

Office of Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell



Request for Proposals (RFP)

Eviction Sealing Grant Program

Release Date: November 3, 2025

Response Due Date: December 5, 2025

Project Start Date: February 1, 2026

Project End Date: January 31, 2027

Eviction Sealing Grant Program

Grantor: Office of Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell

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Grant Program Description

The Office of Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell is launching a new grant program to support the implementation of the Commonwealth's new eviction sealing law. Funding will be provided to nonprofit organizations that provide direct legal services to help develop educational materials, conduct targeted outreach to impacted residents and communities, coordinate legal clinics, and support both individuals and families through the eviction sealing process.

Background

Attorney General Campbell is committed to supporting the implementation of the state's new [eviction sealing law](#) which, as part of the landmark Affordable Homes Act signed by Governor Maura Healey, went into effect on May 5, 2025. This legislation offers a critical solution to the enduring impact of eviction for Massachusetts residents and will help expand access to stable housing and economic mobility for all.

An eviction record is a barrier to safe and stable housing that can have a long-term and devastating impact on a family. As soon as an eviction case is filed, a tenant has an eviction record regardless of whether the case was dismissed or filed on unlawful grounds, or whether it occurred many years ago. This legislation protects tenants from being marked with an eviction record by providing a process for tenants to petition the court to seal certain records.

For context, in the thirty-year period from 1988-2018, more than one million eviction cases were filed in Massachusetts.¹ More recently, Massachusetts Housing Partnership data indicates that landlords filed eviction cases against an average of more than 3,000 renters per month in the last three years. Data also suggests that eviction screening policies have a disparate impact on people of color, especially low-income Black women. In Massachusetts, Black renters are, on average, 2.4 times more likely to have an eviction filed against them than white renters, even though they make up only 11% of the renting adult population.² Data also indicates that Black women are more likely to have eviction cases filed against them and subsequently dismissed, which results in an eviction record even when they actually won the case. Lastly, women of color are also vulnerable to eviction because of other forms of discrimination, including discrimination against families with children and domestic violence survivors.³

With the bill's passage, it is critical to ensure that impacted residents receive the support and information they need to take advantage of the rights now afforded to them. This grant

¹ https://www.mlri.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/evicted_for_life_mlri.pdf

² <https://www.aclu.org/news/racial-justice/clearing-the-record-how-eviction-sealing-laws-can-advance-housing-access-for-women-of-color>

³ <https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.2305860120>

program will support community-based partners to develop educational materials, conduct targeted outreach to impacted residents and communities, coordinate legal clinics, and support individuals and families through the eviction sealing process. It is important to note that the initial [data](#) in the first few months since the bill's passage has been promising. Additional resources to accelerate these efforts will help ensure that thousands more families can have their records sealed.

Housing stability is a platform for economic mobility. By limiting the impact of damaging eviction records, this legislation will reduce barriers to renting or buying a home in a community where residents want to live and where they can thrive. The successful implementation of this legislation represents a critical and practical step to expand access to stable housing and promote economic mobility for all Massachusetts residents.

Eligibility

Non-profit organizations that provide direct legal services are eligible to apply. Non-profit organizations that are public charities (generally speaking, public charities have 501(c)(3) status) must be in full compliance with the statutory requirements set forth in G.L. ch. 12, secs. 8E and 8F, and G.L. ch. 68, sec. 19, including initial registration and filing of annual financial reports with the AGO's Non-Profit Organizations/Public Charities Division. Public charities must also comply with obligations and reporting requirements set by the Internal Revenue Service. As of September 2023, the Non-Profit Organizations/Public Charities Division requires all charitable registrations and annual filings to be made through the Charity Portal. Please find more information [here](#).

Funding, Duration, and Anticipated Timeline

This RFP is subject to and contingent upon the availability of funds. Grant awards will be issued in varying amounts up to \$75,000. Applicants may propose indirect rates (administrative rates) of 15% or less. Applicant budgets may or may not be funded in their entirety, or at all. All funding decisions will be at the sole discretion of the Attorney General's Office (AGO). Applicants shall not supplant currently funded activities with grant funds.

Grant funds will be awarded with an anticipated start date of February 1, 2026. The maximum grant period will be 12 months. The AGO will not allow program extensions except for good cause shown. The AGO may deny program extension requests at its sole discretion.

Unexpended funds must be returned to the AGO within 45 days of contract expiration. At its sole discretion, the AGO will require funds spent on ineligible costs to be repaid to the AGO or re-budgeted to an appropriate expense category.

Cash Flow and Disbursement of Grant Funds

Grant disbursement(s) will be sent to grantees by Electronic Funds Transfer, provided that all necessary contract and periodic reporting documents are received by the established deadlines. Grantees will receive the full amount of their award within 45 days of contract execution.

