school portal

Goals & Strategies

- Students can add both short- and long-term academic, career, and personal goals along with strategies of how they plan to reach those goals
- Students should update this page regularly as goals and strategies change from year to year
- Goals and strategies will transition with students to the high school portal

The screenshot displays a web interface for creating a profile. It features three main sections: Career, Personal, and Academic. Each section has a 'GOAL' field, a 'STRATEGIES' field, and an 'EXPECTED COMPLETION' date. The Career section shows a goal to 'Develop public speaking skills' with a strategy to 'Join the debate club' and an expected completion date of 06/20/2020. The Personal section shows a goal to 'Complete a 5K road race' with a strategy to 'Run 4 miles, 3 times per week' and a completion status of 'COMPLETED'. The Academic section shows a goal to 'Middle School Short and Long Term Goals for Willa B.' with multiple strategies and an expected completion date of 05/31/2020. Each section has 'EDIT' and 'REMOVE' buttons.

Resume Builder

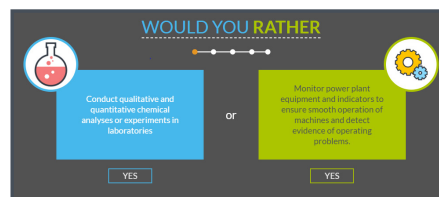
- Students are directed step by step how to create a resume
- Students can create and save resume drafts to view at a later date
- Students have the option to include an objective and appropriate profile details depending upon on what the resume will be used for
- Students can select a style and save the resume as a Word Doc or PDF

Discover Careers

Students can learn more about different careers and keep a list of careers of interest within the *Discover Careers* tab.

Career Discovery Zone

- The *Careers Discovery Zone* allows students to discover and explore careers that may be of interest to them through interactive, age-appropriate activities that facilitate and encourage exploration in a number of areas
 - *Everyday Things* allows students to explore careers based on topics or activities they enjoy
 - *Says Who* exposes students to various careers by identifying the main tasks associated with different occupations
 - *Favorite Subjects* shows students the connection between the subjects studied in school to potential career options
 - *Would You Rather* allows students to answer a series of questions to help discover career categories of interest
- Students can click on a particular career to view its details page, which includes a short summary, career category, areas of knowledge, required education level, and median wages
- Students can save careers they would like to explore further to their *My Career List*



Career Search

- Students can use *Career Search* to search for careers by categories, interests, values, and education level and save a particular search to revisit later
- All career details come from ONET

My Career List

- *My Career List* transitions with students to the high school portal

Pay for College

Within the *Pay for College* tab, students can link to information about financial aid and cost-saving college programs in Massachusetts, as well as facts and guidance about money and budgeting.

Financial Literacy

- *Financial Literacy* provides details on how money works and offers tips and guidance on money management

Sample Budgets

- Students learn the basics on creating a budget within *Sample Budgets*

FINANCIAL LITERACY

Financial Literacy: Money Facts You Should Know

They say money makes the world go 'round, so it's important to learn the skills early on that can help you handle your money well throughout your life. Here are some smart tips to help you understand how money works and the best ways to manage it.

Save a portion of every dollar you receive

- Set up a bank account with your parent and visit the bank regularly to deposit your savings.
- See if your parent, grandparent, or aunt/uncle is interested in matching a portion of your savings.

Learn about compound interest

- Compound interest is the money you earn on both the money you save and the interest you earn.
- Use the [Compound Interest Calculator](#) at Investor.gov to see how much your savings can grow when you keep it in an account that earns interest. Talk to your parents about how to open an interest-generating account.

Protect your personal information

Providing your personal information such as your Social Security number or bank account number to an unknown source could have a negative effect on your finances if it ends up in the wrong hands. Never give your personal information to someone you don't know, especially through a website.

