



# Massachusetts Dredging Program 2023 Grant Round Info Session Video

Pre-recorded and published at [Youtube.com/@masseohed1708](https://www.youtube.com/@masseohed1708)

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**April 10, 2023**

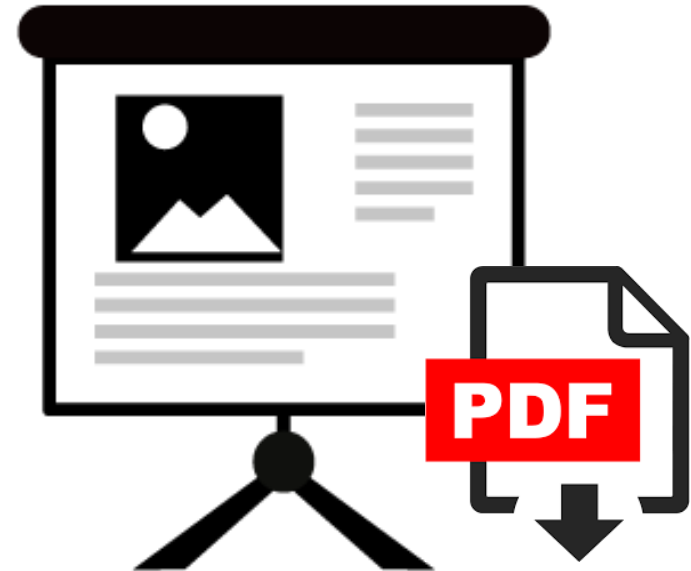
COMMBUYS Bid#  
[BD-23-1100-EED01-EED01-86375](#)



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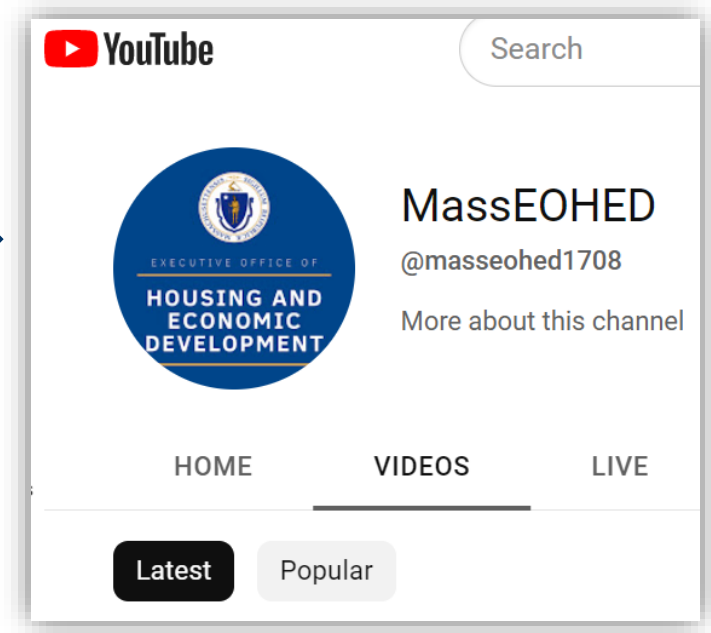
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  - [COMMBUYS](#)
  - [How to Apply » Downloads](#)





# Watch this presentation online!

- Find a pre-recording of this presentation on EOHED's [YouTube channel](#)
- Links to this recording are also available at...
  - [COMMBUYS](#)
  - [How to Apply » More info](#)



# Agenda

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- Overview
- Requirements
- Applying
- Reviews
- Other Resources
- Q&A Instructions



Chatham Aunt Lydia's Cove Dredging Project

Source: Town of Chatham, Photo Credit: Spencer Kennard

# Overview: Background



- Capital grant program that provides focused funding to coastal municipalities for saltwater dredging
- Authorized as a standalone grant program in 2018
- Responds to local dredging needs that strengthen the **Blue Economy**...
  - Fisheries and aquaculture
  - Maritime transportation
  - Coastal recreation and tourism
  - Maritime safety
  - Ecosystem services
  - Climate resilience



New Bedford Inner Harbor Dredging Project

Source: EOHED

## Blue Economy

the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved quality of life, and ecosystem health

# Overview: The Basics



- One-year construction grants for public dredging projects
- Supports all types of saltwater dredging and material disposal methods
- Focus on **shovel-ready** projects that support one or more of the following subsectors of the blue economy...



Hingham Harbor Dredging Project

Source: EOHED



Economic  
Vitality



Vibrant  
Waterfronts



Maritime  
Safety



Ecosystem  
Health





# Overview: Program Impact

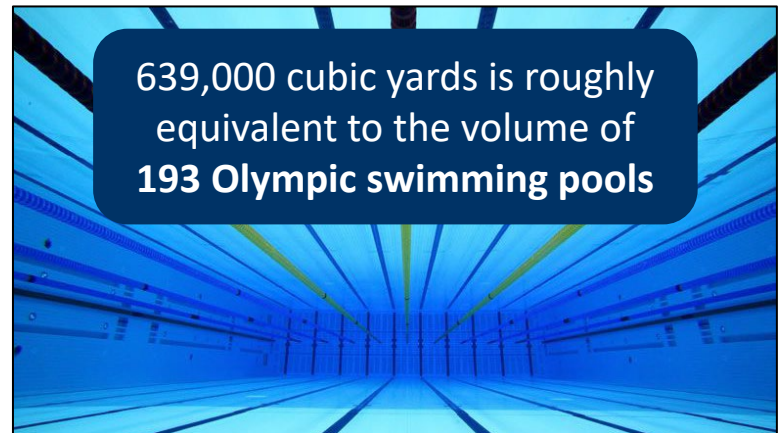


- Since 2019, **over \$19 million** awarded for 28 public projects
- **Over \$25 million leveraged** in matching funds
- **639,000+ cubic yards removed** from public channels and berths
- More than a third of dredged material used to **rebuild public beaches**
- Projects have supported...
  - **900+** commercial vessels
  - **8,000+** moorings and dockage slips
  - **60+** harbor-dependent businesses



Wellfleet Harbor

Source: Port by Port Report, MA Division of Marine Fisheries (2021)



# Overview:

## What's New This Round

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- Permit copies are not required if copies were submitted in a previous grant round and no modifications have been made since their submission
- Stronger guidance is provided to assist applicants
  - **In the application:** more guidance about how to provide complete answers and maximize competitiveness
  - **In the RFP:** an expanded list of state data and informational resources, including resources on fisheries statistics, harbor maps, coast guides, ecosystem services, and more
- Past applicants may notice revised and updated terminology, as well as consolidated questions, especially in Section 6 on Supporting the Blue Economy





# Requirements: Eligibility and Funding



## Who's eligible to apply

- Commonwealth's 78 coastal municipalities
- Limit of one application per municipality

## What's eligible for funding

- Bidding and construction expenses for public dredging and material disposal
- Only **public tidelands** are eligible – dredged areas cannot be privately held, whether by grant, lease, or license
- Pre-construction costs – study, design, etc. – are **not** eligible. Municipalities are encouraged to consult the [Seaport Economic Council](#) grant program for pre-construction assistance.



Tisbury Lake Tashmoo Channel

Source: State of Our Harbors Report, MA DCR (2015)

## How much is available?

- Maximum amount that may be requested is \$2.5 million per municipality
- EOHED reserves the right to make partial awards that are less than requested

# Requirements: Non-State Funding Match



- All projects require a minimum 50% **non-state** funding match
- Multiple non-state sources may be used...
  - Municipal funds or bonds
  - Federal grants
  - Funds directly distributed through the America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
  - Private cash contributions
- Pre-construction spending and in-kind contributions are **not** eligible for match purposes



Truro Pamet Harbor

Source: State of Our Harbors Report, MA DCR (2015)

Although not eligible for match purposes, pre-construction expenses may be considered in the overall assessment, if incurred in the last three (3) fiscal years

# Requirements: Grant Contracting



- Successful applicants will be required to submit...
  - Final permits and drawings
  - Match documentation
- Anticipated start date for grant contracts is July 1st
- **All grant funds must be expended by June 30, 2024**



Barnstable Cotuit Bay Channel Dredging & Dead Neck-Sampson's Island Beach Nourishment Project

Source: YouTube, "Dredging of Cotuit Bay and Sampson's Island Part Two," Drone guy, published 12/29/18. Accessed 02/15/19 at [youtu.be/OVMSNrl-Ylo](https://youtu.be/OVMSNrl-Ylo)

# Requirements: Award Management



- Payments will be disbursed for actual work completed as documented by invoices
- Project deliverables will include...
  - Quarterly progress reports
  - Bid plans and bid registers
  - Construction contracts
  - Construction change orders
  - Post-dredge surveys
  - Project closeout report
- 5% of an award may be held as retainage until project closeout



Barnstable Cotuit Bay Channel Dredging & Dead Neck-Sampson's Island Beach Nourishment Project

Source: YouTube, "Dredging of Cotuit Bay and Sampson's Island Part Three," Drone guy, published 01/01/19. Accessed 02/15/19 at [youtu.be/QHxjHM47phY](https://youtu.be/QHxjHM47phY)

# Applying: Submission Deadline



- Applications must be submitted via EOHED's online platform, [Submittable](#), no later than May 5, 2023, 11:59 PM
- No late submissions will be accepted
- No paper or email submissions will be accepted
- An MS Word copy of the application is available on [COMMBUYS](#). This copy is provided as a reference and preparation resource **only**.



Marshfield-Scituate South River Dredging Project

Source: EOHED

# Applying: Application Components

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1. **Project Summary** – Snapshot of application
2. **Harbor Profile** – Existing harbor development, users, and nearby Environmental Justice (EJ) populations
3. **Project Details** – Project site, need, scope, and shovel readiness
4. **Cost and Funding Sources** – Project cost, match, and funding sources
5. **Supporting the Blue Economy** – Economic activities, public uses, and anticipated benefits in relation to four subsectors of the blue economy:
  - (A) Commercial Fishing and Boating
  - (B) Recreational Boating and Destinations
  - (C) Maritime Safety
  - (D) Ecosystem Services and Health
6. **Preparing for Success** – Plans and capabilities to maintain project outcomes, and any imminent public infrastructure or commercial property improvements that coincide with the project
7. **Certification of Authorization** – No signature required



# Applying: Attachments



## Attachments required for ALL applications...

- **Site Plan** – a scaled map (preferably satellite) that clearly delineates all work areas, including disposal sites
- **Permits and permit modifications** issued to date, including plans. If the applicant submitted all permits in a previous grant round, then only permit modifications are required.



## Conditional attachments required in some cases...

- Joint Applications » statement of collaboration from the joint applicant's CEO
- Section 204 Beneficial Use Projects » feasibility report or federal interest determination report from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
- Imminent Commercial Property Improvements or Private Dredging » statement of commitment from the private property owner

## Optional attachments (reviewed but not evaluated)...

- A reasonable number of graphic documents (maps, figures, photos, etc.) may be submitted
- **No other attachments should be submitted unless requested**

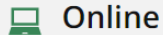


# Applying: Online Application Platform



How to apply

**1** START HERE!



Online

Find Submittable link on  
[How to Apply](#) page



MA Dredging Program 2023 Grant Round

Ends on May 5, 2023

Guidelines ▾

Submit

**2**

Read guidelines,  
then click "Submit"

**3**

If you're a new user, click Sign Up  
For existing users, click Sign In  
Click "Forgot?" to reset your password

Sign Up

Sign In

Welcome!

Create your free Submittable account to get started.

Password

Confirm password

First name

Last name

Sign Up

By signing up you agree to our [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).

## Submittable

EOHED's online grant application platform. Every submitter (municipal employee) must sign up for a personal user account.

**4**

You've started your application! You can save a draft and return at any time.



MA Dredging Program 2023 Grant Round

Ends on May 5, 2023

### About

The MA Dredging Program is a capital grant program that provides funding to coastal municipalities for saltwater dredging. One-year construction grants are competitively awarded with a focus on shovel-ready projects that support the economic vitality, vibrant waterfronts, maritime safety, or ecosystem health of Massachusetts's harbors.

### What you need

All Massachusetts [coastal municipalities](#) are eligible to apply. A minimum 50% non-state match is required for any application to be considered.

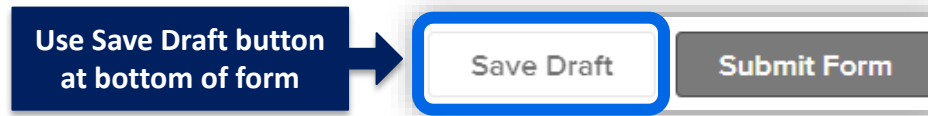
Applicants are required to submit the following:

- Complete application
- Site plans
- Current permits, if not already submitted in a prior round

# Applying: Prepare Then Submit



1. Begin at COMMBUYS, bid# [BD-23-1100-EED01-EED01-86375](#)
2. Download and review the RFP and the reference copy of the application
3. On the program's [How to Apply](#) page, find the link to Submittable, then start your application (see previous slide). **Once started, you can save and return to the form at anytime**



4. Before submitting, gather and save your attachments in a common folder on your computer. Label each attachment based on the **File Naming System in the RFP**.
5. Upload attachments and finalize your application
6. When complete, click Submit!\*

**\*A confirmation email will be sent to the address saved in your user account**

# Applying: Form Fields



Harbors are listed in alphabetical order, first by municipality, then by harbor name

## 2.1 Harbor Name

Select...

- Other or Multiple Harbor(s)
- Amesbury, Merrimack River
- Aquinnah, Menemsha Basin
- Aquinnah, Menemsha Pond
- Barnstable (Village of Barnstable), Barnstable Harbor
- Barnstable (Village of Centerville), Centerville Harbor

Some questions are conditional. They appear only when Yes or No is answered. Read carefully!

Please enter your response below \*

**B** *I* U

Most text boxes allow Rich text editing (B, I, U, etc.)

Most text boxes automatically expand

Tables will auto-calculate

Facility or Infrastructure Type	# publicly owned	# privately owned	Total public + private
Moorings (all)	100	50	150

2.2 Does the project support a Designated Port Area (DPA), as classified by the MA Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM)? (See note below) \*

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please Note: Search CZM's [list of Designated Port Areas](#)

2.2(a) If yes, please select the DPA. \*

Select...

# Applying: Helpful Tips



- Complete all sections to the extent possible. We can't evaluate what's not answered.
- Respond completely to each question. **It's OK to repeat information** if doing so will answer a question completely.
- Carefully read **all text** for guidance on how to respond and what to include in your responses
- Not all statements speak for themselves. Support statements with examples, numbers, and data **when asked or feasible**.



Plymouth Town Wharf

Source: EOHEd

Some applicants find it useful to prepare responses in an MS Word document, then copy and paste

# Reviews: Award Decisions



- Applications will be assessed according to the evaluation criteria and additional considerations specified in the RFP
- Award recommendations are subject to Secretary approval and to ratification by Governor and Lt Governor
- EOHED anticipates providing decision letters in mid-June
- **All applicants will receive a written decision letter**



Chatham Stage Harbor Trap Dock Pier

Source: EOHED

# Reviews: Evaluation Criteria



Reviewers will assess and weigh the following...

- **Harbor Profile**

- Facilities and infrastructure consistent with a developed harbor
  - **Examples:** boat ramps, moorings and slips, fuel docks, marinas, boatyards, etc.
- Land uses consistent with a destination waterfront
  - **Examples:** public beaches, harbor parks or trails, cultural buildings, downtown centers, restaurants, retail shops, etc.
- Proximity and access to the harbor for [Environmental Justice \(EJ\) populations](#)



Annisquam River Federal Navigation Map

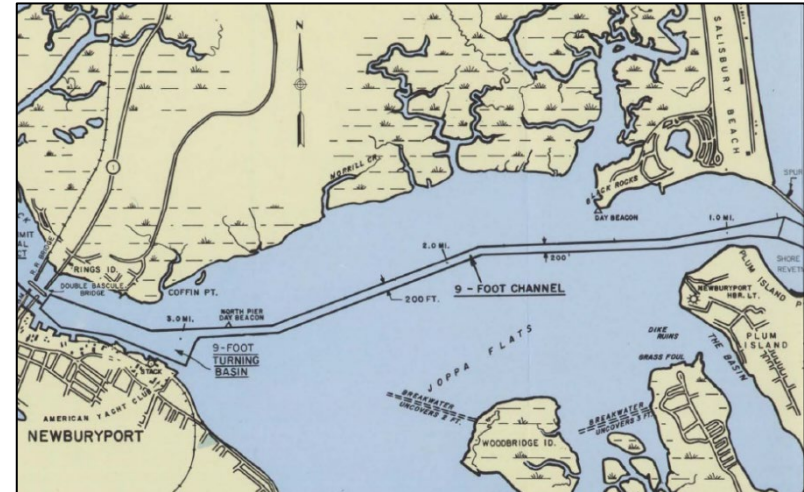
Source: USACE. Accessed 01/29/21 at [nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/Massachusetts-Projects/](http://nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/Massachusetts-Projects/).