Submission Instructions

- Grant applications with accompanying proposals must be delivered electronically through the AGO's online grant application website by 5:00 P.M. on December 5, 2025.
- Interested applicants may access grant information and application details at the [AGO's Current Grant Opportunities website](#).
- Applications received after the deadline will not be reviewed.
- Applications will not be accepted in any other format.
- New applicants will be asked to create a free online account. Any applicant that has applied for any AGO grant using the [AGO's Grant Applications Portal](#) may log into its existing account. All applicants should confirm their contact information is current on their applicant profiles.
- Once applicants have started an application, the application may be saved and returned to later.
- Confirmation of Receipt: Applicants typically receive an email confirmation within 48 business hours. If a confirmation is not received, please email the AGO Grants Team at AGOGraants@mass.gov.
- If the applicant experiences issues with the [AGO's Grant Applications Portal](#), they should email AGOGraants@mass.gov or call (617) 963-2797 for assistance. The AGO encourages applicants to upload documents in advance of the deadline to avoid last minute submission issues.

Evaluation of Grant Proposals

Program proposals and application components will be evaluated on criteria that include the following:

- Experience providing housing-related legal services, including prior work on eviction sealing.
- Scope and impact of the applicant's proposed programming, including the number of resources developed, the number of clinics held, and the projected number of people whose records will be sealed.
- Demographics and geographic location of the population(s) served by the applicant.
- Applicant's experience with and commitment to providing culturally competent legal services.
- Applicant's approach to outcomes measurement and ability to measure the impact of grant-supported programming.
- Applicant's funding and operational capacity, including partnerships with other providers and current funding sources, to deliver proposed programming.

Priority may be given to organizations with large regional service areas.

At its sole discretion, the AGO may issue Conditions and Recommendations Letters to applicants which set conditions (terms that must be met in order for the proposal to be funded) and recommendations (terms that should be met in order to improve the proposal). An applicant receiving a Conditions and Recommendations Letter must respond in writing to

conditions and recommendations within a time frame determined by the AGO. Conditions and Recommendations Letters will be distributed, and responses reviewed, prior to the finalization of awards. Receipt of a Conditions and Recommendations Letter does not indicate or guarantee that an applicant's grant proposal will be funded.

Questions

Questions regarding this RFP may be submitted to AGOgrants@mass.gov, only until 5:00 P.M. on November 21, 2025. When submitting your question(s), please include Eviction Sealing Grant Program in the email subject line. Questions received and answers provided regarding this RFP will be posted on the [AGO's Grant Applications Portal](#).

Reasonable Accommodation

Applicants who need assistance may seek reasonable accommodation, including receipt of the RFP in an alternative format, by writing to AGOgrants@mass.gov no later than 5:00 P.M. on November 21, 2025.

Expectations and Requirements for Grantees

- Award is contingent upon the applicant satisfactorily completing all necessary documents (see below) by the deadlines established by the AGO.
- Any changes to a grant program or budget at any time during the grant period must be requested in writing by the grantee and must be approved, in advance, by the AGO.
- All funds must be used in a manner consistent with the applicant's grant application and accompanying proposal, which shall both become part of the Scope of Services Agreement.
- Grantees must complete a semi-annual and final report based on their contract term in a format to be provided by the AGO.
- Grantees are required to send at least one representative to a meeting hosted by the AGO during the project period to discuss program progress.
- At its sole discretion, the AGO may require grantees to provide programmatic documentation or financial records related to their grant awards.
- Grant awards may not be transferred (e.g., as the result of a change in fiscal sponsor) without prior approval from the AGO. Decisions made on award transfer are at the sole discretion of the AGO.

Required Commonwealth Contract Documents

The following documents will be required upon any notification of a grant award at a deadline established by the AGO and *should not be submitted with the grant application*:

- Standard Contract Form
- Scope and Services Agreement
- Contractor Authorized Signatory Listing
- Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification (W-9)

- Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Form⁴

No grant funds will be disbursed unless the necessary documents are submitted by the deadlines established by the AGO.

Public records

All submitted responses and information are subject to the Massachusetts Public Records Law, M.G.L. c. 66, § 10, and M.G.L. c. 4, § 7, cl. 26. Applicants should not submit any personal, medical, or other sensitive information.

Equal Opportunity Statement

The consideration of all proposals and subsequent selection of the successful applicant shall be made without regard to race, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, political affiliation, veteran status, or national origin. The Office of the Attorney General encourages applicants from all backgrounds to submit applications.

Updates to this RFP

Any changes/corrections to any part to this RFP will be posted on <https://www.mass.gov/grant-opportunities>. It is the applicant's responsibility to check this web page frequently for any updates.

⁴ It is the responsibility of the applicant/award recipient to ensure that an electronic transfer of funds may be received by the award recipient. No paper checks will be issued.