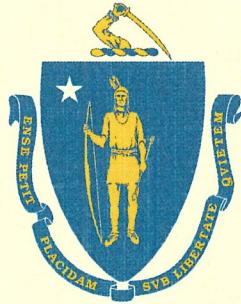


# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## A Proclamation

Whereas, Adult education programs in Massachusetts assist students in building skills and earning credentials that lead to postsecondary education, sustainable employment, and economic self-sufficiency; and

Whereas, There are 520,000 working-age adults in Massachusetts without a high school credential, and over 280,000 adults who do not speak English well or at all; and

Whereas, These residents experience literacy issues that severely impact their lives and families, their ability to work productively, and their full participation as citizens and residents of Massachusetts; and

Whereas, More than 19,000 students enrolled in Massachusetts adult education programs in the last reporting year, including hundreds who received a high school credential and nearly 13,000 who learned English as a second language; and

Whereas, Hundreds of programs are serving students in thirteen Massachusetts counties, based in public schools, community colleges, libraries, community-based organizations, job-training sites, and correctional institutions, providing serving students with high school equivalency, industry-recognized training and credentials, and various support services; and

Whereas, A successful adult education system is essential to a flourishing, innovative, and more equitable economy, improved health outcomes, lower incarceration rates, improved K-12 outcomes, and deeper civic engagement,

Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim September 20<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 2020, to be,

## ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY WEEK

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this twentieth day of September, in the year two thousand and twenty, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-fourth.

BY HIS EXCELLENCE

The signature of Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

CHARLES D. BAKER  
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

The signature of Karyn E. Polito, Lt. Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

KARYN E. POLITICO  
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

The signature of William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts