



# Supporting Healthy Alliances Reinforcing Education (SHARE) Fiscal Year 2026 Legislative Report

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This report describes grant activities related to funds allocated from Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025, line item [7061-9650](#), which are being coordinated with those related to line item [7061-0028](#) Social Emotional Learning and Mental Health Grant. The combined grant aims to build the capacity of schools and districts (including charter schools and educational collaboratives) to do one or more of the following:

- Pilot universal mental health screenings for students in kindergarten to grade 12;
- Develop comprehensive integrated multi-tiered systems for student, family, and educator social-emotional and or/mental health supports; and
- Build sustainable infrastructure to facilitate integrated coordination between the school and community-based and/or providers.

April 2026

This document was prepared by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Pedro Martinez, Commissioner

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Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
135 Santilli Highway, Everett, MA 02149  
Phone 781-338-3000 TTY: N.E.T. Relay 800-439-2370  
[www.doe.mass.edu](http://www.doe.mass.edu)







April 15, 2026

Dear Members of the General Court:

I am pleased to submit this report to the Executive Office of Administration and Finance and to the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means, *Supporting Healthy Alliances Reinforcing Education (SHARE)*, pursuant to Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025, line item [7061-9650](#), signed into law July 4, 2025, that reads in part:

*“...provided further, that such grants may also be expended to support increased professional development opportunities for public school employees to identify students in need of mental and behavioral health support; provided further, that not later than December 30, 2025, the department shall issue a report outlining all student support efforts funded by this item; provided further, that the report shall be provided to the senate president, the speaker of the house of representatives, the house and senate committees on ways and means and the joint committee on education...”*

This line item helps advance the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education’s (Department) [Educational Vision](#), and DESE’s [Whole Student strategic objective](#) in particular. Through this strategic objective, DESE partners with districts, schools, and programs to cultivate systems to support the whole student and foster joyful, healthy, and supportive learning environments so that all students feel valued, connected, nourished, and ready to learn. Focus areas in this objective include implementing multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) that help all students progress academically, with their social emotional and behavioral development, in their physical and mental health and wellbeing, and with a strong sense of belonging and connection. This funding is critical for schools and districts (including charter schools and educational collaboratives) as they build comprehensive systems of integrated student support to create spaces that allow students to engage in learning and to design environments that are welcoming. The supports and resources implemented are particularly important as schools and districts (including charter schools and educational collaboratives) continue to see students’ social and emotional, behavioral, and mental health, and educator health and wellness concerns.

Additionally, the efforts funded through this line item, and supplemented and coordinated with funds through the Social Emotional Learning Grants line item [7061-0028](#), help further the ability of communities across the Commonwealth to maximize coordination with service providers and community health agencies to establish more comprehensive continuums of care. These funds help to increase student access to behavioral and mental health services, including grant-funded services, delivered in partnership with community-based providers.



If you have any questions, feel free to contact Rachelle Engler Bennett, Associate Commissioner, Student and Family Support, via [RachelleEngler.Bennett@mass.gov](mailto:RachelleEngler.Bennett@mass.gov). We look forward to continuing to facilitate and coordinate this work and thank the Governor and Legislature for your commitment to the students of the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pedro Martinez".

Pedro Martinez, Commissioner  
Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

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# Introduction

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (Department) respectfully submits this Report to the Legislature: Supporting Healthy Alliances Reinforcing Education (SHARE) Fiscal Year 2026, pursuant to Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025, line item [7061-9650](#), signed into law July 4, 2025:

*“For the Supporting Healthy Alliances Reinforcing Education (SHARE) grant program to provide an integrated student wellness grant program to assist schools with addressing nonacademic barriers to student success; provided, that grants shall be used to support school districts establishing an infrastructure to facilitate integrated coordination of school and community-based resources including, but not limited to, social services, mental health and behavioral health resources; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be awarded by the department to schools and school districts serving high percentages of low-income students; provided further, that said supports may include funding to assist public school districts in contracting with licensed community-based health care service providers, including mental and behavioral health providers; provided further, that said program shall be administered by the department of elementary and secondary education in coordination with the executive office of health and human services; provided further, that the department shall prioritize applications for such services that are submitted by school districts whose applications are consistent with infrastructure and coordination efforts linking schools to community-based resources in accordance with item 7061-9612 of section 2 of chapter 154 of the acts of 2018; provided further, that such support grants may be expended to assist school districts in connecting students with community-based services to maximize coordination with service providers and establish more comprehensive continuums of care; provided further, that such grants may also be expended to support increased professional development opportunities for public school employees to identify students in need of mental and behavioral health support; provided further, that not later than December 30, 2025, the department shall issue a report outlining all student support efforts funded by this item; provided further, that the report shall be provided to the senate president, the speaker of the house of representatives, the house and senate committees on ways and means and the joint committee on education; provided further, that for the purposes of this item, appropriated funds may be expended for programs or activities during the summer months; provided further, that any unexpended funds in this item shall not revert but shall be made available for the purposes of this item until August 28, 2026; and provided further, that notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, any funds distributed from this item to a city, town or regional school district shall be deposited with the treasurer of such city, town or regional school district and held in a separate account and shall be expended by the school committee of such city, town or regional school district without further appropriation, notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary”*

This report outlines efforts to date to establish grants with public school districts (including charter schools and educational collaboratives), and contracts with vendors to provide professional development pursuant to this line item.

