

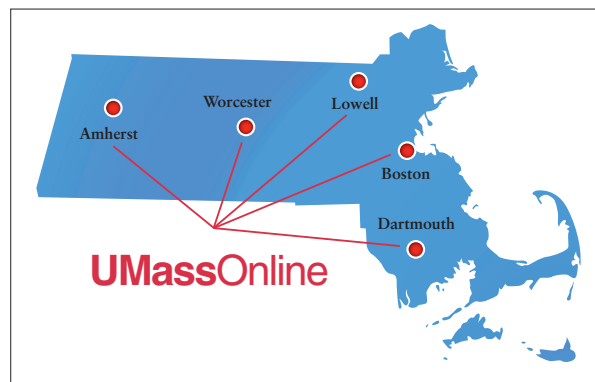
Professional Science Master's Programs at the University of Massachusetts



The University of Massachusetts has provided high quality educational opportunities for students and faculty from Massachusetts and around the world for more than 140 years. The University's mission is to provide an affordable, accessible education of high quality and to conduct programs of research and public service that advance knowledge and improve the lives of the people of the Commonwealth, the nation, and the world.

The UMass system is composed of campuses in Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell, the UMass Medical School in Worcester, and our award-winning distance learning division, UMassOnline.

The University of Massachusetts campuses are accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, which accredits schools in the six New England states. Membership in the Association indicates that the institution has been carefully evaluated and found to meet standards agreed upon by qualified educators. Many of each campus' schools and colleges are also accredited by discipline-specific agencies.



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Collaborative Development of The UMass Professional Science Master's Initiative

Feasibility Phase: January – June 2009

- Gain support from administrative leadership
- Form planning committee (representatives from each campus)
- Survey the workplace
 - analyze economic trends
 - project life sciences and environmental sciences as major fields for future economic growth
 - determine workforce training needs
 - Document employer interest
- Determine potential student interest
- Draft proposals for funding

Planning Phase: July-December 2009

- Appoint planning coordinator
- Clarify role of planning committee
- Assemble program development team
 - From Industry*
 - Employers
 - Industry associations
 - Industry advisory boards
 - Internship providers
 - University of Massachusetts*
 - Faculty
 - Researchers
 - Administrators
- Develop Program Standards
 - Match the programs to the emerging needs in the marketplace.
 - Meet the highest criteria for academic excellence and accreditation.
 - Provide students with the tools to advance their careers.
 - Develop and maintain mentoring relationships to monitor and ensure student progress.
- Develop Quality Control
 - Establish guidelines for consistent program elements across the system.
 - Establish student evaluations.
 - Establish schedule of program review by industry leaders.
 - Assess program outcomes.
- Identify initial program offerings
 - Adapt existing UMass programs (non-thesis Master's Degree Programs and Graduate Certificate Programs)
 - Develop New Business and Communication Courses (PLUS Courses) and Internships
- Engage employers in program advisory roles
- Obtain program approvals
- Advertise new programs



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Collaborative Development of The UMass Professional Science Master's Initiative

Pilot Phase: January – June 2010

Enroll students in Professional Science Master's Degrees January 2010

University of Massachusetts	Professional Science Master's Programs
All campuses	MS Marine Science Coastal and Ocean Administration, Science and Technology
Boston	MS Environmental Science
Lowell	MS Biology Applied Biotechnology Biosafety Environmental Biotechnology Project Management for Life Sciences

Program Rollout and Operations Phase: July – December 2010

Launch Additional PSM Program Offerings

All campuses	MS Biomedical Engineering and Biotechnology	
Amherst	MS Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation	
Boston	MS Biotechnology MS Applied Physics MS Geographical Information Systems	
Dartmouth	MS Marine Biology MS Medical Lab Science	
Lowell	MS Clinical Lab Science MS Bioinformatics MS Forensic Chemistry	MS Health Physics MS Radiological Science MS Industrial Mathematics

- Obtain Council of Graduate School PSM recognition
- Expand offering of online PLUS courses.
- Establish Professional Science Master's student community (speaker series, recreational activities, shared learning experiences)
- Establish system-wide PSM advisory board and PSM campus advisory boards
- Evaluate for future planning and to establish program sustainability guidelines

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