

Small, Rural, and Tribal (SmaRT) Drinking Water Assistance Grant Program for Public Water Systems



Drinking Water Program

The **Small, Rural, and Tribal (SmaRT) Drinking Water Assistance Grant Program**, formerly the Small, Underserved, and Disadvantaged Community (SUDC) Grant Program, provides funding to help communities meet Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requirements. Funded by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and administered by MassDEP, this program supports public water system improvements to address long-standing health-based water quality violations not associated with PFAS.

Who Qualifies?

A community qualifies if it meets the following three criteria:



Small: Serves a population under 10,000



Disadvantaged: Meets state affordability criteria based on the Clean Water Trust's definition of a disadvantaged community.



Underserved: The Public Water System violates the EPA's SDWA standards, including maximum contaminant levels, treatment techniques, or action level requirements



Eligible Projects

- **Improve treatment equipment:** Repair or replace treatment equipment to address contamination and improve water quality
- **Upgrade distribution system:** Repair, replace, or expand pipes, valves, pumps, and distribution mains to increase reliability
- **Enhance water storage and sources:** Add or rehabilitate storage tanks to maintain safe water pressure and quality
- **Interconnect and improve water sources:** Connect with nearby systems or develop and rehabilitate existing water sources to improve reliability and compliance



Resources

- [U.S. EPA Small, Rural, and Tribal Drinking Water Assistance Grant Program](#)
- [MassDEP Public Water System Capacity Development Program](#)

For more information about the program, email program.director-dwp@mass.gov with "SmaRT Grant Program" in the subject line