The Department continues to work collaboratively with the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS), including the Departments of Public Health and Mental

Health (DPH and DMH), to leverage existing and planned initiatives and to promote complementary and supplemental activities.

The [Supporting Students' Social Emotional Learning, Behavioral and Mental Health, and Wellness through Multi-Tiered Systems of Support](#) (SEL and Mental Health) continuation grant was awarded in September 2025 and provides opportunities for educators to participate in professional development (PD), technical assistance, and coaching to help identify students in need of services and supports. It also allows grantees to partner with community agencies and vendors to bring more resources into schools and districts (including charter schools and educational collaboratives). This grant funding has also created opportunities for grantees to learn and network with each other around topics related to mental and behavioral health, SEL, and general health and wellness to support the whole student. More details about the [2026 professional learning supports](#) provided have been shared with grantees and are available via DESE's [Mental and Behavioral Health and Wellness Supports web page](#).

Note that details related to the screening pilot component of the FY2025 grant program, required by line item 7061-9650, are included in the Fiscal Year 2025 Social Emotional Learning Grants legislative report (due September 3, 2025). Similarly, details regarding the screening pilot component of the FY2026 grant programs will be included in the Fiscal Year 2026 Social Emotional Learning Grants legislative report (due September 1, 2026).

## Selection of Participating Districts

In September 2025, the Department awarded the fiscal year (FY) 2026 [Fund Code \(FC\) 0311 continuation grant](#) (see Appendix for a list of grantees). Fifty-eight (58) out of the sixty (60) eligible grantees (those awarded FY 2025 competitive grants) reapplied for continuation grants to support activities to increase student access to behavioral and mental health services and build comprehensive, multi-tiered systems of support. Two districts opted out of the grant, stating decreased staff capacity to support continuing. The \$500,000 from this line item is supplemented with line item [7061-0028](#) to provide a total of approximately \$3.5 million to support grantees, representing a significant decrease (nearly half) from FY 2025 competitive awards. One hundred percent of all grantees supported with line item 7061-9650 serve a higher percentage of high needs students than the state average, as do more than 60 percent of all grantees.

# APPENDIX: Fiscal Year 2026 Grantees

FY2026: Supporting Students' Social Emotional Learning, Behavioral and Mental Health, and Wellness – (SEL and Mental Health) Continuation Grant Award Amounts

Fund Code: 0311

<b>LEA Code</b>	<b>Organization Name / Local Education Agency (LEA/District/Collaborative)</b>	<b>FY 2026 Award Amounts</b>
0550	ACCEPT Education Collaborative	\$44,910
0502	Assabet Valley Collaborative	\$69,910
0616	Ayer Shirley School District	\$44,910
0023	Bedford	\$69,910
0024	Belchertown	\$58,230
0025	Bellingham	\$44,910
0027	Berkley	\$59,650
0035	Boston	\$69,910
0417	Bridge Boston Charter School	\$44,910
0810	Bristol-Plymouth Regional Vocational Technical	\$44,910
0044	Brockton	\$45,000
0048	Burlington	\$69,910
0057	Chelsea	\$69,910
0061	Chicopee	\$70,000
0071	Danvers	\$69,910
0073	Dedham	\$44,910
0645	Dennis-Yarmouth	\$69,910
0093	Everett	\$45,000
0410	Excel Academy Charter	\$69,910
0095	Fall River	\$69,910
0103	Gardner	\$44,910
0672	Gateway	\$44,910
0107	Gloucester	\$69,910
0117	Hadley	\$44,910
0680	Hampden-Wilbraham	\$44,910
0128	Haverhill	\$69,910
0136	Holliston	\$44,910
0690	King Philip	\$44,910
0160	Lowell	\$45,000
0458	Lowell Middlesex Academy Charter	\$44,910
3517	Map Academy Charter School	\$44,910
0177	Medway	\$69,910

List of grantees continued on next page.

List of grantees continued from prior page.

<b>LEA Code</b>	<b>Organization Name / Local Education Agency (LEA/District/Collaborative)</b>	<b>FY 2026 Award Amounts</b>
0181	Methuen	\$69,910
0182	Middleborough	\$44,910
0191	Monson	\$44,910
0720	Narragansett	\$42,300
0198	Natick	\$69,910
0209	North Adams	\$44,910
0220	Norwood	\$44,910
0860	Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical	\$44,910
3518	Phoenix Academy Public Charter High School, Lawrence	\$70,000
0243	Quincy	\$44,910
0558	READS Collaborative	\$44,910
0251	Rockland	\$44,910
0258	Salem	\$44,910
0485	Salem Academy Charter	\$69,910
0562	SEEM Collaborative	\$44,910
0278	South Hadley	\$44,910
0277	Southbridge	\$45,000
0281	Springfield	\$70,000
0441	Springfield International Charter	\$70,000
0293	Taunton	\$70,000
0304	Uxbridge	\$69,910
0312	Warwick	\$69,910
0314	Watertown	\$69,910
0332	West Springfield	\$44,910
0342	Wilmington	\$44,910
0346	Winthrop	\$44,910

Base award amounts were calculated based on total available funds, proportional to grantee's FY 2025 competitive awards, ranging from \$42,300 to \$45,000. Applicants that chose to opt-in to universal mental health screening pilot/pilot expansion received an additional \$25,000.

Note that two eligible districts chose not to receive grant funds this year: Assabet Valley Regional Vocational Technical and Foxborough Regional Charter.