# Reviews: Evaluation Criteria



- **Project Details**
  - Project need based on shoaling and impacts to users
  - Feasibility of the project scope
  - Shovel readiness
- **Cost and Funding Sources**
  - Match % committed
  - Status of match funds
  - Pre-construction spending of \$50,000 or more over the last three (3) fiscal years



Newburyport Harbor Federal Navigation Map

Source: USACE. Accessed 03/04/22 at  
[nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/Massachusetts-Projects/](http://nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/Massachusetts-Projects/).



# Reviews: Evaluation Criteria



- **Supporting the Blue Economy**

Support for the blue economy is evaluated using the four subsectors below. While projects that are strong in multiple subsectors will generally be more competitive, projects are not required to excel in all, or any minimum number of subsectors, to be considered.



Commercial Fishing Boat in Chatham  
Source: MA DMF Port by Port Report

## 1. Commercial Fishing and Boating

- Existing commercial fishing, lobstering, or aquaculture/shellfishing
- Existing commercial boating
- New or sustained benefits for the above commercial activities



Ferry Boarding at New Bedford Harbor  
Source: Port of New Bedford @ Facebook

## 2. Recreational Boating and Destinations

- Support of a region-wide boating public, based on public access to boat ramps, parking, and transient boater accommodations
- New or sustained benefits for recreational boating and/or for an active/vibrant waterfront, based on recreational, community, and commercial destinations



Dennis Sesuit Harbor Boat Ramp  
Source: MA DMF Port by Port Report

# Reviews: Evaluation Criteria



## 3. Maritime Safety

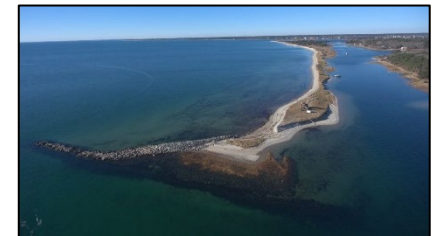
- Actual or imminent risk to boating safety due to shoaling
- New or sustained benefits for emergency responder speed or capabilities



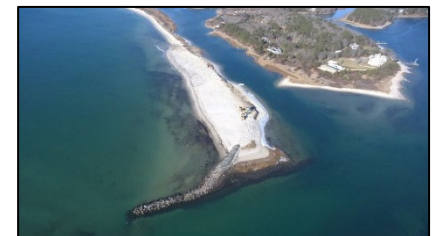
MA Environmental Police (MEP)  
Source: MEP Facebook Page

## 4. Ecosystem Services and Health

- Planned beneficial uses of dredged material
- Protection or restoration of natural coastal ecosystems
  - **Examples:** barrier beaches or islands, nesting habitats, eelgrass, shellfish beds, salt marshes, etc.
- New or sustained ecosystem services benefits (ESB)
  - **Examples:** erosion or flood mitigation, habitat health, water cleansing, sediment stabilization, invasive species control, etc.
- Alignment with the community's [Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness \(MVP\) Planning Report](#)



Barnstable Dead Neck Island, before beach nourishment 2018  
Source: Barnstable Clean Water Coalition



Barnstable Dead Neck Island, after beach nourishment 2019  
Source: Barnstable Clean Water Coalition

# Reviews: Evaluation Criteria



- **Preparing for Success**
  - Planning and capabilities to maintain project outcomes, based on existing permits, local or state-approved plans, and revenue sources
  - Plans for **imminent** public and/or private capital investments in the harbor, including...
    - Improvements to public facilities or infrastructure
    - Dredging projects undertaken by private property owners (“piggyback dredging”)
    - Improvements to commercial properties



Bourne Pocasset River Dredging Project -  
Geotextile Bags Used for Dredged Material Disposal

