

**Massachusetts Dredging Program**  
2021 Grant Round  
**Questions and Responses**

**1. Are communities required to use municipal funds for the project match?**

While municipalities are required to provide a 50% non-state match, funds may come from one or multiple non-state sources, as described in Part II.F of the RFP.

**2. What is considered adequate documentation of a project's match?**

Acceptable match documentation may include, but may not be limited to, the documentation described in Part II.F of the RFP.

**3. Is a bond authorization acceptable as a match?**

Yes.

**4. If two municipalities share jurisdiction of a project site, can they split the match?**

Yes. Two municipalities may split or share the required match provided that the sum of all matching funds totals 50% or more of the total project cost. In cases of a split or shared match, match documentation will be required from both municipalities. Please see Part II.F of the RFP for acceptable match documentation. In addition, please see Part II.H of the RFP for contract requirements for joint awards.

**5. Are there file-size restrictions when submitting attachments?**

Yes. The collective size of all uploaded files cannot exceed 25 MB. If you receive a file-size error at the time of submission, please click "Previous" and resubmit the form with fewer attachments. After submission, please contact Nicholas Bulens at 617-788-3620 or [eoheadgrants@mass.gov](mailto:eoheadgrants@mass.gov) for instructions on how to submit your remaining attachments.

**6. Is maintenance dredging eligible?**

Yes.

**7. Can a municipality request funding for construction administration services performed by municipal employees or at least apply the cost of these services to the required match?**

No. Construction administration services performed by municipal employees are not eligible for grant reimbursement, and in-kind contributions are not eligible as matching funds. Please see Part II.F of the RFP for acceptable funding sources.

**8. Is the cost of dredging of private docks or mooring fields eligible for reimbursement through this program?**

No. Dredging of any berth or channel held by a private entity by license and/or by grant is not eligible for funding through this program.

**9. If a private party commits to “piggyback dredging,” can the municipality count the spending by the private party towards the public project’s match?**

No. The cost and spending associated with private piggyback dredging cannot be counted towards the public project’s required match.

**10. Is grant funding expected to continue for the foreseeable future?**

Funding for the Massachusetts Dredging Program is authorized by the 2018 Economic Development Bond Bill (Section 2A of Chapter 228 of the Acts of 2018) and is subject to future annual appropriations.

**11. (A) Can a municipality request funding if it intends to complete the project using a municipally owned dredge, operated by municipal employees? (B) If so, what costs are eligible for reimbursement?**

(A) Yes. Such projects may be submitted.

(B) In these cases, reimbursable expenses may include:

- Construction services performed and invoiced by third-party subcontractors.
- Municipal employee time and salary expenses associated with actual operation of the municipally owned dredge and/or other construction machinery necessary for the disposal of the dredged material.

When applying for a project of this nature, a municipality should incorporate both types of expenses into their total project cost and should submit a breakdown of these expenses as an attachment to their application.

**12. Can a municipality apply in this round if it received a grant last year or previously?**

Yes. All eligible municipalities may submit an application for a new project in any round, regardless of when they last received a grant. However, priority will be given to strong projects from applicants that have never, or not recently, received a grant.

**13. If dredging will occur this spring 2021 and next spring 2022, for which season should the municipality request funding?**

Per Part II.K of the RFP, grant payments will be processed for actual work completed as evidenced by invoices of eligible costs. All work must be completed (1) on or after the execution date of the grant contract *and* (2) within fiscal year 2022 (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022). In the case posed here, the municipality should request funding for work next spring 2022 (FY22).

**14. Is there any state data available on the blue economy?**

The [Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries's \(DMF\) Statistics Program](#) manages data submitted by commercial fishermen and dealers about landings, effort, and economic information related to Massachusetts fisheries. Although much of these data are protected, DMF publications are available here: <https://www.mass.gov/marine-fisheries-publications>. Municipalities could also consult the 2015 State of Our Harbors Report, prepared by the University of Massachusetts at Boston on behalf of the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), available here: <https://archives.lib.state.ma.us/handle/2452/724259>.