

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Public Safety & Security  
Office of Grants & Research**



**State Fiscal Year 2026  
Human Trafficking Enforcement and Training  
Grant Program  
Availability of Grant Funds**

**Release Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025**

Maura T. Healey  
Governor

Terrence M. Reidy  
Secretary

Kimberley Driscoll  
Lieutenant Governor

Kevin J. Stanton  
Executive Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security  
Office of Grants and Research  
SFY2026 Human Trafficking Enforcement and Training Grant Program  
Availability of Grant Funds (AGF)

Applications Due: October 1, 2025; 4:00 p.m.

### Introduction

The Office of Grants and Research (OGR) is responsible for managing state appropriated, criminal justice funding awarded to the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) from the Massachusetts State Legislature. The SFY2026 Human Trafficking Enforcement and Training Grant Program is being supported by state funds, authorized in the Fiscal Year 2026 General Appropriation Act, Chapter 126 of the Acts of 2025.

### Applicant Eligibility:

Only a Massachusetts District Attorney's Office is eligible to apply. Preference will be given to previously funded District Attorneys who provide data showing evidence of success.

### State Legislation Governing These Funds:

8000-0605: For efforts to combat human trafficking, including a competitive grant program to be administered by the executive office of public safety and security; provided, that not later than March 2, 2026, the executive office shall submit a report to the house and senate committees on ways and means detailing expenditures from this item, including a list of grant recipients.

### Key Dates

AGF Posted:	August 27, 2025
Application Due:	October 1, 2025
Award Notification (Tentative):	October 2025
Performance Period (Tentative):	November 2025 – June 30, 2026

### Important Highlights

#### Purpose

The Human Trafficking Enforcement and Training Grant Program aims to support and/or expand a District Attorney's human trafficking programming and initiatives that utilize best practices and as recommended through the MA Human Trafficking Law Enforcement Guidelines. This grant will support efforts to strengthen collaboration amongst the Massachusetts State Police High-Risk Victims Unit, Department of Children and Families, and specialized ADAs within DA's offices, as well as local partners.

#### Funding Overview

Approximately \$95,000.00 in state funding is being made available to support Massachusetts

District Attorneys in their efforts to combat human trafficking and enhance capacity to identify, assist, and provide referral services to those most impacted.

This is a competitive grant program. Due to limited funds, OGR may award full funding, partial funding, or no funding. Because these are state funds that expire June 30, 2026, OGR reserves the right to amend the maximum obligation ceiling of this award in an effort to prevent any reversion of funds and to support applicants to the greatest extent possible.

Eligible activities include but not limited to:

- Human Trafficking Special Prosecutor.
- Enforcement / Investigative Efforts.
- Prevention / Intervention Services.
- Training.

Funds can be used to strengthen investigations and prosecutions of human trafficking as well as efforts to enhance community relationships and municipal law enforcement's capacity to work on anti-trafficking cases. Additionally, these funds can support the expansion of victim-centered, multi-disciplinary approaches to working with survivors through trauma-informed programming and support services that promote justice, access, and empowerment.

Preference will be given to applications that:

- Demonstrate greatest need.
- Outline a comprehensive plan that proposes programs and activities that directly correlate to addressing such need.
- Propose activities that target geographical locations that demonstrate high-risk or high levels of human trafficking.

An applicant may sub-award funds to outside entities to assist with any enforcement and suppression efforts, such as a local police department. An applicant may also sub-award funds to outside entities to assist with prevention and intervention services such as a nonprofit that implements survivor support programs within the county. OGR strongly recommends applications demonstrate a collaborative, community-wide stakeholder effort as part of the proposal being submitted. All proposed services must have an anti-trafficking nexus to address the intent of these funds.

### **Allowable Costs**

All applicants and their selected partners must be able to implement their program immediately upon execution of this award, which is anticipated November 2025.

The following are **examples** of the types of allowable uses of funds under this application process:

- Personnel costs;
- Overtime for suppression/investigation/enforcement efforts;
- Subawards to local police departments and/or nonprofits;
- Consultants to provide services or training to address key priority areas; and
- Small equipment items such as surveillance cameras, etc.

## **Unallowable Costs**

For this AGF, funds may **NOT** be used for the purchase of any of the following:

- Standard firearms or ammunition;
- Construction, office furniture, or other like purchases;
- Purchasing of vehicles, vessels, or aircraft including drones, unmanned aerial vehicle/unmanned aircraft, aircraft system, or aerial vehicles (UA/UAS/UAV);
- Gift cards;
- Food and beverages; and
- Extended warranty above and beyond the cost of the item and extending after the contract end date.