Understand how credit cards work

- Using a credit card can be a convenient way to pay for things. But if you don't pay your credit card bill in full each month (and credit cards don't require you to!), you'll be charged interest and end up owing more than you originally spent.
- Use the [Credit Card Calculator](#) on Bankrate.com to find out how much you could end up paying in interest when only making the minimum payment on a credit card balance.

Anticipate your paycheck earnings

When you start working in a job that provides a paycheck, you'll notice that some of your earnings are set aside for taxes (and not given to you!). Taxes go to pay for things like schools, roads, and medical help for the elderly. Though you may receive some of that tax money back when you file your yearly tax return form, paying taxes will be a part of your life forever.

High School

Grades 9-12

MEFA Pathway's high school portal provides a fun, engaging environment where students in grades 9-12 can plan for academic and career success.

Students can create an account by:

- Navigating to mefapathway.org
- Selecting *I am a Student*
- Selecting *Register Here*

Students will need to enter personal information, including name, date of birth, address, and the school they currently attend. Students will then select their year of graduation, which allows the system to connect the student to age-appropriate content. For example, a grade 9 student will view different suggested activities than that of a grade 11 student.



Dashboard




- The *Dashboard* serves as the student's personal home page. It displays information the student has entered and provides access to pages and content from one spot
- The *Dashboard* provides clear guidance, next steps, and alerts to students
- Other functions of the *Dashboard*:
 - Acts as a reinforcement of self-discovery and cumulative engagement
 - Provides a visually responsive environment where progress and potential are easily seen
 - Acts as a positive feedback loop
 - Recognizes previous engagement to personalize the experience









Digital Portfolio

- The *Digital Portfolio* serves as a visual representation of the student. It continually grows and changes as students learn more about themselves, their affinities, their aptitudes, and their accomplishments
- Other functions of the *Digital Portfolio*:
 - Allows students to document their journey
 - Instills a sense of relevance early on and legitimizes students' dreams and ambitions regardless of gender, grade-level, learning environment, or socio-economic demographics


What's next? Remember to keep your Digital Portfolio updated as your interests and skills develop and change. And then download it to share with friends, family, and educators so they have a snapshot of who you are – and who you are becoming! Applying for a summer job? Send your Digital Portfolio along with your resume to your potential employer so he or she can see what you are all about.

ACTIVITIES [edit]
GRADES 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12
 **GYMNASTICS**
GRADES 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12
 **SOCCER**
GRADES 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12
 **ENVIRONMENT**
Click edit buttons to add more

FAVORITE SUBJECTS [edit]
 **FOREIGN LANGUAGES**
 **ART**
 **HISTORY**

INTERESTS [edit]
 **ART**
 **SAVING**
 **PIANO**

LANGUAGES [edit]
Hello
ENGLISH
Olá
PORTUGUESE

MY RESUME [edit]


SKILLS [edit]
Communication
Confidence
Leadership
Negotiation/Persuasion
Organization
Perseverance
Problem Solving
Click edit buttons to add more

HONORS & AWARDS [edit]
Most Valuable Player
GRADES 14
Honor Roll
GRADES 9
French Honor Society
GRADES 14
Click edit buttons to add more

Favorites
COLLEGES [edit]
Bridgewater State University
Public School In Bridgewater, MA
Central Connecticut State University
Public School In New Britain, CT
Fitchburg State University
Public School In Fitchburg, MA
University of New Hampshire
Public School In Durham, NH
CAREERS [edit]
Mechanical Engineers
FUTURE PATH
Your Future Path is:
2-year Private College
UPDATE PATH

GET TO KNOW YOURSELF
Interests Test Results RETAKE TEST
1 Investigative CLICK TO SEE FULL RESULTS
2 Realistic CLICK TO SEE FULL RESULTS
3 Artistic CLICK TO SEE FULL RESULTS
Work Values Test Results RETAKE TEST
1 Achievement CLICK TO SEE FULL RESULTS
2 Support CLICK TO SEE FULL RESULTS
3 Working Conditions CLICK TO SEE FULL RESULTS
Your Learning Style is: RETAKE TEST
Visual
UPDATE RESULTS

Create Profile

The tasks within the *Create Profile* tab help students keep record of their interests, activities, and accomplishments.

Profile Details

- Students start by adding activities, honors & awards, skills & strengths, and employment to build the foundation for a resume
- Students should consider activities they are involved in both inside and outside of school

Resume Builder

- Students are directed step by step how to create a resume
- Students can create and save resume drafts to view at a later date
- Students have the option to include an objective and appropriate profile details depending upon on what the resume will be used for
- Students can select a style and save the resume as a Word Doc or PDF

The screenshot displays the 'Create Profile' interface. On the left, a navigation bar includes tabs for PERSONAL INFO, SCHOOL, ACADEMICS, ACTIVITIES (selected), HONORS & AWARDS, SKILLS & STRENGTHS, and EMPLOYMENT. The 'ACTIVITIES' tab is active, showing a list of activities. A message states: 'What's Next? Now that you have added some Activities, you can continue on to the Honors & Awards section.' Two activities are listed: 'Environmental' and 'Athletics: JV/Varsity - Soccer'. Each activity entry includes fields for Position Held, Grades Involved, Involved during, Plan to continue at college, and Description, along with a 'REMOVE' button.

On the right, a preview of the profile for Alice Smith is shown. The profile includes the following sections:

- OBJECTIVE**
- EMPLOYMENT**
 - Customer Service
 - 04/2020 - Present
 - Churchill's Garden Center - Boston, MA 02109
 - Pick the deadheads off of flowers, assist customers
- EDUCATION**
 - MEFA
 - 60 State Street 9th Floor
 - Boston, MA 02109
 - Brockton High School
 - Brockton, MA 02001
 - Attended from 09/05/2017 until 06/15/2018
 - Intro to Biology
 - Middlesex Community College
 - Bedford, MA
 - 02/15/21
- CERTIFICATIONS**
 - Photoshop - Adobe
 - Issued: 06/2018; Expires: Does Not Expire
 - Justice of the Peace - State of MA
 - Issued: 02/2018; Expires: 02/2023
 - CPR - American Red Cross
 - Issued: 02/2021; Expires: 02/2022
- ACTIVITIES**
 - Environmental
 - Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
 - Athletics: JV/Varsity - Soccer
 - Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
 - Athletics - Gymnastics
 - Grades: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
 - Earned 1st place at Nationals for floor routine
- HONORS & AWARDS**
 - Most Valuable Player - Coach's Award 2020
 - Grades: 11
 - Honor Roll - Grade 9, semesters 1-4
 - Grades: 9
 - French Honor Society
 - Grades: 11
- SKILLS**
 - Communication
 - Confidence
 - Leadership
 - Negotiation/Persuasion

Discover Careers

Within the *Discover Careers* tab students can learn more about themselves and the careers that might fit them best.

Get to Know Yourself

- Students can complete the *What are your Interests?* assessment
- Students can complete the *What are your Work Values?* assessment
- Students can complete the *What Are Your Skills?* assessment

Career Search

- Students can use interests and values results to generate a list of corresponding careers
- Students can also generate a list of careers using education level and/or specific career category

My Career List

- Students can keep track of different careers of interest and mark their favorites
- If students add a career to their favorites, that career will appear on their *Digital Portfolio*

Internships

- Students can filter available internships in MA based upon career category or featured internship, and then link to an external site to learn more about each opportunity

Investigate Your Future

- Students can learn about top trending skills and occupations, projected growth of certain careers, and the areas of the country that have the highest concentration of certain occupations

Build Career Plan

The activities within the *Build Career Plan* tab help students set goals and lay out an academic plan for high school.

