

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

**Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection**

100 CAMBRIDGE STREET  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114

**REQUEST FOR RESPONSES**

**FOURTH AMENDED**

**GAP IV ENERGY GRANT 2025-2026 OPPORTUNITY  
CLEAN ENERGY RESULTS PROGRAM (CERP)**

**Agency Document Numbers:**

COMMBUYS Bid #: BD-26-1045-BPE00-BPE01-120045  
DEP-BPE-NOI/RFR-FY2026-CERP-GAP IV GRANT

**December 9, 2025**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. GRANT OPPORTUNITY .....	3
A. Proposals Sought.....	3
B. Overview and Goals.....	3
C. Eligible Projects .....	4
D. Recommended Project Adders.....	6
E. Eligible Entities.....	8
F. Facility Ownership and Authorization.....	8
G. Application Deadline .....	8
H. Funding Availability .....	8
I. Applicant Cost Share and Other Funding Obligations.....	8
J. Prerequisites of Applying .....	9
K. Required Application Materials To Be Submitted Online.....	9
L. Other Documents Required with Application.....	10
M. Bidders Conference.....	11
N. Total Anticipated Duration of Grant(s).....	11
O. Grant Contract Requirements for Grant Recipients .....	11
P. Applicable Procurement Law .....	13
Q. Compliance with Other Applicable State or Federal Legislative, Regulatory or Policy Requirements .....	13
R. Evaluation Criteria.....	13
2. INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION.....	14
A. Pre-Registrations.....	14
B. Online System Instructions .....	15
C. Submitting Your Grant Application.....	15
3. ESTIMATED PROCUREMENT CALENDAR .....	19
4. APPENDICES .....	20
APPENDIX A: APPLICATION AND FUNDING OVERVIEW.....	20
APPENDIX B: APPLICATION AUTHORIZATION AND CERTIFICATIONS .....	21
APPENDIX C: GAP IV ENERGY GRANT APPLICATION DATA TABLES.....	25
APPENDIX D: ADDITIONAL REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION .....	27
APPENDIX E: GLOSSARY .....	28



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## **Fourth Amended Gap IV Energy Grant 2025-2026 Funding Opportunity**

### **For Implementing Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy Generation Projects in Massachusetts at:**

- **Municipal Drinking Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities,**
- **Nonprofit Agricultural / Food Producing or Distribution Organizations, and**
- **Small Businesses Engaged in Food Distribution and or Processing.**

#### **1. GRANT OPPORTUNITY**

**A. Proposals Sought:** The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (“MassDEP” or the “Department”) seeks proposals from publicly owned drinking water or wastewater facilities, nonprofit agricultural and food producing or distribution organizations, or small businesses engaged in food distribution or processing. Through this Grant Opportunity, the MassDEP Gap IV Energy Grant Program (“Gap Program”) seeks to build on its prior success in providing grants for energy cost savings through energy efficiency upgrades, installation of clean energy systems, and energy storage systems.

**B. Overview and Goals:** Under the leadership of MassDEP, the Clean Energy Results Program (“CERP”) is an integrated energy and environmental partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (“DOER”) and the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (“MassCEC”) that reduces regulatory or other barriers to clean and energy efficient project development across the state. A cornerstone of this partnership has been the development of a

streamlined ["Gap" Energy Grant funding model](#) that has helped municipal water utilities reduce their energy usage, operating costs, and improve the environment. This grant program “fills the funding gap” by leveraging incentives from energy utilities and other funding sources to jump-start energy efficiency and clean energy generation projects.

Through this solicitation, MassDEP is making **five million dollars (\$5,000,000)** in grant funds available from the agency’s Climate Protection and Mitigation Expendable Trust, for drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities (public municipal, district, or authority), a sector regulated by MassDEP and known to be high energy users, who are often financially challenged to address and implement energy saving measures. This grant is also being offered to nonprofit agricultural and food producing **or distribution** organizations, and to small businesses engaged in food distribution ~~and~~ **or** processing, to achieve energy reductions in this sector in communities across Massachusetts. By providing grant funds to nonprofit organizations and small businesses in the food and agricultural sector, MassDEP will support energy projects and cost savings to these organizations that have a positive impact on low income and diverse communities.

For additional information on MassDEP’s Gap IV Energy Grant Program, please review information about the program’s statewide efforts and results at Massachusetts’ drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities, including highlights of past Gap Energy Grants made to specific communities. The interactive website can be found here: [Massachusetts Gap Energy Grant](#).

**C. Eligible Projects:** For the Gap IV Energy Grant solicitation, two categories of projects are eligible for funding: (1) energy efficiency projects; and (2) clean energy projects, including renewable energy generation and/or energy storage projects and microgrid. More information regarding qualifying projects may be found below. Please note that this list is not exhaustive; additional technologies that are not listed below, but that also contribute to energy efficiency, clean energy generation, and decarbonization goals of this program, may be included by the applicant in the grant submission for MassDEP’s review and consideration.

1. Eligible energy efficiency projects include, but are not limited to, the following examples:<sup>1</sup>
  - a. Building envelope treatments (e.g., insulation, air sealing, weatherstripping).
  - b. Heat pumps (e.g., air source, variable refrigerant flow, water source, ground source excluding wastewater energy recovery technologies).<sup>2</sup>
  - c. Variable speed or frequency drives.
  - d. Pump and motor replacements.

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<sup>1</sup> Includes any energy-saving measures that will save kilowatt-hours, therms, or gallons of fuel.

<sup>2</sup> Refer to MassDEP’s [Wastewater Energy Recovery Pilot Program](#) for resources to support these technologies.

- e. High efficiency HVAC and water heating upgrades<sup>3</sup>.
- f. Limited lighting; eligible up to a maximum of 20% adjusted project cost.<sup>4</sup>
- g. Process improvements (e.g., aeration, pumping optimization).
- h. Anti-sweat door heater controls on refrigerated doors.
- i. Installation of compressor/condenser control schemes.
- j. Electrical transformers.

Energy efficiency projects built to standards that exceed building codes and that include multiple energy efficient measures (e.g. combination of spray foam insulation and heat pumps) will also earn additional points in the grant evaluation process as discussed further in the Evaluation Criteria section (see Section R).

Deep Energy Retrofit is a comprehensive approach that significantly improves energy efficiency and reduces energy costs in a building by implementing a combination of energy conservation measures (ECM) together. Deep energy retrofits involve installing measures: such as upgrading roof insulation, adding internal and / or external wall insulation, improving building air sealing, installing high-performance windows and doors, and installing highly efficient electric heat pump heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems and heat pump water systems. For reference, please see [Mass Save® Instant HVAC and Water Heating Incentives](#).

2. Eligible clean energy projects such as renewable energy generation and energy storage projects include but are not limited to the following examples:
  - a. Solar photovoltaic (“PV”) systems.
  - b. In-conduit hydropower.
  - c. Wind power.
  - d. Battery energy storage systems.
  - e. Microgrid systems.
  - f. Combined heat and power (CHP) projects that utilize biogas from anaerobic digestion (AD).
  - g. Solar thermal rooftop collectors for preheating water.
  - h. Water source heat pumps and geothermal systems.

