

The Board of Trustees of Bay State College regrets to announce that the College will cease operating as an accredited degree-granting institution as of August 31, 2023, as the result of the decision by the New England Commission of Higher Education to withdraw the College's accreditation.

Protecting the interests of the College community during this transition, especially its students, is the highest priority of the College. The College has worked closely with the Department of Higher Education on contingency planning, to ensure all students will have multiple options for continuing their education and graduating on the timeline they expected. The College appreciates the Department's assistance in this regard, and reaffirms its commitment that all current students will continue receiving the highest quality academic experience possible in their time remaining at Bay State.

The majority of the College's current student body is scheduled to graduate on time before the end of August. For students not scheduled to graduate by August, the College and the Department have been working collaboratively to ensure that those students receive the support and transitional services necessary to continue their education at other private and public higher education institutions without lapse.

While the College's accredited degree-granting authority will end as of August 31, the College will continue actively evaluating potential future partnerships with other institutions, particularly with respect to its exceptional nursing programs. The College is also exploring other ways in which its decades of institutional knowledge and expertise in the training and educating of thousands of nurses could be leveraged to address the ongoing shortage of nurses throughout the Commonwealth.

The College's leadership has been in regular communication with the Department to ensure an orderly transition, and to ensure that current students experience minimal disruption to their education. The College also expresses its gratitude for the support it has received from students, faculty, staff, and alumni throughout this challenging process. The College will continue sharing regular updates with its community and on its website (www.baystate.edu), and will keep stakeholders informed as information becomes available. The Department has also established a website to provide information and resources for College students and their families: <a href="https://www.mass.edu/baystate/">https://www.mass.edu/baystate/</a>.

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