Goals & Strategies

- Students can add both short- and long-term academic, career, and personal goals along with strategies of how they plan to reach those goals
- Students should update this page regularly as goals and strategies change from year to year

Course Planner

- The *Course Planner* helps students choose the right course to achieve academic goals and meet graduation requirements
- Students select courses from the *Course Catalog* for each semester
- Students work with their school counselor to build a suitable plan

MASSCORE AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS Alice's Progress for MEFA				MC MassCore
Subject Area	CREDITS Required	CREDITS Planned	CREDITS Earned to Date	UNITS Required
English Language and Literature	16	20	12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mathematics	16	12	8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Life and Physical Sciences	16	4	4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Social Sciences and History	12	8	0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Fine and Performing Arts	4	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Foreign Language and Literature	8	4	4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Military Science	--	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Hospitality and Tourism	2	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Human Services	2	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Engineering and Technology	4	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Early College Program	--	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Internship	4	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Capstone	2	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Elective	8	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Job Shadowing	--	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Don't forget MassCore courses. Why not get those requirements in place today?

It's a good idea to get required courses in place first. Does your plan meet all graduation requirements?

Take more time to plan ahead today! Think about your course selection now.

SAVE TO PDF

Search Colleges

Within the *Search Colleges* tab, students can find colleges and universities that match their preferences and create their own college list.

Match Me

- Students select different college features to generate a list of schools that match their preferences

College Search

- Students can search for colleges by selecting different criteria that generates a list

My College List

- Students can add schools of interest to their *My College List*
- If students favorite a college, it will be added to their *Digital Portfolio*

College Compare

- Students can compare up to 5 schools side by side to assess which selected schools match their set preferences


Standardized Tests

- Students can learn about various standardized tests and link out to external resources for more information

SEARCH FOR COLLEGES

Location:
Where do you want to be?
Considering attending college somewhere entirely new to you? Or do you like being a short car or bus ride from home? Explore options and think about how location will impact your college experience.
Select the regions where you'd like to attend college: (Select as many as you wish)

Next



Midwest Northeast Southeast South

	Bay Path University	Florida Gulf Coast University	University of Massachusetts Lowell	Colorado Mesa University	Bridgewater State University
Key Factors					
Type of School	Private	Public	Public	Public	Public
Setting	Suburban, Small Town	Suburban	Urban	Small Town	Suburban
Size	7 - 14k students	1856	13717	13266	9299
Location	MA	Longmeadow, MA	Fort Myers, FL	Lowell, MA	Grand Junction, CO
Admission Difficulty	Minimally difficult, Moderately difficult	Moderately difficult	Moderately difficult	Moderately difficult	Minimally difficult, Moderately difficult
Undergraduate Info					
Total Undergraduates	7 - 14k students	1856	13717	13266	9299
Male/Female Ratio		0%/100%	45%/55%	62%/38%	46%/54%
Student/Faculty Ratio		12:1	22:1	17:1	22:1
Financial Info					
In-state Tuition & Fees	\$32739	\$0	\$14307	\$8395	\$9610
Out-of-state Tuition & Fees	\$32739	\$0	\$30875	\$20353	\$15750
Annual Estimated Total Cost	\$45349	\$0	\$42948	\$30913	\$27950
Estimated Total Cost	\$181396	\$0	\$171792	\$123652	\$111800
Academic Info					
Overall Acceptance Rate	78%		57%	83%	81%
GPA	3.0-3.5	3.21000	3.63000	3.54000	3.10000
Test Scores					
SAT CR	Not Reported	535	573	Not Reported	494
SAT WR	Not Reported	525	551	Not Reported	Not Reported
SAT Math	Not Reported	535	600	Not Reported	497
ACT	Not Reported	24	26	21	22

Manage Applications

Students can list the colleges where they plan to apply and keep track of their application details within the *Manage Applications* tab.

My College Applications

- Students can manage applications by adding schools they applied to, application deadlines, and application status
- Students can request a transcript, which will alert a designated school counselor of the transcript request
- Students can manage letters of recommendations by adding a recommender and requesting a letter of recommendation, which will alert the recipient via email that they have received a request

MY COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Here's a snapshot of the college applications you need to submit, along with all the required material that goes along with them. Visit this page often and keep it updated!

Expand All ▶ ADD APPLICATION + ADD/EDIT RECOMMENDERS

▼ University of New Hampshire	DECISION PLAN: Regular Decision ▼	DEADLINE: 02/01/2021 <input type="checkbox"/>	STATUS: Not Star... ▼	DECISION: - ▼	YOUR CHOICE: - ▼	
Application Form: Common App		Initial Transcript: REQUEST	RECOMMENDATIONS ⓘ Bento, Jennifer Counselor Requested 12/30/2020 Bento, Sabelle Teacher Requested 12/30/2020 Wittman, Raiden Teacher Requested 12/30/2020			
Entrance Term: N/A		Optional Transcript: REQUEST				
		Mid-Year Transcript: REQUEST				
		Final Transcript: REQUEST				

► Bridgewater State University	DECISION PLAN: Regular Decision ▼	DEADLINE: 02/15/2020 <input type="checkbox"/>	STATUS: Not Star... ▼	DECISION: - ▼	YOUR CHOICE: - ▼	
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► Keene State College	DECISION PLAN: Regular Decision ▼	DEADLINE: mm/dd/yyyy <input type="checkbox"/>	STATUS: Started ▼	DECISION: - ▼	YOUR CHOICE: - ▼	
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Pay for College

The *Pay for College* tab helps students learn about financial aid, find scholarships, determine net college cost, learn more about loan cost, and find out about options in Massachusetts to reduce the price of college.

Financial Aid

- Students can learn the basics about financial aid and link out to more information and to the financial aid application websites

Scholarship Search

- Scholarship Search* allows students to select criteria, such as area of study or state of residence, to generate a list of potential scholarships

My Scholarship List

- My Scholarship List* allows students to save scholarships they are interested in to stay informed of status, award amount, and deadlines

College Cost Calculator

- The *College Cost Calculator* estimates the cost to attend up to six different colleges selected by the student
- Students enter the scholarships, grants, loans, work-study, and other resources received from each college, which are subtracted from each college's costs to calculate the cost gap

COLLEGE COST CALCULATOR			
STEP 4: COLLEGE COST GAP RESULTS			
	edit x University of Massachusetts Lowell	edit x Bridgewater State University	edit x Western New England University
▼ Annual Costs	\$ 26380	\$ 27950	\$ 34874
Tuition & Fees	\$ 14307	\$ 15750	\$ 34874
Room & Board	\$ 12073	\$ 12200	\$ 0
Books & Supplies	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Extra Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
▼ Annual Awards	\$ 9800	\$ 10500	\$ 18000
Scholarships	\$ 3800	\$ 3000	\$ 18000
Grants	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
School Loans	\$ 4500	\$ 6000	\$ 0
Work Study	\$ 1500	\$ 1500	\$ 0
Yearly Cost Gap	\$ 16580	\$ 17450	\$ 16874
Estimated Total Cost Gap	\$ 66320	\$ 69800	\$ 67496

Loan Cost Estimator

- The *Loan Cost Estimator* estimates an approximate monthly loan payment based on a loan amount, interest rate, and years to repay provided by the student
- The tool will estimate the affordability of the monthly loan payment based on the projected annual salary of the selected career

Expected Family Contribution (EFC) Calculator

- The *EFC Calculator* helps students determine their EFC, a calculated number used by financial aid offices to determine students' financial aid eligibility

MA State Benefits

- *MA State Benefits* allows students to estimate their cost savings through programs like MassTransfer by mapping out a 4-year college plan that begins at a community college
- Students can save their plans and use them within the *College Cost Calculator* and *College Compare* tools

My MA Benefits

- Students can view their saved 4-year *MA State Benefits* plans in one place

You have **8 Scholarships** on your list [ADD MORE](#)