Clean Energy Projects help Eligible Applicants save money by generating on-site renewable power and energy storage options at their facility, while also providing long term revenue through decarbonization. Applicants who propose a solar PV or wind power Clean Energy Project that includes a Battery Energy Storage System

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<sup>3</sup> Please see [Mass Save® Instant HVAC and Water Heating Incentives](#).

<sup>4</sup> LED lighting, sensor and control upgrades must be implemented with other energy-saving measures and will be eligible up to a maximum of 20% of the adjusted project costs (i.e., total lighting cost - energy utility incentive = adjusted project costs).

(BESS) component will also earn additional points in the grant evaluation process as discussed further in the Evaluation Criteria section (see Section R).

**D. Recommended Project Adders:** Participation in the programs listed below are suggested options that, if selected by applicants and included in their Gap Energy Grant applications, offer additional savings and sources of revenue, and will also earn additional points in the grant review team’s evaluation process, as discussed further in the Evaluation Criteria section.

1. **Demand Response Services - provide long-term revenue for facilities through energy management.** By participating in demand response programs, facilities help the electrical grid manage increased demand for power during critical times and, in return, receive financial compensation.

Demand Response is a temporary reduction or shift in a facility’s electricity use by switching to on-site emergency generators, load curtailment (temporarily turning off non-essential equipment) or other means during the hours when the electrical grid experiences peak demand (e.g., hot summer days).

There are two streamlined pathways (summarized below) for Eligible Entities to consider enrolling in for a Demand Response program.

The first Demand Response option for applicants to consider is:

- a. **ENE51: Designated Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) Statewide Contract for Demand Response<sup>5</sup> Services.** The Massachusetts Operational Service Division (OSD) has developed a statewide and streamlined blanket contract for Eligible Entities (For eligibility, please refer to OSD’s Contract User Guide for ENE51 Demand Response at: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/ene51designateddcamm/download>).

Please note: The current statewide contract term for ENE51 expires on September 30, 2025. A new statewide contract for Demand Response Services is expected to be available by or before the contract end date.

This statewide contract enables Eligible Entities to receive financial incentives by engaging an ENE51 approved contractor who will provide the following Demand Response Services. **Please note: Private entities are not eligible to use this pathway.**

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<sup>5</sup> Small Businesses are not eligible for ENE51 Demand Response Services. Small Businesses and other Eligible Entities can check with their local energy provider (e.g. Mass Save®, Municipal Light Plant, etc.) for specific Demand Response program offerings.

- i. Enroll and manage the participation of Eligible Entity facilities in the ISO New England (ISO-NE) Demand Response Program, utility load curtailment programs and Clean Peak programs, as applicable. Provide support services for current and future assets enrolled and to be enrolled by the Commonwealth in the Forward Capacity Market.
- ii. Generator Upgrades: Upgrade, retrofit or replace existing emergency generators in various locations throughout the Commonwealth.

**Note:** Eligible Entities do not incur any upfront cost for assessing the feasibility of their participation in the ENE51 program or for enrolling in the program. The Contractor is responsible for those costs. Please refer to OSD's Contract User Guide for ENE51 Demand Response at:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/ene51designatedddcamm/download>

The second Demand Response option for applicants to consider is:

- a) **Mass Save® Connected Solutions Demand Response Program.** For electric customers served by Mass Save® sponsors (Eversource, National Grid, Unitil, Cape Light Compact), the Connected Solutions program allows enrolled customers to reduce and earn incentives for reducing energy use during times of peak demand and helping to reduce carbon emissions and strain on the electric grid.

<https://www.masssave.com/saving/business-rebates/demand-response-and-storage>

- b) Additional materials and program resources are available through Mass Save® ConnectedSolutions for customers:

<https://www.nationalgridus.com/media/pdfs/bus-ways-to-save/connectedsolutions-ciprogrammaterials.pdf>.

2. **Clean Energy Projects – help Eligible Applicants save money by generating on-site renewable power and energy storage options at their facility, while also providing long term revenue through decarbonization.** Applicants who propose a project that includes a Clean Energy Project component or option will also earn the application additional points in the grant team's evaluation process as discussed further in the Evaluation Criteria section (see Section R).
3. **Renewable energy generation and energy storage projects** at an Eligible Applicant Facility, including solar photovoltaic (PV) systems, in-conduit hydropower, wind power, battery energy storage systems, microgrid systems and Combined Heat and Power Projects that utilize biogas from anaerobic digestion are eligible.

4. **Renewable thermal energy projects**, such as solar thermal rooftop collectors for preheating water, geothermal systems, water-source heat pumps are eligible.

**E. Eligible Entities:** Eligible Applicants for this solicitation include the following listed organizations that own Facilities that are high energy users, and have committed to performing the energy upgrades that are the focus of the Gap IV Energy Grant Program:

1. Publicly owned drinking water facilities (municipal, district or authority);
2. Publicly owned wastewater facilities (municipal, district or authority);
3. Nonprofit agricultural or food producing **or distribution** organizations; or
4. Small businesses that are engaged in food distribution ~~and~~ **or** processing.

**F. Facility Ownership and Authorization:** In order to qualify for grant funding, an Eligible Applicant must own the Facility at which the project will be completed.

**G. Application Deadline:** Applications are due electronically by **5 PM EST on December 16, 2025**

**H. Funding Availability:** The total funding for the Gap IV Energy Grant Program is \$5 million. The maximum amount of funds available for any individual grantee is \$350,000, and the minimum amount is \$75,000. MassDEP will accept applications in two funding categories, as follows:

1. one funding track for smaller projects, with total project costs between \$75,000 - \$200,000;
2. one funding track for larger projects with total project costs greater than \$200,000.

Gap Energy Grant applications will be reviewed, and awards will be made, based on total estimated project costs, and energy and greenhouse gas emissions savings within the specific funding category. If at the end of the grant award process there are funds that remain unallocated, at the sole discretion of MassDEP's grant team, additional projects may be funded or previously selected projects within this round may receive additional funding.

In its discretion, MassDEP reserves the right to award funding of greater or lesser amounts than specified in this section, depending upon the quantity and the quality of the applications received. Contingent upon the availability of future funding, MassDEP reserves the right to increase the total funding available for the Gap IV Energy Grant Program.

**I. Applicant Cost Share and Other Funding Obligations:** Applicants planning to use incentives provided by energy utility providers (e.g., Mass Save®, Municipal Light Plants, SMART, Solar Agreements, etc.) or other revenue streams, such as planned Demand Response services and anticipated energy cost savings from clean renewable generation projects, must list them in their application, and include supporting documentation. This will



enable MassDEP to evaluate and quantify any associated economic and emission reduction benefits generated by a proposed project that will directly benefit the Eligible Applicant's facility or facilities, as well as the surrounding communities.

The required applicant cost share contribution is a minimum of 10% of the total adjusted project costs (total project costs - less incentives - less other grants = adjusted project costs x 10% minimum applicant cost share). The required 10% cost share contributed by the Eligible Entity may include donor funds and other contributions but may not include other grants or Mass Save® incentives. Applicant cost shares greater than the 10% required minimum will be beneficial and will receive additional points in MassDEP's evaluation criteria for all submitted projects. Please note that all grant awards will be paid on a reimbursement basis only.

**J. Prerequisites of Applying:** As noted in more detail in this document, the Gap IV Energy Grant Program is available to the following groups that meet these qualifications:

1. Eligibility – “Eligible Applicants” as defined through this Gap IV Energy Grant Program document.
2. Eligible Applicants have the legal right/capability to authorize and implement energy efficient upgrades to their “Facility” as defined in the Glossary and in Section G above.
3. Eligible Applicants have completed the following actions as of the deadline for applying for a Gap IV Energy Grant through this Program:
  - a. Obtained an energy efficiency assessment/audit or feasibility study, no older than two (2) years for the Facility that identifies energy-saving project types, total estimated project costs, and estimated annual energy saving amounts.
  - b. Identified upgrade opportunities to the Facility in accordance with the audit recommendations and identified or secured funding sources, including utility incentives, to perform the upgrade.
  - c. Identified and quantified the “Gap” in funding that is the focus of the Gap IV Energy Grant Program.

**K. Required Application Materials To Be Submitted Online:**

Each of the following items **must** be included for your application to be considered complete. If any required materials are missing, your application will not be considered complete and will not be considered for Gap IV Energy Grant funding.

☐ Project Narrative – up to two pages describing the project(s). Please describe the added community, social, energy and environmental benefits as well as project location information within or serving Disadvantaged Communities of your planned energy and cost-saving project(s). **Please also describe your organization and project team's ability and prior**

experience to manage this grant, meet deadlines and communicate effectively between team members and with MassDEP.

☐ Applicant Information and Funding Overview (Appendix A).

☐ Signed Certification of Application and Financing Certification and Small Business and Nonprofit Attestation Forms (Appendix B).

☐ Grant Application Data Table (Appendix C; Includes Applicant's 10% Cost Share).

☐ Completed energy assessments (not older than 2 years) or studies describing the proposed efficiency, clean energy generation, and demand response project(s), including estimated energy savings / energy generation and estimated costs.

☐ Documentation of Financing – Supporting documentation of other sources of funding from grants or incentive programs indicating that the proposed clean energy project(s) are funded / secured or are eligible (and the organization has applied) for a grant or incentive. Documentation could be notification of a grant award, a notice of receipt of a grant application or other communication from the funding source. [Note that this information will be summarized in the Grant Application Data Table (Appendix C) as well.]

**L. Other Documents Required with Application:** Identified energy efficiency or clean energy project measures must be quantified and documented by a previously completed energy assessment, energy audit or technical evaluation. This documentation must include the estimated total project costs and an estimate for potential annual energy savings or generation (expressed in kilowatt hours (kWh), therms, gallons etc.), and annual monetary cost savings. **No awards will be made to complete energy assessments, technical evaluations, or feasibility studies.** The engineering and design costs required to implement eligible projects can be included in the total project cost.

This documentation must be submitted online with all other required application materials. Examples of required documentation include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. energy assessment for installing efficiency measures;
2. technical study examining energy savings from optimizing your pumping, refrigeration, blower, compressor systems etc.;
3. an energy efficiency audit of your building and facilities (not older than 2 years);
4. a feasibility study indicating potential for renewable energy generation;
5. electric and gas utility's financial incentives/contributions;
6. Green Communities grants;
7. MA SMART solar incentives;
8. Demand Response plan and anticipated revenues; or

9. other secured/or planned sources of funding and grants.

**M. Bidders Conference:** Two Bidders' Informational Conferences using Zoom will be held on the following dates:

To attend either the **August 20<sup>th</sup> or September 9<sup>th</sup>** Bidder's conferences at 10 a.m., please register on the [Gap Grant webpage](#) of the MassDEP website.

Please note: Any applicant, regardless of industry, may attend either bidder's conference.

**N. Total Anticipated Duration of Grant(s):** The contract duration will be up to two (2) years from the date of full contract. Applicants should only propose projects whose scope and timelines can be completed within two (2) years from the effective date of full grant contract execution.

MassDEP reserves the right, upon receipt of a written request from a grantee, to renew and/or extend the grant contract duration from the initial expiration date of the contract. All such requests will be evaluated by MassDEP on a case-by-case basis. All such requests should be submitted in writing and are not effective until the full execution of a formal amendment to the grant contract. All requests must be received by MassDEP no later than 90 days prior to the expiration of the initial contract term. Contract amendments facilitating extensions and/or renewals must be fully executed by the parties prior to the expiration date of the initial contract.

**O. Grant Contract Requirements for Grant Recipients:** If an applicant receives funding through this Gap Energy Grant Program opportunity, it must agree to the following requirements. Failure to meet any of these requirements may jeopardize a Gap Grant award.

1. If selected for a grant award, all applicants must execute the following forms with MassDEP to receive funding:
  - a. MassDEP Grant Agreement.
  - b. [Commonwealth Standard Contract Form](#).
  - c. [Commonwealth Terms and Conditions](#) (this is incorporated by reference into the Standard Contract Form).
  - d. W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification ([W-9 Form](#))
  - e. [Contractor Authorized Signatory Listing](#) (CASL) Form.
  - f. Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Authorization Agreement.
2. Grant awards will be distributed on a reimbursement-basis only. Reimbursable expenses may be incurred only after full execution of the grant contract for activities or expenses incurred during the term of the contract.

3. All grantees must file quarterly progress reports on the project regarding their progress towards meeting their stated project milestones and/or deliverables. A schedule will be provided for quarterly report submission for all grantees to follow. At the end of a project, all grantees are required to submit a final report to MassDEP, summarizing project completion which must include a project fact sheet that will be made publicly available by MassDEP.
4. All grantees are required to develop an educational and outreach component to the project, which may include educational brochures or fliers, including one-page descriptive project summaries, web-based materials, or tours and presentations of the completed project.
5. All grantees must submit one preceding year of monthly energy usage information as an energy baseline to MassDEP prior to the initiation and implementation of the approved Gap Energy Grant project(s).
6. Nonprofit and Small Businesses grantees only must track and verify the total cumulative energy and cost savings for at least three (3) years following the completion of the funded project(s). Nonprofit and small business grantees are required to share this information with MassDEP, or any entity MassDEP designates or contracts with, to perform a cost benefit analysis. (Note: MassDEP is currently exploring software options to facilitate the tracking and verification of energy and cost savings for grantees to utilize to fulfill this requirement; MassDEP will provide grantees with additional information in the event that a specific and feasible software program is identified for this function.)
7. Publicly owned Drinking Water or Wastewater grantees only must select a staff member to become authorized to use DOER's MassEnergyInsight (<https://www.massenergyinsight.net/home>) a web-based, no-cost energy tracking tool for municipalities. (Note: Municipalities who already have a staff member authorized to use MassEnergyInsight should note this information within their application.) All grantees in these categories will be required to verify and/or complete MassEnergyInsight accounts for the facility within six (6) months of the grant contract and commit to ensuring MassEnergyInsight facility data is accurate and complete for three (3) years following completion of the funded project(s).
8. For installation of all eligible renewable energy technologies, registration at <https://www.masscec.com/register-my-system> and reporting to the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center Production Tracking System (PTS) <https://www.masscec-pts.com/#/home> or reporting to the [SMART Program](#) as required.

