

Q: Where do we send our completed applications?

A: OGR requires one (1) application packet be submitted electronically to OGR.MRS@mass.gov and one (1) hard copy of the application packet be mailed to our new office: Office of Grants and Research ATTN: Highway Safety Division (MRS Grant) 35 Braintree Hill Office Park, Suite 302 Braintree, MA 02184

Q: Where can we get a copy of the webinar presentation?

A: The presentation is posted on our website - [Municipal Road Safety \(MRS\) Grant Program | Mass.gov](#) – under *Additional Materials*

Q: Can the non-enforcement activity funding be used to train officers on car seat installation?

A: Yes, as long as it is done on overtime.

Q: In 2023, we were allowed to roll over unspent funds from, for example Distracted Driving to Click it or Ticket. Is this still allowed in 2024?

A: Yes, this is still allowed. However, you cannot roll funds over from one element to another (for example: unspent funds from Traffic Enforcement cannot be rolled over to Ped/Bike Enforcement or Non-Enforcement Activities).

Q: Did I understand correctly that equipment requests must be less than 50% of the total grant?

A: No, departments will be allowed to request up to 50% of their budgeted traffic enforcement amount to purchase only the allowable equipment items listed on page 10 in the AGF.

Q: How long do enforcement shifts have to last to qualify for reimbursement under this grant?

A: All enforcement shifts must be a minimum of 2 hours long, and a maximum of 8 hours long. If an officer makes an arrest that causes the overtime shift to go beyond 8 hours, the officer may continue working under the grant as long as there are funds available in the traffic enforcement budget to cover the extended time.

Q: Do we have to conduct a certain amount of overtime hours each campaign?

A: No, each department will have one traffic enforcement budget throughout the whole year to allow for more flexibility. Hours are no longer “use or lose” each campaign period.

Q: Is there a cap on ped and bike safety items? Appendix B only allows for \$1500 in this category.

A: There is no cap. Appendix B was recently updated – the version that is currently on [Municipal Road Safety \(MRS\) Grant Program | Mass.gov](#) allows you to budget for more than \$1,500.

Q: If using a nonprofit for a training for students, is the nonprofit listed under Consultant/Contractor on Appendix B or under Non-Enforcement activities?

A: List the nonprofit under Consultant/Contractor. If there are related costs, like an officer helping the nonprofit deliver the training on overtime, list that officer's projected costs under Non-Enforcement Activities.

Q: Do we need a new Commonwealth standard contract with the application?

A: No. You don't submit that in your application packet. A new contract will be provided in October if you are selected to receive an award.

Q: Do the General Subrecipient Grant Conditions need to be submitted with the application?

A: No – they are just included on the website now as an FYI. They will eventually need to be completed if you are selected to receive an award.

Q: Under #13 on the grant application, for the timeline, if we are applying for non-enforcement activity for training, and we do not know when the training course will be offered, what month should we put it under?

A: Take your best guess.

Q: If an officer goes to ARIDE on his regular covered shift, will you pay for his regular rate? Or pay for the officer who has to cover their shift while in the ARIDE course?

A: Neither. We would not pay for an officer's regular shift; we would only reimburse that officer attending the training on overtime. And this grant does not cover backfill so we would not pay for the officer who would cover the ARIDE officer's shift. Per NHTSA, federal funds can only pay for highway safety specific grant activities, not general services.

Q: Can a mountain bike be purchased to use for traffic enforcement?

A: No

Q: Why do you not provide the opportunity for departments to purchase Vehicle Radars?

A: NHTSA does not allow them. These equipment purchases are intended for specific enforcement campaigns and not for everyday use.

Q: If we have difficulty locating local training such as ARIDE, can different enforcement related training be substituted easily?

A: If you budget to send officers to ARIDE training, but are unable to, then you must submit an email request to OGR and your OGR Program Coordinator must approve it. Your request must explain why the ARIDE training is no longer viable, what training you are proposing to send officers to in its place, and why that training is needed.

Q: Can we conduct TE in the months of Jan through March?

A: No. Jan through March are Pedestrian and Bicyclist enforcement months.

Q: Would painting of crosswalks and crosswalk lights be allowable?

A: No, those both fall under the purview of either your local DPW or Transportation Department or MassDOT.

Q: Just to confirm, the cloud subscription can only be applied to new equipment purchased with this years grant? If we purchased a pole mounted speed radar system with last years grant, we cannot use funds to continue that subscription?

A: Correct

Q: Can the Traffic Enforcement budget be used to pay overtime to dispatchers(civilians) as well as officers. We have seen a need for extra dispatchers in the past to handle the increase in call volume of traffic stops. An extra dispatcher would be paid overtime solely to handle traffic stops during the enforcement period.

A: No. This grant cannot pay OT for dispatchers. Please see pages 7-8 of the AGF which details that the only persons eligible to be reimbursed for traffic enforcement are full-time officers, part-time officers, and auxiliary officers who are devoted solely to enforcement activities.

Q: How does monthly reporting work? Who should I be sending my Monthly Financial Reports to each month?

A: During the contracting process, OGR will:

- Tell you who you will be submitting your reports to each month
- Provide you with a copy of your reporting forms
- Invite you to a webinar to walk you through the reporting process

Q: If we're submitting our application in June, why do we have to wait until November to begin working on the grant?

A: For three reasons. First, OGR needs adequate time to review and score the expected 150-200 applications. Second, NHTSA needs adequate time to review our Highway Safety Plan and our Annual Application. Their approval of our Plan and Application, which is expected in mid-September, allows us to award MRS grants. Third, the contracting process can take several weeks; it involves OGR generating documents and departments completing and returning them. OGR may also require departments to make revisions to their application and/or budget.