Scholarship	Deadline	Status	Award
American Educational Research Association (AERA) Grants Program	2017-09-01	None	20000
Inspire Our Future \$2,500 Scholarship	2017-04-01	None	2500
Acoustical Society of America Raymond H. Stetson Scholarship in Phonetics and Speech	2017-03-15	None	20000
Presidents Scholarship	2017-11-15	None	1000
Morris Cohen Graduate Student Award of the Corrosion Division of the Electrochemical Society Inc.	2017-12-15	None	Award Amount
Abraham Anson Memorial Scholarship	2017-10-17	None	2000
AIST William E. Schwabe Memorial Scholarship	2017-12-31	None	3000
John Kimball Memorial Trust Scholarship Program for the Study of History	2017-04-15	Received Awa...	300

1 Show:

If you start at: Northern Essex Community College And transfer to: University of Massachusetts Lowell

GEN ED FOUNDATION PROGRAM

WHAT YOU DO

1 year at Northern Essex Community College
+
3 years at University of Massachusetts Lowell meeting all [Gen Ed Foundation Program](#) requirements

ESTIMATED SAVINGS

Savings of **\$8,619.99** for the duration of this program. That is a 13% savings compared to a traditional bachelor's degree program at University of Massachusetts Lowell

Total estimated cost for 4 years: \$56,356.78.

[SAVE THIS PLAN](#)
[LEARN MORE](#)

A2B PROGRAM with 2 Years at Community College

WHAT YOU DO

2 years at Northern Essex Community College
+
2 years at University of Massachusetts Lowell meeting all [A2B Program](#) requirements

ESTIMATED SAVINGS

Savings of **\$20,543.79** for the duration of this program. That is a 32% savings compared to a traditional bachelor's degree program at University of Massachusetts Lowell

Total estimated cost for 4 years: \$44,432.98.

[SAVE THIS PLAN](#)
[LEARN MORE](#)

COMMONWEALTH COMMITMENT PROGRAM with 2 Years at Community College

WHAT YOU DO

2 years at Northern Essex Community College
+
2 years at University of Massachusetts Lowell meeting all [Commonwealth Commitment Program](#) requirements

ESTIMATED SAVINGS

Savings of **\$28,461.97** for the duration of this program. That is a 44% savings compared to a traditional bachelor's degree program at University of Massachusetts Lowell

Total estimated cost for 4 years: \$36,514.80.

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Counselor View

Homepage

The Counselor Portal homepage includes MEFA Pathway news, resources for school counselors, upcoming live webinars, lesson plans, important dates, and a school spotlight. The Counselor Portal allows the educator to:

- track student activity
- assign students to counselors
- add local scholarships
- upload documents
- manage transcripts and letters of recommendation
- create and manage course catalog
- upload student data file

The screenshot shows the MEFA Pathway Counselor Portal homepage. The header features the MEFA Pathway logo and navigation links: How It Works, About MEFA Pathway, Participating Schools, About MEFA, For Counselors (active), For Students, and For Parents. The main banner area has a green background with the text 'WELCOME COUNSELORS' and a sub-header: 'The place for resources and reminders to assist you in helping your students achieve their career and college goals.' To the right of the text is an illustration of three stylized figures (a man, a woman, and a child) standing next to a large screen displaying icons for a calendar, a graduation cap, and a person. Below the banner, there is a section titled 'The MEFA Institute' which describes a series of free professional development lessons. To the right of this text is a calendar icon and a table of 'IMPORTANT DATES'. At the bottom left, there is a 'Have Questions?' section with contact information for Jennifer Bento-Pinyoun.

me fa pathway YOUR PLAN FOR THE FUTURE®

How It Works About MEFA Pathway Participating Schools About MEFA For Counselors For Students For Parents

WELCOME COUNSELORS

The place for resources and reminders to assist you in helping your students achieve their career and college goals.

