
MISSION OF THE COLLEGE

The mission statement of Bridgewater State College was adopted in April, 1998.

As the comprehensive public college of Southeastern Massachusetts, Bridgewater State College has a dual mission: to educate the residents of Southeastern Massachusetts and the Commonwealth, and to use its intellectual, scientific and technological resources to support and advance the economic and cultural life of the region and the state.

While maintaining its historic focus on the preparation of teachers, Bridgewater today provides a broad range of baccalaureate degree programs through its School of Arts and Sciences, its nationally recognized School of Education and Allied Studies, and its new School of Management and Aviation Science, which includes the only four-year Aviation program at a public college in New England. At the graduate level, the college offers doctoral programs in Educational Leadership and Reading in partnership with the University of Massachusetts-Lowell.

Through the extensive information technology and distance education resources available at Bridgewater, including the unique John Joseph Moakley Center for Technological Applications, the college has made technology an integral component of teaching and learning on campus, and seeks to become the regional center for the enhancement of teaching through technology for PreK-12 teachers and college faculty.

Bridgewater educates its students to think critically, communicate effectively and act responsibly within a context of personal and professional ethics. Learning communities on campus and internships in the workplace help students sharpen skills and examine values. Outside the classroom, resident and commuting students alike benefit from participation in research projects, public and community service, and a wide range of recreational and cultural activities.

STATEMENT OF PRIORITIES

Southeastern Massachusetts is the fastest-growing region in the northeastern United States. Bridgewater State College is taking the following steps to ensure that its dual mission—to educate the citizens of Southeastern Massachusetts and the Commonwealth, and to use its intellectual, scientific and technological resources to support and advance the economic and cultural life of the region and the state—will continue to be accomplished effectively:

1. Continue to strengthen and improve undergraduate education across the curriculum;
2. Build on current strengths and national reputation in teacher education, especially in mathematics and science education;
3. Develop selected undergraduate programs and a broader array of graduate programs to meet regional economic needs;
4. Extend continuing education programs to meet growing professional development needs;
5. Use the college's extensive technological resources to become a regional center for technological innovation in teaching, learning and distance education;
6. Create new partnerships with other regional institutions of higher education;
7. Continue to examine the benefits of seeking designation as a teaching university, consistent with institutions that have similar organizational structures and offer comparable programs.