## **Fund Disbursement**

Funding will be disbursed via an Interdepartmental Service Agreement. These are state appropriated funds. All services must be rendered on or before June 30, 2026. No extensions will be permitted with these funds. Additional details about financial reporting requirements will be provided at the time awards are made.

## **Project Duration**

Applicants must apply for up to eight (8) months of funding. The anticipated funding cycle for projects will begin **November 2025** and end **June 2026**.

## **Award Recipient Requirements**

Award recipients must abide by the grant requirements below as well as all OGR Grant Conditions to be provided at the time of contracting.

### **1. Grants Management**

- Submission of satisfactory and timely progress reports and quarterly financial reports with all required back-up documentation.
- The identification of a project director, their contact information, roles, and responsibilities as they relate to the project.
- Cooperation during OGR monitoring endeavors, including but not limited to site visits and desk reviews.
- All costs paid with grant funds are direct and specific to the implementation of the funded project.

### **2. Procurement**

- Award recipients choosing to further subgrant all or any part of the award to an implementing agency or an independent contractor shall enter into a written contract or memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the implementing agency or independent contractor. At a minimum, the contract or MOU shall include the provisions of the OGR standard grant conditions and must explicitly outline the expected deliverables, timeframes/hours, and rates. A copy of the contract or MOU must be submitted to OGR.
- Procurement of services, equipment, and supplies must follow M.G.L. Ch. 30B for local units of government and nonprofit entities and Operational Services Division (OSD) Purchasing Guide for state agencies. Local units of government must ensure

that subcontracts with private organizations have provisions ensuring any goods and services provided by the subcontractor are consistent with M.G.L. Ch. 30B procedures.

### 3. Reporting Alleged Waste, Fraud and Abuse

- It is the responsibility of the subrecipient to report alleged fraud, waste, or abuse, including any alleged violations, serious irregularities, sensitive issues, or overt or covert acts involving the use of public funds in a manner not consistent with statutes, related laws and regulations, appropriate guidelines, or purposes of the grant. Reports may be made to the Massachusetts Inspector General or State Auditor.

Office of the Inspector General  
John W. McCormack State Bldg.  
One Ashburton Place, Room 131  
Boston, MA 02108  
800-322-1323  
MA\_OIG@maoig.net

Office of the State Auditor  
Massachusetts State House  
Room 230  
Boston, MA 02133  
617-727-2075  
Auditor@SAO.state.ma.us

### 4. Equipment and Technology

An award recipient shall use and manage equipment in accordance with their own procedures as long as the equipment is used for criminal justice purposes.

When equipment is no longer needed for criminal justice purposes, the award recipient must dispose of equipment in accordance with State procedures.

- Award recipients are responsible for replacing or repairing the property that is willfully or negligently lost, stolen, damaged, or destroyed. Any loss, damage, or theft of the property must be investigated, fully documented, and made part of the official project records.

In addition to the requirements set forth above, recipients will be required to agree to and abide by all state rules, regulations, and conditions pertaining to the receipt, administration, and management of funding.

### Application Instructions

The [online application](#) form must be completed and submitted as outlined below.

#### [SFY2026 Human Trafficking Enforcement and Training Grant Program](#)

To provide OGR the best opportunity to fairly evaluate requests for funding, applicants are strongly encouraged to be clear and concise in their applications.

The Application must be completed as outlined in this section. Applications submitted without a signature from the **District Attorney** could be considered invalid and may not be reviewed for funding.

## Section I. Applicant Information

### Contact and Fiscal Information

- Indicate Agency name, address, and the names and contact information for District Attorney, grant point of contact, and finance officer contact information.
- Indicate the exact amount of funds being requested.

### Program Summary

- Provide a summary of the proposal submitted to be funded through this application (250-word limit). Applicants should be clear and concise in their summary.

## Section II. Application Narrative

The application narrative template is composed of three sections: Needs Assessment, Project Description, and Implementation Plan/Timeline.

### Needs Assessment (about 6000 characters, approximately 3 double-spaced pages/size 12 font)

At a minimum, the needs assessment should address the following:

- Provide a description of the District and communities to benefit from this award.
- Describe in detail the current unmet criminal justice or public safety need as it relates to human trafficking. Include relevant statistical and/or anecdotal evidence whenever possible as it relates to community-based criminal activity related to human trafficking.
- Include details on the geographical locations that demonstrate high-risk or high levels of human trafficking, if applicable.
- The sources or methods used for assessing the problem of community-based activity related to human trafficking should also be described.
- Describe any negative effect, potential consequences, or impact against the department and/or community if not having the submitted proposal/funding be supported.

