



# Department of Environmental Protection

Central Regional Office • 8 New Bond Street, Worcester MA 01606 • 508-792-7650

Charles D. Baker  
Governor

Karyn E. Polito  
Lieutenant Governor

Kathleen A. Theoharides  
Secretary

Martin Suuberg  
Commissioner

**Fall FFY 2022 Section 319 Nonpoint Source Competitive Grants Program**  
**October 13, 2021 Request for Responses**  
**Summary of Questions and MassDEP Official Answers: November 18, 2021**

MassDEP held an information session on September 27, 2021 online via Zoom to discuss the upcoming Fall Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) Section 319 Nonpoint Source Competitive Grants Program's upcoming Request for Responses (RFR), which was subsequently posted on October 13, 2021. The purpose of the pre-RFR session was to provide a public opportunity for interested parties to discuss any aspect of the 319 Nonpoint Source Competitive Grants Program, including questions specifically related to the Fall FFY2022 RFR. MassDEP is now posting its official Answers to the four (4) Questions that were specifically raised during the pre-RFR session regarding the Fall FFY2022 RFR, for the benefit of all interested parties.

The Questions and MassDEP's Official Answers are provided here:

Q: How important is the degree of the completeness of a proposed project design (25% vs 50%)?

A: The most competitive proposals will be applications that provide a complete, or nearly complete, project design, to assist the MassDEP grant team with its evaluation and determination as to whether the amount of funding requested in relationship to the design is adequate. Please note conceptual designs can be submitted if complete designs are not available.

Q: The city is looking to purchase land for the use of BMP implementation. Can those funds be used as match for 319?

A: Section 319 grant funding cannot be used to purchase property as part of the awarded project. However, applicants can utilize the value of a recent or proposed property or easement purchase that is specifically required to be utilized for the eligible project work activities as a match, provided that (with respect to any proposed purchase), the property acquisition is under contract.

Q: An applicant is considering three sites. They have two sites that are ready and a third that is associated but not fully vetted yet. Should they use a multiphase approach and include all the sites in one application?

This information is available in alternate format. Contact Michelle Waters-Ekanem, Director of Diversity/Civil Rights at 617-292-5751.

TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370

MassDEP Website: [www.mass.gov/dep](http://www.mass.gov/dep)

Printed on Recycled Paper

A: If the third site will not be available by the deadline for application submission stated in the RFR, MassDEP recommends that the applicant only apply for the 2 sites that are available and then apply for the third site in a future grant opportunity when it becomes available.

Q: If a Watershed-Based Plan (WBP) is created to cover an implementation project would more aspects of the WBP be required to be implemented?

A: With the exception of any implementation project associated with an awarded Section 319 grant included in a required WBP, the MassDEP does not require the applicant to implement any other measures included in a WBP. While these additional measures are encouraged to restore water quality and reduce nonpoint source pollution, these additional measures are not mandatory for implementation purposes. For further information please see *Frequently Asked Questions* 19, 20, 21, 30, 44, and 53.