**P. Applicable Procurement Law:** MGL c. 7A, §7; St. 1986 c. 206, § 17; 815 CMR 2.00 (Grants).

**Q. Compliance with Other Applicable State or Federal Legislative, Regulatory or Policy Requirements:** All potential applicants are advised that through submission of an application, the applicant agrees to be responsible for compliance with all federal, state, or local permitting, regulatory, policy, or other requirements in the event of a successful application.

**R. Evaluation Criteria**

1. **Evaluation Criteria (general):** A MassDEP grant review committee will evaluate proposed projects based upon the criteria listed below. The grant review committee reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.
2. **Evaluation Criteria Components:** The MassDEP review committee will evaluate and score the grant applications from Eligible Entities (as defined in Section E of this Grant Opportunity) based upon the following criteria. The points indicated are the maximum points available for each criterion:
  - a. **Cost-Effectiveness of MassDEP's Gap IV Energy Grant Project (25 points)**  
(The cost-effectiveness formula (simple payback in years) = the Applicant's Gap Grant Funded Requested Amount (\$) / Estimated Annual Energy Cost Savings Amount (\$))
  - b. **Project's Total Estimated Annual Energy Savings and / or Renewable Power Generation in kilowatt-hours (25 points)**
  - c. **Location / Disadvantaged Communities.** Project location within or serving disadvantaged communities of all backgrounds will receive a score based on the economic characteristics of the community as illustrated on the [EEA Environmental Justice Map Viewer](#)<sup>6</sup>. **(15 points)**
  - d. **Percentage (%) of Energy Utility Incentives and Other Grant Contributions Secured for the Project. (5 points)** (e.g., Energy Utilities include Mass Save® and Municipal Light Plant (MLP) incentives, MassCEC, DOER, MDAR, USDA grant funding etc.)
  - e. **Proposal Implementing a combination of solar or wind Clean Energy Project with a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (10 points)**
  - f. **Proposal Implementing Deep Energy Retrofit measures<sup>7</sup> (5 points)**  
(e.g., Combination of spray foam insulation and heat pumps).

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<sup>6</sup> The Environmental Justice Map Viewer is used to obtain economic data about the relevant municipality in which the applicant's project is located and / or serves.

<sup>7</sup> Deep Energy Retrofits address improvements to multiple building systems and components that result in large energy reductions.

- g. Participation in an Active Demand Response plan / program (optional)<sup>8</sup> **(5 points)**  
(e.g., Developing and implementing a plan to temporarily shut down some equipment to curtail energy load at a facility during peak times)
- h. Additional Applicant Cost Share Contribution: Contributions greater than the required 10% **(5 points)**
- i. Capacity or demonstrated managerial grant competence **(5 points)**<sup>9</sup>

## 2. INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Applicants must submit a complete online application (instructions below) that includes all the required supporting materials; agree to the program conditions; and meet the eligibility requirements to be considered for a grant award.

### A. Pre-Registrations:

~~Prior to Grant Submission, Pre-Register to use the Online Grant Application System (iMeet), hosted by Mass DOER. This will enable MassDEP to pre-set the Online System to accept your Gap IV grant application.~~

~~Please Note: If the primary grant contact has previously registered and applied for either a MassDEP Gap energy grant or a Mass DOER Green Community grant to use the Online Grant Application System (iMeet), pre-registration is not required again. The primary grant contact can use their existing (iMeet) username and password for our Gap IV online grant application.~~

**No paper submissions will be accepted for the grant application.**

**To pre-register:** please complete the [registration form](#) on the [Gap Energy Grant webpage](#), and provide the following information:

- entity name.
- type of governance (municipal, district, authority, nonprofit, private),
- legal address including zip code,
- primary contact name, title, email and phone number. (The primary contact will receive an email invitation to the online application system and will be required to create a user profile.)

When applying MassDEP advises:

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<sup>8</sup> By participating in demand response programs, facilities help the electrical grid manage increased demand for power during critical times and, in return, receive financial compensation for participation.

<sup>9</sup> This criterion will be evaluated based on the information provided in the Project Narrative and prior Gap Grant, other MassDEP and MDAR grant performance, if applicable.

- Using a high speed (broadband) Internet connection if possible.
- Gathering and preparing all your electronic materials in advance before beginning the submission process.
- Naming your electronic files with your entity name followed by wording that makes the content of the file clear in preparation for uploading the files. **This is REQUIRED.**

## **B. Online System Instructions**

- **PLEASE NOTE:** All application materials must be submitted at the same time. You cannot return to a partially completed form to add or correct information. If you log out without using the <Submit> button, nothing will be saved in the system.
- To practice using the online application, do not use the <Submit> button. When you use the <Submit> button the information on the form, along with uploaded files will be saved to DOER's system. If you log out and return to the system, the form will be blank, but the system will have saved your files and information.

**Please only submit a completed application once. If you do not see your entity's name on the drop-down pick list, made a mistake, forgot something, or need technical help with the Online Application Process, please contact Jane Pfister [jane.pfister@mass.gov](mailto:jane.pfister@mass.gov).**

## **C. Submitting Your Grant Application**

1. Fill out the online grant application form completely. You will need to upload multiple files using the form.

**Don't use Enter key after typing in a cell, or the form will submit prematurely.**


Please Fill Out All Relevant Fields--Submission Deadline September 18, 2025

Contact Name

Contact Title

Email

Phone

Entity Name  

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Total Project Cost \$

Expected Energy Cost Savings \$

Funding (Utility Incentives) \$

Funding (Other Sources) \$


Funding Sources (check all that apply)

☐ MA/CEC  
☐ MLP  
☐ MDAR  
☐ Direct Contribution  
☐ Other

☐ Mass Save  
☐ USDA  
☐ Green Communities  
☐ Secured Financing

Funding (Applicant Cost Share) \$

GAP Funding Requested \$


Funding Level GAP IV  

Expected Completion Date

None


2. Using the Upload fields (green lines will be at the bottom of the form), click in a blank white space or on a grey <Choose File> button.



	<a href="#">Choose File</a>	No file chosen	(100MB Max)
<b>Project Narrative Upload</b>	<a href="#">Choose File</a>	No file chosen	(100MB Max)
Description:	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Appendix A Upload</b>	<a href="#">Choose File</a>	No file chosen	(100MB Max)
Description:	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Appendix B Upload</b>	<a href="#">Choose File</a>	No file chosen	(100MB max)
Description:	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Appendix C Upload</b>	<a href="#">Choose File</a>	No file chosen	(100MB max)
Description:	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Energy Assessment/Study</b>	<a href="#">Choose File</a>	No file chosen	(100MB max)
Description:	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Other Supporting Upload</b>	<a href="#">Choose File</a>	No file chosen	(100MB max)
Description:	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Other Supporting Upload</b>	<a href="#">Choose File</a>	No file chosen	(100MB max)
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<b>Other Supporting Upload</b>	<a href="#">Choose File</a>	No file chosen	(100MB max)
Description:	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Other Supporting Upload</b>	<a href="#">Choose File</a>	No file chosen	(100MB max)
Description:	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Other Supporting Upload</b>	<a href="#">Choose File</a>	No file chosen	(100MB max)
Description:	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Other Supporting Upload</b>	<a href="#">Choose File</a>	No file chosen	(100MB max)
Description:	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Date-Time</b>	<input type="text"/> 		
<a href="#">None</a>			
<input type="button" value="Submit"/>			