Source: Barnstable County Dredge

🏆 ACEC/MA 2023 Engineering Excellence & Awards Silver-Award Winner

# Reviews: Additional Considerations

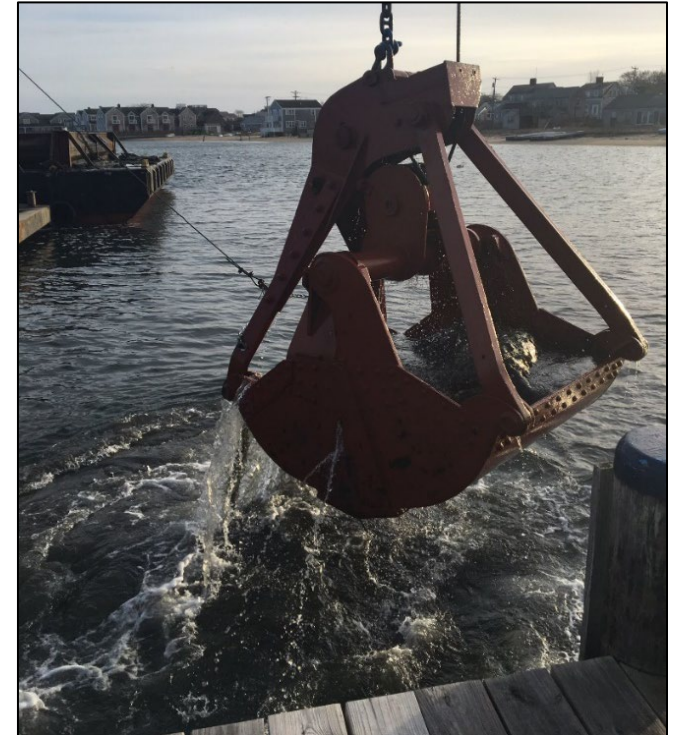


## Additional considerations may include...

- Project urgency
- Funding availability
- Broad and equitable distribution of limited funds

## Factors in these considerations may include...

- Time since last dredging
- Expiration of permits
- Project lifespan
- Need for project phasing
- Time since last award



Nantucket Pier Dredging Project

Source: Twitter @ackharbormaster, published 12/13/19.

Accessed 02/27/20

# Other Resources: Data, Information, and Ideas



- RFP offers links to state data and informational resources, including fisheries and aquaculture statistics, harbor maps, coast guides, ecosystem services benefits (ESB), and more
- Examples include...
  - [Port by Port Profile Report](#)
  - [DMF Annual Report](#)
  - [State of Our Harbors Report](#)
  - [Coast Guide Online](#)
  - [Story Map Tour of the MA Coast](#)
  - [MVP Nature-Based Solutions Toolkit](#)



Plymouth Harbor Boat Ramp

Source: EOHED

Consultation of these resources is **NOT** a requirement or evaluation criterion. These resources are referenced only to assist with preparing application, if desired.



# Other Resources:

## Seaport Economic Council



- Consult the [Seaport Economic Council](#) for potential grant opportunities to support...
  - **Dredging study, design, and permitting!**
  - Municipal Harbor Plans or Designated Port Area Master Plans
  - Design and construction of public infrastructure (boat ramps, docks, piers or wharfs, harbor trails, maritime centers, beach facilities, etc.)
- **20% match required for SEC awards**



Chatham Stage Harbor Dredging Project  
Source: Town of Chatham, Photo Credit: Spencer Kennard

Next SEC grant deadline is  
**May 1, 2023**

Questions? Send email to  
[ellen.cebula@mass.gov](mailto:ellen.cebula@mass.gov)



# Q&A

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- General questions regarding the RFP will be accepted via electronic mail through **April 18, 2023, 11:59 PM**
- Send questions to [eoledgrants@mass.gov](mailto:eoledgrants@mass.gov) with subject line "Dredging RFP"
- EOLED will respond only to general questions and reserves the right not to respond to any or all questions
- Similar questions may be aggregated and answered via a single response
- Answers will be posted on [COMMBUYS](https://www.commbuys.com)
- **Technical support will be available up to 5:00 pm on the application due date**







# Thanks for watching!

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 OFFERED BY [Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development](#)

## Massachusetts Dredging Program

The Massachusetts Dredging Program promotes the strength of the Commonwealth's blue economy through focused funding for saltwater dredging