The MEFA Institute is a series of free professional development lessons geared toward school counselors, college access professionals, and college administrators focused on planning, saving, and paying for college, planning for career, and reaching financial goals. [Learn More](#)

We hope you can utilize MEFA Pathway's many resources to help guide your students through college and career planning. We have several webinars scheduled throughout the year that will walk through the different features of MEFA Pathway, so we invite you to register for those in the right-hand sidebar.

Have Questions? Please reach out to our Program Manager, Jennifer Bento-Pinyoun, at 617-224-4827 or jbento@mefa.org.

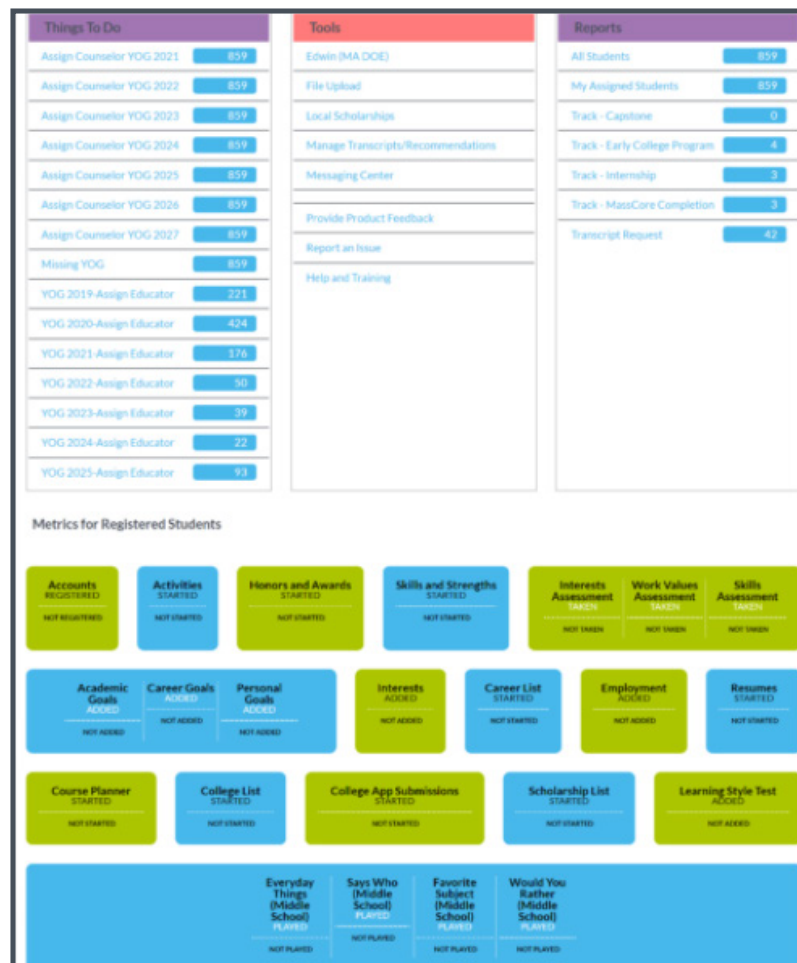
IMPORTANT DATES	
Feb 12	SAT Registration Deadline: Registration deadline for the March 13, 2021 SAT. The late registration deadlines are February...
Feb 15	February Recess, No School
Feb 15	President's Day, No School
Mar 12	ACT Registration Deadline: Registration deadline for the April 17, 2021 ACT. Late registration occurs March 13-26, 2021 with...
Mar 13	SAT: The registration deadline for this test date is February 12, 2021 with late registration...

[See all](#)

Dashboard

Features of the *Dashboard* include:

- Easy access to groups
- A view of global worklists and reports
- Management of counselor assignments
- Local scholarships
- Links to Edwin
- The Messaging Center
- The Document Library
- Student metrics, a quick view of student activity by critical tasks
- The ability to provide feedback, request training, or report an issue



Search

Search for individual students to:

- View the individual student case
- Create notes
- Make data changes
- Create alerts
- View the student's college planning
- View the student's course plan and assess graduation requirements
- View MyCAP (My Career and Academic Plan)
 - Student driven: last activity, assessment results, future path, goals, profile information, career category selection, college status
 - Data driven: 504, IEP, ESL, low income, Career/Voc Tech Ed
 - Counselor driven: student resources and supports
- View documents that have been uploaded

Find students based on any of the following criteria. Use '%' as a wildcard. For example entering sm% will return you students with a last name of Smith, Smyth, Smythe, etc.