Navigate to and select the file on your computer, then double click on it or choose open in the dialog box. The file's path on your computer will show in the blank white space. Be sure to upload each of these required files:

3. Project Narrative – up to two pages describing the project(s). Please include the added community, social, energy and environmental justice benefits as well as project location information within or serving Disadvantaged Communities of your planned energy from your planned energy and cost-saving project(s). **Please also describe your organization and team’s ability and prior experience to manage this grant, meet deadlines and to communicate effectively between team members and with MassDEP.**
4. Applicant Information and Funding Overview (Appendix A)
  - (e.g., File Name – EntityName AppA.doc)

5. Signed Certification of Application (Appendix B)
  - (e.g., File Name – EntityName\_AppB.pdf)
6. Grant Application Data Table (Appendix C)
  - (e.g., File Name – EntityName\_AppC.xls)
7. Complete studies, not extracted pages, for the proposed clean energy projects
  - (e.g., File Name – EntityName\_VFD\_EnergyServices.pdf)
8. Other supporting documentation from other grant or incentive partners such as a grant award notice or notice of receipt of application or a communication indicating that the proposed clean energy project(s) are likely to be eligible for a grant or incentive.
  - (e.g., File Name – Entity Name\_MassSave\_inc\_email.pdf)
9. Review the form and each upload confirmation line carefully to make sure everything is complete. Use the calendar icon below the upload lines to select  the date-time, and then click on the <Submit> button.

After you have clicked the <Submit> button, you will be redirected to a confirmation page that says your application has been submitted. Shortly thereafter you will receive an email from Jane Pfister at DOER confirming receipt of your grant application and the number of files uploaded.

3. ESTIMATED PROCUREMENT CALENDAR	DATE	TIME
<u>Notice of Grant Opportunity (posted on COMMBUYS and MassDEP website)</u>	August 15, 2025	
<u>Grant Release Date (posting date) on MassDEP website</u>	August 15, 2025	
<u>Bidders' Informational Conference (via Zoom)</u> To obtain dial-in information or the Zoom link for either session, please register on the Gap Grant webpage on MassDEP/s Website.  <b><u>Please note:</u></b> Interested applicants may attend either session, both informational sessions will be recorded.	August 20, 2025/ September 9, 2025	10:00 A.M.
<u>Deadline for Submission of Questions to MassDEP, either at Bidders' Conference or prior to deadline, via email to: <a href="mailto:danah.tench@mass.gov">danah.tench@mass.gov</a></u>	August 21, 2025/ September 10, 2025	5:00 P.M.
<u>Official Answers for Q&amp;A/Amendments published on MassDEP website</u>	August 25, 2025 / <b>September 16, 2025</b>	5:00 P.M.
<b><u>GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE</u></b>		
<u>Drinking Water and Wastewater Facilities</u> <u>Nonprofit and Small Businesses</u>	<b>December 16, 2025</b>	5:00 P.M.
<u>Notification of Grant Award(s) (Estimated) (POSTED ON COMMBUYS AND MASSDEP WEBSITE)</u>	<b>January 16, 2025</b>	
<u>Estimated Contract Start Date</u> <b>*Actual contract dates may vary for individual grant awards.</b>	*January 30, 2026	

## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX A: APPLICATION AND FUNDING OVERVIEW

#### APPLICANT INFORMATION

Legal Name of Entity	Type of Governance: (Municipal, District, Authority, Nonprofit, Private)
Entity Function: (Water, Wastewater, Agriculture, Food, Beverage)	List of Municipalities, Communities, or Areas Served
Organizational Mission: (Provide brief statement)	
Contact Name	Contact Title
Email Address	Telephone
Electric Utility	Gas Utility (if none, state heating fuel or source)

#### FUNDING OVERVIEW

Total Project Cost	Total Annual Expected Energy Cost Savings	Total Other Funding Sources (Mass Save <sup>®</sup> , MLP, MassCEC, DOER USDA, Other Grants etc.) <sup>10</sup>	Total Funding From Applicant (including financing) <sup>11</sup>	Gap Grant Funding Requested
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

<sup>10</sup> The total of all funding sources not contributed by the applicant or requested in this application includes utility incentives from electric/gas utility through Mass Save<sup>®</sup> programs for efficiency projects, funding from a Municipal Light Plant (MLP), the Mass Clean Energy Center (CEC) for renewable projects, any U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) or Rural Water Association funds, other grants (federal, state, donor), etc. Individual amounts should be detailed in the Grant Application Data Table (Appendix C) in Excel form.

<sup>11</sup> Total funding from the applicant must be at least 10% of the total adjusted project costs (total project costs – incentives – other grants = adjusted project costs x 10% minimum cost share).

## APPENDIX B: APPLICATION AUTHORIZATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

### ***MUST BE PROVIDED WITH SCANNED SIGNATURES (pdf)*** **CERTIFICATION OF APPLICATION**

I hereby confirm that I am duly authorized to submit this application on behalf of [Insert name of Eligible Entity] \_\_\_\_\_ (Applicant) and that all information contained in this application to the Gap IV Funding for Clean Energy Projects at the relevant facilities or buildings is true and accurate.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title** \_\_\_\_\_

**OWNERSHIP CERTIFICATION:** I hereby confirm that I am duly authorized to implement these energy efficiency and/or clean energy upgrades to this building on behalf of [Insert name of Eligible Entity] \_\_\_\_\_ (Applicant) and that the Applicant is the legal owner of this Facility. For non-municipal applicants, ownership must be documented with property Deed. All information contained in this application to the Gap IV Energy Grant Program for Clean Energy Projects at the relevant facilities is true and accurate.

**TAX CERTIFICATION (For Non-Public Entities Only):** The Applicant (Insert name \_\_\_\_\_) certifies under the pains and penalties of perjury: (1) tax compliance with federal tax laws; (2) tax compliance with state tax laws including, but not limited to, M.G.L. c. 62C, § 49A, reporting of employees and contractors, withholding and remitting of tax withholdings and child support; and (3) Applicant is in good standing with respect to all state taxes and returns due, reporting of employees and contractors under M.G.L. c. 62E, withholding and remitting child support including M.G.L. c. 119A, § 12, TIR 05-11, New Independent Contractor Provisions and applicable TIRs.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title** \_\_\_\_\_

**FINANCING CERTIFICATION** *Applicants that intend to secure financing to implement the energy projects described in this application must also complete this certification:*

I hereby confirm that the [Eligible Entity] (Applicant) is duly authorized to apply for financing for the facility located at \_\_\_\_\_, and that if selected for a grant award the Applicant will seek financing for the project as described in Appendix C.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title** \_\_\_\_\_

**COST SHARE CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the [Eligible Entity] (Applicant) for Gap IV Funding for clean energy projects at [Insert facility/nonprofit or business name]  
\_\_\_\_\_, will satisfy the grant requirement to provide the required minimum cost share contribution of 10% of the total adjusted project costs, as described in Appendix C.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title** \_\_\_\_\_



## Small Business Eligibility Attestation Form

**Instructions:** Complete the Small Business Eligibility Attestation Form. Electronically complete and sign the Attestation Form and scan or compile it together with all required documentation **as one single PDF File. Upload the single PDF file with your application.**

### Eligibility Criteria and Documentation Requirements

**Program Criterion 1: The business is located in Massachusetts.**

☐ Confirm by clicking the check box

**Program Criterion 2: The business has been operating for at least three years.**

☐ Yes ☐ No

**Program Criterion 3:** To demonstrate your business' eligibility for these requirements, provide the following.

☐ **LLC, LP, or Corporation** – a copy of your most recent Massachusetts annual report (can be downloaded from the [Secretary of the Commonwealth Corporations Division webpage](#)).

