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MASSACHUSETTS LIFE SCIENCES CENTER



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Quincy College's Biotechnology and Compliance Program Receives Additional \$500,000 Grant from Massachusetts Life Sciences Center

Quincy, MA (03/12/14) – Quincy College has been awarded a \$500,000 Capital Grant from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center. The grant will allow Quincy College's Biotechnology and Compliance program to continue training its students on the single-use biomanufacturing equipment that is used by today's biotechnology industry. The College currently offers associate degree and certificate programs in Biotechnology and Compliance. The funds are slated to purchase laboratory supplies and equipment and to assist in furthering curriculum development.

"In order for Massachusetts to continue to create jobs and prosper, we must train our workers for the jobs of the 21st century global economy," said Governor Deval Patrick. "Our innovation economy

relies on a well-educated, well-skilled workforce, and this grant will expand opportunity and grow jobs in Quincy and beyond.”

This grant award follows closely on the heels of a previous \$100,000 grant from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center and a \$3 million federal grant from the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant Program. These grants provided Quincy College the opportunity to offer state-of-the-art upgrades to its Biotechnology and Compliance laboratories and curriculum and helped support the City of Quincy’s initiative to bring more biotechnology and life science companies into a city that is well-placed to be a hub of biotechnology for the Commonwealth.

“Quincy College continues to be on the forefront of providing new and exciting educational opportunities in professions at the heart of the innovation economy, and its work in biotechnology is a great example of this commitment. This grant will allow Quincy College to continue its expansion into the biotechnology field, and I am grateful to the Life Sciences Center, Governor Patrick and our Legislative delegation for making such important investments a priority,” said Thomas P. Koch, Mayor of the City of Quincy.

Following industry trends, the College’s Biotechnology and Compliance Program prepares students with the skills required to enter the biomanufacturing industry in areas of the biotech sector where there is a pressing need for workers. Quincy College is the first college to integrate a virtual lab into its biomanufacturing program and its renovated laboratories on-site have been updated with new equipment that accommodates training on emerging single-use biomanufacturing technology as well as traditional technology. Building single-use technology into new laboratories has given Quincy College graduates a substantial advantage in the evolving biotech job market, which has become the state’s fastest growing industry sector.

“At Quincy College we believe that education is the passport that allows one to travel through and navigate our society,” said President Peter Tsaffaras, J.D.. “Our philosophy of teaching and learning, one student at a time, undergirds our firm commitment to the kind of quality education and training – in biotech and other fields – that prepares our graduates for the next steps in their academic and career paths.”

Partnerships with public workforce leaders will address issues such as student barriers to education, including financing, college entrance skills, transportation, and English language acquisition. In response to the news, Bruce Van Dyke, Chair of the Biotechnology and Compliance Program at Quincy College, replied “I am thrilled that the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center has chosen to continue to partner with us. This grant will enable us to enhance our program in several areas, including quality control techniques, protein purification and single-use biomanufacturing.”

“The life sciences sectors are now the fastest job producers in Massachusetts so a key strategy of the Life Sciences Center is to use our capital dollars to ensure that students all across the Commonwealth are prepared to compete successfully for these jobs. The grants that we have provided to Quincy College are a great example of our investments to achieve that objective,” said Susan Windham-Bannister, Ph.D., President & CEO of the MLSC. “Quincy College plays a major role in training the next generation of our state’s life sciences workforce. We are pleased that our grant will help ensure that training for innovation economy jobs is inclusive and available to students from diverse backgrounds.”

“As Quincy and the South Shore look to attract the biotechnology and life sciences industry, these grants allow Quincy College to become a critical partner in that effort,” said Senator John Keenan. “Providing students with the opportunity to be educated and trained in this growing field contributes to the overall economic growth of Quincy and the entire South Shore region.”

“This Massachusetts Life Sciences Center grant recognizes the great strides Quincy College has made in the Biotechnology field,” said State Representative Tackey Chan. “This grant will enhance Quincy College's existing biotechnology program and provide greater opportunities for students seeking to enter this field.”

For more information about the Quincy College Biotechnology and Compliance Program, and how to enroll in Summer and Fall Semester courses and labs, contact Bruce Van Dyke, Chair of the Quincy College Biotechnology and Compliance Program, at 617.984.1669 or bvandyke@quincycollege.edu.

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About Quincy College

Founded in 1958, Quincy College is a two-year, municipally affiliated college serving more than 4,000 students at campuses located in Quincy and Plymouth, Massachusetts. The College is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and is licensed by the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education to grant the degrees of Associate in Arts and Associate in Science. Quincy College offers 31 associate degree programs and 11 certificate programs in a variety of disciplines, including those within Professional Programs, Liberal Arts, Natural and Health Sciences, and Nursing. The college draws a diversity of students from the greater Boston area as well as 100 countries around the world. More information can be found online at www.quincycollege.edu.

About the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center

The Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (MLSC) is an investment agency that supports life sciences innovation, research, development and commercialization. The MLSC is charged with implementing a 10-year, \$1-billion, state-funded investment initiative. These investments create jobs and support advances that improve health and well-being. The MLSC offers the nation's most comprehensive set of incentives and collaborative programs targeted to the life sciences ecosystem. These programs propel the growth that has made Massachusetts the global leader in life sciences. The MLSC creates new models for collaboration and partners with organizations, both public and private, around the world to promote innovation in the life sciences. For more information, visit www.masslifesciences.com.