



Bargaining Update

As of 8/16/19

Dear MCCC Unit Members,

We hope this message finds you well. Day contract bargaining is complete, the contract has been ratified, and we are awaiting funding of the negotiated salary increase. Below is a recap of what's happened so far, and a review of M.G.L. Chapter 150E (the Massachusetts' law that governs labor relations between public employee unions and the respective employer).

On June 28, MCCC ratified the Day Contract.

On June 29, notice of ratification was sent to the employer (The Board of Higher Education).

On July 22, Commissioner of Higher Education Carlos Santiago sent a transmittal letter to Governor Baker requesting approval and funding for the contract for Fiscal Years '19 and '20.

From the date our employer, BHE, sends the contract to the Governor, the Governor has 45 days to sign the contract and send it to the legislature for funding. 45 days from July 22 is September 5.

Governor Baker must then file a funding bill. This bill would fund our contract including retroactive raises (retro from July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019).

Typically, these requests for funding go into a supplemental budget filed with the state legislature. We do not anticipate any problems with passage of this contract funding request. We expect the request to be included in a supplemental budget after the legislature reconvenes in September.

By law, FY19 must be wrapped up in October so we anticipate, at a minimum, the retro funding appropriation will be completed by that deadline.

Once the funding bill has passed, the MCCC will communicate with the Office of Labor Relations in order to confirm the payroll schedule for the raises.

Please know that union leadership recognizes this funding process is cumbersome. There is currently a bill filed with the legislature (H.2322/S.1547) to amend and simplify the current process described above. See here for more information: <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/191/H2322>.

We will keep you posted as to any and all developments with the raises, as well as the referenced bill.

Claudine Barnes, Chair
On behalf of the Day Negotiations Team

Rosemarie Freeland, MCCC VP
On behalf of the Strategic Action Committee