**Program Criterion 4: Your business has a gross revenue of \$15 million or less, as reported on the appropriate Massachusetts Department of Revenue tax forms, based on a three-year average.**

To demonstrate your business' eligibility for this requirement, provide one of the following. *(Please check the documents you are providing and complete the table below):*

☐ **The business has been operating for three or more years** – a copy of the cover page and the pages that contains your firm's gross revenue from the tax forms filed by your business in the last three years.

☐ **The business has been operating for less than three years** – copies of the cover page and the pages that contain your firm's gross revenue from the tax forms filed by your business for the number of years your company has been in business.

I have provided the following state tax forms as evidence of meeting Program Criterion 4:	State Tax Form #	Most Recent Tax Year(s)	Gross Revenue for this Year
			\$
			\$
			\$

By signing below, I hereby swear under the pains and penalties of perjury that my business meets the eligibility criteria as set forth in this grant opportunity and that all documents provided in support of my eligibility are true copies of originals on file with my company.

Signature

---

Date

---



**AMENDED**

**Non-Profit Eligibility Attestation Form**

**Instructions:** Complete the Non-Profit Eligibility Attestation Form. Electronically complete and sign the Attestation Form and scan it together with all required documentation as **one single PDF File. Upload the single PDF along with your application.** Your non-profit attestation will be validated based on your filing(s) with the [Non-Profit Organizations/Public Charities Division of the Attorney General's Office](#)

**Eligibility Criteria and Documentation Requirements**

I hereby attest that the Applicant non-profit organization listed on this form meets the following criteria.

**Program Criterion 1: The organization's principal place of business is in Massachusetts.**

**Program Criterion 2: The organization has been in business for at least three years.**

To demonstrate your business's eligibility for these two requirements (1 and 2), provide the following.

- ☐ **Proof of your organization's IRS 501 (c)(3) or (c)(4) designation.**

**Program Criterion 3: The non-profit confirmation provided from your organization's most recent Public Charities filing with the Attorney General's Office's Non-Profits & Charities Office.**

To demonstrate your organization's eligibility for this requirement, attach the following.

- ☐ **The organization's most recent Certificate of Solicitation** (in lieu of the Certificate, a Letter of Good Standing issued by the Attorney General's Office's Non-Profits & Charities will be accepted).
- ☐ **The organization's most recent nonprofit's audited financial statement filed with the Attorney General's Office of Non-Profits & Charities.**

**Program Criterion 4: Your organization has net assets (exclusive of real property) as reported on its Federal Form 990 or 990 EZ filed with the Massachusetts Department of Revenue of \$5 million or less based on a three year average.**

- ☐ The organization's net assets of \$5 million or less.
- ☐ Please provide either a Federal Form 990 or Federal Form 990 EZ.

By signing below, I hereby swear under the pains and penalties of perjury that my business meets the eligibility criteria as set forth in this grant opportunity and that all documents provided in support of my eligibility are true copies of originals on file with my company.

Signature

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Date

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## APPENDIX C: GAP IV ENERGY GRANT APPLICATION DATA TABLES

APPENDIX C: GAP IV GRANT APPLICATION DATA TABLE.xls														
Wastewater and Drinking Water <b>Sample:</b> Please fill in based on your project parameters														
Building Name / Location	Project Name	Estimated Project Completion Date	Projected Annual Electricity Savings or Renewable Energy Generation (kWh)	Projected Annual Natural Gas Savings (therms)	Projected Annual Cost Savings (\$)	Total Estimated Project Costs (\$) (Column A)	Energy Utility Incentives (\$)	Other Grant / Contributions (\$)	Total Incentives and Other Grants (Column B)	Total Adjusted Project Costs (Column A - Column B)	Entity Cost Share (%) Minimum 10% <sup>[1]</sup>	Gap Grant Funding Request (\$)	Other Revenues (SMART, RECs, Demand Response, Solar Agreement)	Audit or Technical Study Reference / Notes
Wastewater Treatment Plant	75 kW Solar PV System	Jul-26	90,000	0	\$ 30,000	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 135,000	\$ 15,000	Solar Assessment / Agreement & SMART Incentive
Drinking Water Pump Station	VFD Install	Dec-25	80,000	0	\$ 20,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 14,000	\$ -	\$ 14,000	\$ 16,000	\$ 1,600	\$ 14,400		Energy Audit
Wastewater Pumping Station	Pump, Motor, and VFD Install	Nov-25	118,000	0	\$ 17,000	\$ 46,000	\$ 26,000	\$ -	\$ 26,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 18,000		Energy Audit
Drinking Water PRV Station	In-Line Hydropower Turbine (10 kW)	Feb-26	75,000	0	\$ 15,000	\$ 43,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 33,000	\$ 3,300	\$ 29,700	\$ 1,000	Energy Audit & Demand Response Revenue
<b>Wastewater or Drinking Water Name</b>	<b>Renewables &amp; Energy Efficiency</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>363,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$ 82,000</b>	<b>\$ 269,000</b>	<b>\$ 40,000</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>	<b>\$ 50,000</b>	<b>\$ 219,000 100%</b>	<b>\$ 21,900 10%</b>	<b>\$ 197,100 90%</b>	<b>\$ 16,000</b>	
<sup>[1]</sup> Total funding from the applicant must be at least 10% of the total adjusted project costs = (total project costs - incentives-other grants = adjusted project costs x 10% minimum municipal cost share).														

**APPENDIX C: GAP IV GRANT APPLICATION DATA TABLE.xls**

Nonprofit and Private Small Business **Sample:** Please fill in based on your project parameters

Building Name / Location	Project Name	Estimated Project Completion Date	Projected Annual Electricity Savings or Renewable Energy Generation (kWh)	Projected Annual Natural Gas Savings (therms)	Projected Annual Cost Savings (\$)	Total Estimated Project Costs (\$) (Column A)	Energy Utility Incentives (\$)	Other Grant / Contributions (\$)	Total Incentives and Other Grants (Column B)	Total Adjusted Project Costs (Column A - Column B)	Entity Cost Share (%) Minimum 10% [1]	Gap Grant Funding Request (\$)	Other Revenues (SMART, REC's, Demand Response, Solar Agreement)	Audit or Technical Study Reference / Notes
ABC Food Bank (Main Facility)	Air Source Heat Pumps	Oct-26	40,000	2,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 52,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 1,200	\$ 10,800	\$ 2,000	Energy Audit & Demand Response Revenue
ABC Food Bank (Distribution Facility)	15 kW Solar PV System	Apr-26	18,000	0	\$ 4,500	\$ 45,000	\$ -	\$ 6,300	\$ 6,300	\$ 38,700	\$ 3,870	\$ 34,830	\$ 3,600	Solar Assessment / Agreement & SMART Incentive
Craft Beverage (Main Facility #1)	VFD on HVAC Fans	Nov-25	118,000	0	\$ 17,000	\$ 46,000	\$ 26,000	\$ -	\$ 26,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 5,000	Energy Audit & Demand Response Revenue
Craft Beverage (Distribution Facility #2)	Weatherization Improvements	Oct-25	40,000	1,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 500	\$ 4,500	\$ 1,000	Energy Audit & Demand Response Revenue
<b>Nonprofit or Small Business Name</b>	<b>Renewables &amp; Energy Efficiency</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>216,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>\$ 42,500</b>	<b>\$ 168,000</b>	<b>\$ 56,000</b>	<b>\$ 36,300</b>	<b>\$ 92,300</b>	<b>\$ 75,700</b> 100%	<b>\$ 7,570</b> 10%	<b>\$ 68,130</b> 90%	<b>\$ 11,600</b>	

