

## ABOUT MWCC

**You can succeed here.** MWCC can help you prepare for a new profession, upgrade your job skills, or complete a marketable degree before transferring to another college or university. We are committed to helping you align your college education with your career goals.

**We provide access to an affordable education.** Founded in 1963 and accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE), we are a public, two-year college with a cost that amounts to just a fraction of what you'd pay at some other well-known colleges. We are dedicated to serving the people in our region with 70+ credit-bearing degree and certificate programs, non-credit, personal enrichment classes for lifelong learners, and workforce development that includes custom, on-site training.

**You can choose a course schedule that fits your life.** The majority of our students work as well as go to college, so we understand the challenges of balancing college with work and the rest of your life. That's why we offer course options to fit your schedule and location taught by university-caliber faculty. Choose from day, evening, or online courses at our 269-acre main campus in Gardner or at our satellite campuses in Leominster, Devens, and Fitchburg.

**We offer the personal touch:** We're proud that our class sizes are small, and we enjoy a 15:1 student to faculty ratio. Our programs are designed in collaboration with academic and industry professionals to make sure what you learn is relevant and career-oriented. Whether you are a first-time student or you are seeking skills training for a second career, Mount Wachusett has resources beyond the classroom to support you.

### *Highlights of the MWCC Experience:*

- **Early College & K-12 Partnerships:** We are a leader in early college programs through which high school students can take college classes and earn credit toward their associate degrees as they simultaneously earn their high school diplomas.
- **Sustainability:** The Gardner campus generates most of its energy needs on-site with two wind turbines, biomass heating, and solar panels. We have won awards for our leadership in renewable energy and sustainability.
- **Civic engagement:** Each year, our students complete about 100,000 hours of volunteer, community service, or internship time. These community partnerships and innovative programs, organized through the Brewer Center for Civic Learning and Community Engagement, promote positive social change and healthier, more vibrant communities.
- **Veterans' services:** We support active duty veterans and their transition back to school and civilian life. We are nationally recognized for our services to veterans and their families.
- **Students with disabilities:** MWCC's facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons with disabilities who may require accommodations to participate fully in program activities should contact the program director or the Coordinator of Disability Services at 978-630-9330.
- **Adult Education:** The Regional Adult Education Center at Mount Wachusett Community College offers free classes in Adult Education (AE), high school equivalency preparation (HiSET, formerly GED), and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL).

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## ACCREDITATION

Mount Wachusett Community College (MWCC) is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE), a non-governmental, nationally recognized organization whose affiliated institutions include elementary schools through collegiate institutions offering post-graduate instruction. Accreditation of an institution by the NECHE indicates that it meets or exceeds criteria for the assessment of institutional quality periodically applied through a peer group review process. An accredited school or college is one that has available the necessary resources to achieve its stated purposes through appropriate educational programs, is substantially doing so, and gives reasonable evidence that it will continue to do so in the foreseeable future. Institutional integrity is also addressed through accreditation. Accreditation by the NECHE is not partial but applies to the institution as a whole. As such, it is not a guarantee of the quality of every course or program offered or the competence of individual graduates. Rather, it provides reasonable assurance about the quality of opportunities available to students who attend the institution.

Inquiries regarding the status of an institution's accreditation by the NECHE should be directed to the administrative staff of the school or college. Individuals may also contact the association:

New England Commission of Higher Education  
3 Burlington Woods #100, Burlington, MA 01803  
781-426-7785 | [www.neche.org](http://www.neche.org) (<http://www.neche.org>)

*Please note: certain programs have additional industry specific accreditations. See individual program information.*

## CAMPUS LOCATIONS

MWCC's main campus is in Gardner and its satellite campuses are located in Leominster, Fitchburg, and Devens.

MWCC's facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons with disabilities who may require accommodations to participate fully in program activities should contact the program director or the coordinator for students with disabilities at 978-630-9330.

## VISION

Mount Wachusett Community College is the college of opportunity and a model of teaching and learning excellence.

## MISSION

MWCC is a lifelong learning community dedicated to excellence in education and responsive to the changing needs of the communities we serve. Our focus is the preparation of individuals for lives of fulfillment, leadership, and service in a diverse and global society. We are committed to engaging students in rich and challenging learning opportunities within a small college atmosphere that is known for its personal touch.

## SHARED VALUES

Mount Wachusett Community College is a community of learners where all are welcomed, valued for their individuality, and applauded for their unique contributions to making the college a special place to learn, work, gather, and grow. Students, faculty, and staff recognize the importance of diversity in sustaining a rich, healthy, and vibrant environment and affirm the following values that unite us as a collective body and guide our daily interactions.

***Human Potential:*** We believe that every member of our community (student, faculty, staff, and service area resident) has the potential to learn, grow, develop as an educated and engaged citizen, and lead meaningful joyful lives.

***Pursuit of Excellence:*** We strive for excellence in all that we do as an institution, within divisions, departments, and as individuals. We continuously assess our performance and set challenging goals and standards to attain the best possible service to our community.

***Mutual Respect and Trust:*** We treat each member of our community as a valued person deserving dignity, respect, equity, and trust. Through words and actions, we accept differences, share perspectives, and honor the trust placed in us as demonstrated by our honest and ethical words and actions and cooperative and collaborative work.

***Institutional Integrity:*** We hold ourselves and others accountable for forwarding the vision, mission, and priorities of the college and living by our mission driven principles. We hold ourselves and others accountable for supporting and advancing each other, the organization, and the individuals that we pledge to serve; for acting professionally; for fulfilling commitments, demonstrating good judgment, assessing our effectiveness and applying facts to continually renew as individuals and as a college.

***Considerate Open Communication:*** We readily share information and ideas, encourage the exchange of ideas and opinions, listen without judgment, speak honestly and respectfully, and freely and productively engage in discussions.

***Creativity and Responsible Risk Taking:*** We motivate ourselves, students, and colleagues to think creatively in the face of challenge, try new ideas and approaches, and are innovative recognizing that responsible risk taking is vital to innovation, growth, and advancement.

***Cooperation and Collaboration:*** We look beyond self-interest and work for the greater good of the whole by being positive and active participants and contributors to the realization of common goals, encouraging and supporting others, being helpful in difficult situations, and building consensus to achieve results.

## **STRATEGIC GOALS**

### ***1. Access***

We commit to building access to opportunities for learning for all and creating new linkages that increase the region's college-going rate, improve affordability, increase participation among diverse and nontraditional populations, increase college enrollment, and increase the opportunity to develop skills needed for employment.

### ***2. Success***

We are a community of learners in which all students, faculty, staff, and administrators are active participants in the principles of lifelong learning and where engaged teaching and learning form the foundation for improved student outcomes, demonstrated by increased rates of completion, retention, graduation, transfer, and acquisition of career skills.

### ***3. Learning***

We provide innovative, effective teaching and superior quality in academic programs. We seek to impart to students a comprehensive general education, up-to-date and industry driven knowledge, and the ability to make an impact on their lives and community. Collaboratively, we shall continuously strive to improve our academic offerings by being responsive to industry needs through comprehensive outcomes assessment as well as implementing and sustaining innovative teaching and learning strategies and policies; and by supporting and developing a college faculty who focus their development and practice on employing exemplary teaching, learning, and advising strategies.

### ***4. Progress***

We will devote our efforts and resources to demonstrate effectiveness and efficiency in business operations that lead to institutional self-sufficiency. Further, we shall serve as a prominent driving force and resource in the region in the areas of economic development, leadership, and innovation.