Applicants will also be assessed on their overall need, which reflects a holistic evaluation of the criteria described above.

### Project Description (about 6,000 characters, approximately 3 double-spaced pages/size 12 font)

This section should clearly identify the problem and support the stated issues with relevant data to justify the request for the programs, services, and/or activities being proposed.

- Clearly describe the programs, services, and/or activities being proposed.
- Discuss how the proposed programming directly correlates to the *Needs Assessment*, specifically how will it address community-based criminal activity related to human trafficking.
- Describe any risk factors to be addressed and protective factors.
- Describe the link between research (evidence-based) and the proposed program and if possible, any previous evaluation results of the model program or strategy to be replicated or expanded. In a difficult budget climate, it is critical that grant dollars are spent on programs and activities proven to have a strong likelihood of success. Do not assume that the reviewer is familiar with the program, concepts, or services being proposed. Reviewers can only review the information provided and a lack of detail could result in an unfavorable rating.

- Please include the names of any collaborating agencies and/or partners, such as community and business groups, government officials, and nonprofits. Include a detailed description of each partner's participation in addressing the problem as outlined in the application. If there are no collaborating agencies and/or partners for this project, please state "N/A – no collaborating agencies and/or partners."
- If you are proposing to sub-contract funds to one or more collaborative partners (outside organizations) to implement all or some of the proposed activities, a Memorandum of Agreement should be included as an attachment and contain the following information:
  - Summary of each agency's role and responsibilities specific to the proposed project;
  - Clear outline of deliverables, timeframes, hours, and rates of compensation; and
  - Signed by an official of the third-party organization(s).
- For prior award recipients: Provide data showing evidence of success of grant programs funded with a prior state-funded Human Trafficking Enforcement and Training Grant.

### **Implementation Plan**

Please discuss your management and implementation plan for this award. This should include how you will ensure the effective implementation and oversight of the project, key activities and milestones, and identification of key partnerships or stakeholders who will play a role in the implementation of this award.

### **Objectives, Activities and Timeline**

Complete the template grid provided by identifying the necessary steps to be implemented during the project period, with a tentative start date of November 1, 2025. Please include the following:

- List of major tasks/activities to be conducted, including a bidding process for contracts;
- Anticipated beginning/end date for major activities;
- Individual responsible for conducting/overseeing the stated task/activity.

Applicant timelines will also be evaluated on whether the proposed timeline is reasonable and feasible, including whether it can be implemented within the 8-month project period.

### **Section III. Budget Narrative and Budget Excel Worksheet**

The **Budget Narrative** should outline the budget requested and itemize the expenses by cost category as described in this application. For each cost category that has an associated funding request in the Budget Excel Worksheet (Attachment A), please provide an overall description and justification of that cost category. The budget category narratives should describe what the budget entails, why the items in that category are needed, and how the budgeted amount was determined. Please include any hires under personnel, a particular training, supplies needed, vendor information, or process for selecting a vendor where applicable. Applicants may submit an eight (8) month budget that covers expenses up to June 30, 2026.

Applicants must also complete a **Budget Excel Worksheet** (refer to **Attachment A**) to be uploaded to the online application. Please note that the Budget Summary tab will populate with the information entered in the Budget Detail tab.

Please note:

Applicants will be asked to select “Object Class” for each line item. Please refer to the “Object Class” tab in the Excel Budget Worksheet for definitions and guidance.

#### Allowable Budget Cost Categories

Allowable Budget Cost Categories	Definitions and Documentation Requirements
Personnel	Costs associated with agency personnel. List position, percentage of time charged to grant, and annual salary. Include a brief description of each staff member’s duties/activities to be supported by grant funding.
Overtime	Overtime is limited to sworn law enforcement personnel only. Indicate overtime rate for each officer charged to the grant and the number of overtime hours. Refer to OGR Overtime Policy below.
Payroll Tax	<p>Eligible costs include the employer share of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Life insurance</li> <li>• Health insurance</li> <li>• Social security costs</li> <li>• Pension costs</li> <li>• Unemployment insurance costs</li> <li>• Workers compensation insurance</li> </ul> <p>Applicants should only use the FY#2026-01 Proposed Payroll Tax of 2.21% and include any additional employer share of PFML when applicable.</p>
Consultants/Contractors	<p>Contractors: Provide a description of the product/services to be procured by contract and an estimate of the cost. Applicants must follow their organization's own procurement policy.</p> <p>Consultants: The maximum rate for consultants is \$650 for an eight-hour day or \$81.25 per hour. Any request for compensation of over \$650 per day requires prior written approval by OGR. Waiver of this maximum rate is at the discretion of OGR.</p>
Subawards	Subawards are awards provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of an award received by the pass-through entity.