[1] Total funding from the applicant must be at least 10% of the total adjusted project costs = (total project costs – incentives-other grants = adjusted project costs x 10% minimum municipal cost share).

## **APPENDIX D: ADDITIONAL REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION**

Additional Forms: If selected for a grant award, the applicant will be required to submit the following forms within thirty (30) days of notification of the grant award to complete the contracting process. A W-9 Form (marked below with an asterisk (\*)) need not be submitted, if it has been completed previously and is already on file with the Commonwealth:

- MassDEP Grant Agreement
- Commonwealth [Standard Contract Form](#)
- [Commonwealth Terms and Conditions](#) this is incorporated by reference into the Standard Contract Form.
- Commonwealth W-9 tax information form filled out and signed by the applicant with DUNS number and Federal Tax ID(\*) [W-9 Form](#)
- [Contractor Authorized Signatory Listing \(CASL\) Form](#)
- Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) form  
<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/tips-for-completing-the-electronic-funds-transfer-eft-form>

**Applicants are encouraged to assemble and review these forms prior to submission of an application.**

## APPENDIX E: GLOSSARY

**Air Source Heat Pumps:** Air Source Heat Pumps (ASHP) are heat pumps that absorb and transfer heat into a building or remove heat and provide cool. ASHPs are powered by electricity and operate like a refrigeration system. They extract heat from the air outside and distribute it inside. During warmer months, this process is reversed to provide cooling.

**Applicant:** An Applicant is any Eligible Entity identified in Section E of this Grant Announcement that responds with a completed application, including all Required Application Materials To Be Submitted Online in Section K, and other required documentation as specified herein. For definition purposes, an Applicant is the same as a “bidder” as defined in 801 CMR 21.00 (Procurement of Commodities and Services).

**Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS):** Battery storage, or battery energy storage systems (BESS), are devices that enable energy from renewables, like [solar](#) and [wind](#), to be stored and then released when customers need power. Lithium-ion batteries, which are also used in mobile phones and [electric cars](#), are currently the dominant storage technology for large scale plants to help electricity grids ensure a reliable supply of renewable energy.

**Building Envelope:** A building envelope is the component of a building that separates the exterior of the building from the interior. The building envelope is a key consideration for determining energy efficiency when constructing a building. It affects the ventilation, climate, energy consumption and protection of occupants and interiors.

**Building Energy Management Systems (EMS):** A technology that connects and monitors various systems within a building, like heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC), and lighting, allowing for centralized control and optimization of energy consumption, ultimately aiming to reduce energy costs and improve efficiency by identifying and addressing inefficiencies within the building.

**Clean Energy Results Program (CERP):** The Program within MassDEP that is responsible for the procurement and implementation of this Gap Energy Grant Opportunity.

**Combined Heat & Power (CHP):** Combined Heat and Power (CHP) is a technology that generates electricity or mechanical energy along with thermal energy. CHP systems capture the heat that would otherwise be wasted to provide useful thermal energy—such as steam or hot water—that can be used for space heating, cooling, domestic hot water and industrial processes. CHP can be located at an individual facility or building or be a district energy or utility resource. CHP is typically located at facilities where there is a need for both electricity and thermal energy.

**COMMBUYS:** The Commonwealth’s eProcurement Access and Solicitation Website (COMMBUYS) is a free, around-the-clock internet access site that provides bid/solicitation/procurement documents for all goods and services that are available either on existing Commonwealth state-wide contracts or are issued by other Eligible Entities of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (including MassDEP). Announcements for Grant

Opportunities and Notification of selection (and non-selection) for Grant Awards must also be posted on COMMBUYS pursuant to 815 CMR 2.00 (Grants and Subsidies).

**Distributed Energy Resources (DERs):** Distributed energy resources are small-scale energy generation and storage technologies, like solar panels and batteries, that are interconnected to the electric grid and located near where the energy is used, playing a vital role in supporting clean energy and resiliency goals and achieving net-zero emissions.

**Facility:** Please see the definition for drinking water facilities and wastewater facilities that is found under the terms “Publicly Owned” wastewater and drinking water facilities.

**Facility for all other Eligible Applicants for this grant program:** Facility means any structure, open area, or object which accommodates or is intended to accommodate Commercial, Industrial and/or Mixed-Use Activities. For purposes of the Gap IV Energy Grant, a Facility is specific to the organizational entity for which the grant application has been submitted (Nonprofit Agricultural/Food Producing **or Distribution** Organization or Small Business Supporting Food Distribution **and or** Processing). The Facility in these categories is the structure being upgraded through energy efficiency or clean energy project improvements by the Applicant and Facility owner.

**Gap Energy Grant Program:** The grant funding program designed to help municipal water utilities reduce their energy usage, operating costs, and improve the environment. This grant program uses a financing model that “fills the funding Gap” by leveraging incentives from energy utilities and other funding sources to jump-start energy efficiency and clean energy generation projects. For additional information on MassDEP’s Gap Energy Grant Program (Rounds I, II & III), please review our statewide efforts and results at Massachusetts’ drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities, including highlights of past Gap Energy Grants made to specific communities. The interactive website can be found here: [Massachusetts' Gap Energy Grant Program](#).

**Geothermal Systems:** A geothermal heating and cooling system uses the constant temperature of soil or water located below ground to heat and cool buildings. Geothermal energy is considered a renewable resource. Also called geothermal heat pumps, geoexchange, earth-coupled, ground-source, or water-source heat pumps (WSHP). A ground source or geoexchange system consists of a heat pump connected to a series of buried pipes. One can install the pipes either in horizontal trenches just below the ground surface or in vertical boreholes that go several hundred feet below ground.

**Grant Announcement:** Also called a Request for Responses (RFR), the document describing the grant opportunity, terms, and response requirements.

**Grantee:** A Public or Non-Public Entity selected as a recipient of grant. See 815 CMR 2.02 (definitions); ~~see also Subrecipient definition below.~~

**Ground Source Heat Pumps:** A ground-source heat pump exchanges heat through piping buried in the ground. In the winter, it absorbs the abundant, renewable heat in the ground to heat your home. In the summer, when the air is warmer than the ground, it uses the cooler temperature of

the earth to reduce the temperature of the air in your home... These systems are also known as Geothermal Heat Pumps.

