

March 10, 2026

The Honorable Louis P. DiPalma  
Chair, Senate Committee on Finance  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith Street, Providence, RI 02903

Subject: Letter of Support for Rhode Island College Bond Proposals for 1) the Adams Library Project and 2) for Residential Life Renovations

Dear Chairman DiPalma:

The Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner supports Rhode Island College in its proposal for a bond issue to fund renovations and the construction of a student success and career readiness center to be located at the Adams Library, as well as an auxiliary bond for Residential Life Renovations.

The student success and career readiness center will be a centralized location within the Adam's Library, offering student-centered supports including academic advising, career services, tutoring, and other essential resources to assist students in achieving student and career success. The center will have an important impact on both individual Rhode Islanders and the state's economy alike as students who receive supports they need to graduate college will have the talent to meet Rhode Island's workforce needs while securing a better future for themselves and their families.

The residential life renovations would encompass improvements to five resident halls including critical infrastructure and safety improvements, along with aesthetic updates that will enhance on-campus student life. This is important as RIC continues to attract residential students who are seeking competitive residential accommodations which will further enhance their educational experience and ability to focus on learning.

In both these efforts, RIC continues to demonstrate excellence and leadership in their efforts to offer a student-centered education which leads to student success both during college and after graduation.

Respectfully,



Shannon Gilkey, Ed.D.  
Commissioner of Postsecondary Education

cc: The Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Finance  
Mr. Steven Fleming, Esq. Chief Legal Counsel to the President of the Senate