Allowable Budget Cost Categories	Definitions and Documentation Requirements
Travel	Travel directly related to the purpose of the grant. In-state travel costs associated with the grant shall include mileage rates not to exceed \$.62 per mile, as well as the actual costs of tolls and parking. Note that no grant funds may be spent on out-of-state conference fees, out-of-state travel, or out-of-state lodging.
Equipment/Technology	Tangible, non-expendable personal property having a useful life of more than one year; cost based on classification of equipment.
Supplies	Supplies directly related to the program.
Other	List items that don't fit within the above cost categories and the basis of the computation. No grant funds may be used for incentives without prior written approval from OGR.

### **OGR Overtime Policy**

Sworn Uniform Personnel (state and local law enforcement and firefighter personnel) eligible through their department, may be reimbursed for overtime costs related to grant-funded activities ONLY.

Overtime hours charged against a grant award provided by OGR may be reimbursed for actual hours worked only, regardless of union contract rules. For example, an officer working two hours of overtime on a funded project awarded by OGR is prohibited from charging the grant award for four hours of overtime due to a union contract agreement for a four-hour minimum. In this example, the department must cover the remaining two hours of overtime from their own state or local budget. Departments found violating this policy will be subject to immediate termination of a grant award and must return all misspent funds to OGR.

For this policy, the definition of "Overtime" is listed below:

- Overtime - Expenses limited to the additional costs that result from state and local first responders – such as sworn law enforcement personnel – working over and above their weekly full-time/part-time schedule as a direct result of their performance of approved activities related to the project receiving funding.

If awarded grant funding for overtime costs, OGR will provide additional criteria and necessary reporting forms at the time an award is made to justify and support such reimbursement costs being charged against the grant.

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### **Application Submission and Review**

Submit [online application](#) including all required Attachments by 4:00 p.m. on October 1, 2025.

Please Note: The application and attachments are to be submitted electronically via the online application form. Emailed submissions will NOT be accepted.

## **Submission Process**

### **[Online Application Form](#)**

Submit your [online application form](#) no later than **October 1, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.**

Emailed submissions will not be accepted. Please let OGR know if you have any questions regarding the online application. All questions can be directed to [emily.fontaine@mass.gov](mailto:emily.fontaine@mass.gov)

The online application must be completed and submitted with the following required attachments uploaded to the online application form:

- Attachment A: Budget Excel Workbook (in Excel format, not PDF) uploaded to online application form
- Attachment B: MOU, if applicable
- Additional Materials, if needed

## **Review Process**

This is a competitive grant and will be subject to a peer review process. Applications will be reviewed and scored by three peer reviewers based on the following criteria:

- Clear and adequate responses for Applicant Information and Project Summary (5 points)
- A needs assessment, including the use of data to demonstrate need and a description of how requested programming addresses the stated need (25 Points)
- A narrative that clearly describes the programming to be implemented and the expected outcome and benefits to the department and/or community. Preference will be given to previously funded District Attorneys who provide data showing evidence of success with prior Human Trafficking award. (30 Points)
- Implementation plan and timeline that are feasible and ensure the initiative will be implemented and completed within the anticipated grant period (15 Points)
- A detailed, reasonable, and cost-effective budget. (25 Points)

## **Notification of Awards**

Funding decisions are at the discretion of the OGR Executive Director, Secretary of Public Safety and Security, and Governor's Office. It is anticipated that the grant awards will be announced October 2025.

OGR reserves the right to adjust maximum award obligations and/or award additional proposals recommended for funding by the peer reviewers if additional funds become available at the time the initial awards are made.

## **Proposal Checklist**

Please Note: The application and attachments are to be submitted electronically via the [online application form](#).

Hard copy applications are NOT required.

This AGF and all other required documents can also be found on our website:

[Human Trafficking Enforcement and Training Grant Program | Mass.gov](#)

- Submitted [Online Application](#) – Please notify OGR immediately if applicant is unable to utilize the online application.
- Budget Excel Worksheet (Attachment A) both the Summary and Detail sheets completed and uploaded to the online application.
- MOU (if applicable) uploaded to the online application.
- Additional Materials (if applicable) uploaded to the online application.

### **Contact Information**

For assistance with the requirements of this AGF, contact Emily Haines at

[Emily.Fontaine@mass.gov](mailto:Emily.Fontaine@mass.gov).