Last Name	First Name	LASID	SASID
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Year of Graduation	Date of Birth	Student Email Address	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

SUBMIT [RESET](#)

Admin

Course Planner

- Build a course catalog from the DESE course catalog
- Choose the course level (AP, Honors, Academic, College Prep), total credits earned, and the grades the course is offered in
- Add custom courses
- Tie in Mass Core requirements
- The Counselor Portal shows the status of each student's course planner, which mirrors the dashboard of the student

English/Language Arts I (9th grade)	<input type="checkbox"/> AP CREDITS	<input type="checkbox"/> Honors CREDITS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> College Prep CREDITS 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academic CREDITS 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12
English/Language Arts II (10th grade)	<input type="checkbox"/> AP CREDITS	<input type="checkbox"/> Honors CREDITS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> College Prep CREDITS 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academic CREDITS 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12
English/Language Arts III (11th grade)	<input type="checkbox"/> AP CREDITS	<input type="checkbox"/> Honors CREDITS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> College Prep CREDITS 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academic CREDITS 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12
English/Language Arts IV (12th grade)	<input type="checkbox"/> AP CREDITS	<input type="checkbox"/> Honors CREDITS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> College Prep CREDITS 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academic CREDITS 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12
AP English Language and Composition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AP CREDITS 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Honors CREDITS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> College Prep CREDITS 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Academic CREDITS	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12
Literature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AP CREDITS 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Honors CREDITS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> College Prep CREDITS 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academic CREDITS 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12
American Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> AP CREDITS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Honors CREDITS 4	<input type="checkbox"/> College Prep CREDITS	<input type="checkbox"/> Academic CREDITS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 9 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12
American Literature/History	<input type="checkbox"/> AP CREDITS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Honors CREDITS 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> College Prep CREDITS 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Academic CREDITS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 9 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12
Assisted Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> AP CREDITS	<input type="checkbox"/> Honors CREDITS	<input type="checkbox"/> College Prep CREDITS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academic CREDITS 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 9 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12
English/Composition (freshmen and sophomores)	<input type="checkbox"/> AP CREDITS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Honors CREDITS 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> College Prep CREDITS 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academic CREDITS 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 9 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12

Document Library

- View and access documents that have been previously uploaded, including the date created, the date updated, and who uploaded the file

File Upload

- File upload options:
 - The exact file that is submitted to DESE (Oct/March/June)
 - The Student Case Creation template and instructions provided by MEFA
- The upload is to align students within a given school, as well as provide recent information to tag identifiers such as ELL, 504 plan, IEP, absences, etc.
- The upload will search the entire system if a student is not found within the school
- If the student is found at another school, it will move the student to the school loading the file
- Uploads can be run as frequently as the school desires
- If a student is found within the school, the student's data will be updated
- If a student is not found in the system or the school, a record will be created
- It is the responsibility of the Data Manager to refresh student data as needed

Local Scholarships

- Schools can add local scholarships for students to view in the student portal
- Include the name, description, contact information, URL, forms, and the deadline
- Update the scholarship status as active or inactive year to year

Manage Transcripts/Recommendations

- View students who have added colleges to their *My College Applications* page
- There is distinction between Common App and non-Common App colleges
- View deadlines, decision plans, teacher recommendations, and transcript requests
- Common App and MEFA Pathway integrated schools can view upcoming deadlines, send school reports, and manage transcript requests

Messaging Center

- Send messages, alerts, general communications, and important date announcements to a single student or a select group of students
- Retrieve received and sent messages

Users

- View all enabled and disabled users

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