

What people say about Classroom at the Workplace

FROM SUPERVISORS:

"I think this is a great opportunity for students to learn how to work effectively within an office setting, while at the same time, get classroom instruction on topics that will help them prepare for the MCAS."

—Supervisor, Blue Cross Blue Shield

"There was a big improvement in my student's English and in his confidence level."

—Supervisor, Massachusetts General Hospital

FROM STUDENTS:

"Now I have more knowledge about math and a different look at the career path that I will take."

—Student, Boston Community Leadership Academy

"This experience taught me not to be afraid of learning something new or asking questions. Classroom at the Workplace made me realize that I need to take school seriously."

—Student, Madison Park Technical Vocational High School

FROM TEACHERS:

"Small class size, great classroom facilities, employer support and PIC support make this program a meaningful learning experience for both me and my students."

—English Teacher, English High School

"I love working with a small group of mature, goal-oriented students. It is wonderful to have the flexibility of a curriculum tailored just for them, and the time to really develop good relationships."

—Math Teacher, Brighton High School



Employers include:

Bank of America
Blue Cross Blue Shield
Boston Bar Association
Boston City Hall
Boston College
Brigham & Women's Hospital
Children's Hospital
Citizens Bank
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Federal Reserve Bank
Gillette
Harvard University
JP Morgan Chase
Liberty Mutual
Massachusetts General Hospital
Mellon Financial
Sovereign Bank
State Street
Verizon



Boston Private Industry Council

2 Oliver Street
Boston Massachusetts 02109

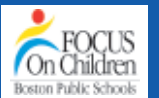
510 Amory Street
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

617-423-3755
617-423-1041 fax

www.bostonpic.org

classroom
at the workplace

Making the Workplace a Learning Place





Students who leave high school without a diploma earn nearly \$500,000 less over a lifetime than high school graduates.

The stakes are high.

Each year, hundreds of Boston public high school students fail to meet the MCAS graduation requirement, placing them at risk to leave school *without* a diploma. In 1999, the PIC, with the Boston Public Schools, created Classroom at the Workplace—an employment program that includes academic remediation at the workplace as part of the workday. Each summer, over a hundred students participate in Classroom at the Workplace, taught by trained teachers during paid release time from work.

“I improved my professional skills, my communication skills, and now I am thinking about going to college to pursue my dreams.

—Student from Madison Park Technical Vocational High School

Why Classroom at the Workplace is Effective

- Students attend a 90-minute math or ELA class as part of each workday, five days per week for seven weeks.

Daily, focused academic instruction in a professional environment focuses student attention and builds and reinforces skills.

- Trained, enthusiastic teachers conduct small classes with a maximum of 12 students.

Students connect with teachers who individualize lessons, teach to their learning styles, and make classes fun.

- Classes connect academics with workplace experiences and skills.

Students demonstrate a greater understanding of the connections between academic and career success.

- Students work in a professional environment, manage work responsibilities, and interact with supervisors and coworkers.

Students’ professional skills improve, and their confidence and motivation increase.



Proven Results

Over **70%** of Classroom at the Workplace students pass MCAS and earn their high school diploma. An additional **20%** pass either the ELA or math test.

Over **90%** of Classroom at the Workplace students feel more prepared to take the MCAS after completing the program.

Students consistently increase an average of **more than a grade level** in reading.

Students demonstrate increased confidence and insight into the connections between academic and career success.

Who is Eligible?

To participate in the program, students must:

- currently attend, or have previously attended, a Boston public high school
- have received a score of 218 or lower on the math and/or ELA MCAS
- be available to work and attend class for seven weeks throughout July and August
- demonstrate a willingness to work diligently in class and on the job