**Heat Pump Block Heaters for Emergency Generators:** Uses proven air-source heat pump technology to provide the most efficient engine heating solution for standby generators. These systems use less energy to maintain water jacket temperatures than engine heaters powered by electric resistance.

**HVAC:** Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning.

**In-Conduit Hydropower:** In-conduit hydropower is a renewable technology that uses existing tunnels, canals, pipelines, aqueducts, and other manmade structures that carry water which are fitted with electric generating equipment. Drinking water and wastewater treatment plants that have excess pressure available in their system could potentially benefit from the installation of an in-line hydropower system. For more information, please refer to MassDEP's in-conduit hydropower project resources and screening tool for water supply and wastewater treatment facilities: <https://www.mass.gov/lists/hydropower-project-screening-tool-for-water-supply-wastewater-treatment-facilities>

**Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA):** The Executive Office that oversees the Commonwealth's six environmental, natural resource and energy regulatory agencies. Massachusetts is the first state in the nation to combine energy and environmental agencies under one Cabinet secretary.

**Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP):** MassDEP is an agency or Department within the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA). MassDEP's mission is to protect and enhance the Commonwealth's natural resources - air, water, and land - to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of all people, and to ensure a clean and safe environment for future generations. MassDEP administers the Clean Energy Results Program (CERP), in Partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources and the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center.

**Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER):** DOER is an agency or Department within the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA). Within EOEEA, DOER develops and implements policies and programs aimed at ensuring the adequacy, security, diversity, and cost-effectiveness of the Commonwealth's energy supply to create a clean, affordable and resilient energy future for all residents, businesses, communities, and institutions.

**Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (CEC):** The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) is a state economic development agency dedicated to accelerating the growth of the clean energy sector across the Commonwealth to spur job creation, deliver statewide environmental benefits and to secure long-term economic growth for the people of Massachusetts.

**Mass Save®:** Mass Save® is a collaborative of Massachusetts' natural gas, electric utilities and energy efficiency service providers (Berkshire Gas, Cape Light Compact, Eversource, Liberty Utilities, National Grid and Until) that provides technical and financial assistance in helping their

customers across Massachusetts save money and energy, leading our state to a clean and energy efficient future.

**Microgrid:** A power distribution network comprised of multiple electric loads and small-scale energy generation and storage technology resources, like solar panels and battery energy storage systems. Microgrids create the ability to economically provide electricity independently for critical loads within the microgrid, and to improve power resiliency and maintain essential services by integrating and optimizing various sources of energy.

**Nonprofit Agricultural / Food Producing or Distribution Organizations:** Small organizations that hold a federal 501 (c) (3) designation and are engaged in the production or distribution of agricultural products, such as community food banks and cooperatives (<https://nfca.coop/ma/>), commercial and shared-use kitchens (<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/shared-use-kitchen-space>), and local food processing, holding, ~~and~~ or distribution organizations. Please note: this is not an all-encompassing list. Nonprofit Agricultural / Food Producing or Distribution Organizations must be an organization:

1. with a facility or facilities located in Massachusetts;
2. that is licensed to do business in the Commonwealth; and
3. that has net assets (**exclusive of real property**) as reported on the appropriate Massachusetts Department of Revenue tax forms, of \$5 million or less from their Massachusetts operations based on a three-year average.

**Process Improvements at Drinking and Wastewater Facilities:** Process improvements at water utilities that maintain better control, manage and optimize aeration processes and pumping systems and yield energy saving results.

Aeration provides oxygen to the helpful bacteria and other organisms as they decompose organic substances in the wastewater. Aeration is generally in the range of 30-60% of the electric load at secondary wastewater treatment facilities. Aeration energy improvement measures include converting from coarse bubble aeration to fine bubble aeration with high efficiency blowers; installing energy efficient automatic Dissolved Oxygen (DO) control on aeration systems; installing variable frequency drives on blowers and mechanical aerators; and installing automated variable DO setpoint devices that adjust air supply to influent DO loads.

Pumping often represents 90% or more of the electric load at drinking water plants. In wastewater plants, it is typically 20-30% of the electrical load. Pumping process improvements include pump refurbishment or replacement; impeller trim or redesign; implementing variable frequency drives; closing recirculation (bypass) lines; turning off motors that are not needed (especially in parallel systems); opening valves; downsizing pumps where oversized; and using approved epoxy coatings.

**Public Entity:** Any city, town, special district, or the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority.

**Publicly Owned Wastewater Treatment Facilities:** A public entity that owns any device or system used in the treatment (including recycling and reclamation) of municipal sewage or

industrial pre-treated liquid waste. This system includes collection, distribution, pumping and lift stations and treatment within the entire sewer system.

**Publicly Owned Drinking Water Treatment Facilities:** A public entity that owns a collection, treatment, storage, and distribution system for the provision to the public of water for human consumption, through pipes or other constructed conveyances.

**Small Businesses Engaged in Food Distribution ~~and~~ or Processing:** Small food processing ~~and~~ or distribution businesses that support the Massachusetts agricultural and seafood industry, such as co-packers (<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/co-packer-businesses>) and specialty food organizations (<https://www.msfa.net/?s=>), and food holding facilities that employ 50 employees or less. Small Businesses engaged in food distribution and processing must be a company or corporation (Please Note: this is not an all-encompassing list):

1. with a facility or facilities located in Massachusetts;
2. licensed to do business in the Commonwealth; and
3. has gross revenues, as reported on the appropriate Massachusetts Department of Revenue tax forms, of \$15 million or less from their Massachusetts operations based on a three-year average.

**Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Systems:** Solar Photovoltaic is a renewable technology that uses photovoltaic cells to capture the radiant energy from the sun and convert it into electricity. To boost the power output of PV cells, they are connected together in chains to form larger units known as modules or panels. Modules can be used individually, or several can be connected to form arrays. One or more arrays may then be connected to the electrical grid as part of a complete PV system. Because of this modular structure, PV systems can be built to meet almost any electric power need, small or large.

**Solar Thermal:** Solar Thermal is a renewable technology that converts the radiant energy from the sun into heat, which can then be used for such purposes as space and hot water heating, industrial process heat, or power generation.

**Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) Heat Pump Systems:** HVAC systems that vary the flow of refrigerant to indoor spaces based on demand. The refrigerant is conditioned by condensing units (usually located outdoors) and is then connected to multiple indoor units via refrigerant piping to provide cooling and heating to individual zones or rooms in a building. These heat pump systems can be a solution for businesses or buildings without existing ductwork, and variable heating and cooling needs throughout the building.

**Variable Speed Drive or Frequency Drive:** A variable speed drive or variable frequency drive is used for controlling the speed and torque of motors for pumping, HVAC, compressor and other systems.

**Water Source Heat Pumps (WSHP):** Heat pumps that absorb and transfer heat from water into a building and/or remove heat from a building for cooling using water. WSHPs are powered by electricity and operate like a refrigeration system. They extract heat from a water source and



distribute it inside a building. During warmer months, this process is reversed to provide cooling. The water source heat pump replaces the outdoor fan and coil with a heat exchanger.

**Wind Energy:** Wind energy is a form of renewable energy using wind to generate mechanical power or electricity. Wind turbines convert the kinetic energy in the wind into mechanical power. A generator can convert mechanical power into electricity.