

FY26 Land Conservation Assistance Grant Workshop October 1, 2025
Questions and Answers

Question: Should cost estimates/quotes be included in OSRP update applications?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Does the "Eligible services" category include the due diligence items you listed earlier (appraisal, title work, environmental assessment, surveys, etc.)? And if yes, would an appraisal in this category be different than one under the category of an appraisal required by a grant program, which is capped at \$5,000?

Answer: The BID caps the appraisal at \$5,000. If you need more than that amount, please reach out to discuss. Surveys may be costing more than the maximum amount allowed in the BID as well. Reach out to the grant manager if that's the case.

Question: For costs that are unknown, is it okay to estimate the cost?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Are we able to submit an application for a project we worked on last year?

Answer: Yes, it's fine to apply again for the next phase of the same project.

Question: What is total Conservation Assistance grant funding for FY26?

Answer: There isn't a set budget.

Question: Is environmental remediation an eligible cost?

Answer: No, but there are other funding sources for those types of costs.

Question: What are the grant award caps that we should know about?

Answer: These caps are listed on page 2 of the BID document.

Question: Are park design and planning costs eligible?

Answer: The work that is necessary to be completed to submit a grant application is eligible, such as a site design and Enhanced Outreach in Environmental Justice Populations.

Question: Does municipal MBTA Communities compliance effect nonprofit eligibility for grants?

Answer: If the applicant is a non-profit, this does not weigh into the decision. Municipalities currently must be in compliance with MBTA communities in order to receive funding.

Question: What are the timeframes for application to approval to contract?

Answer: We intend to have a contract in your hands within four weeks of receiving a completed grant application. However, there are approvals that must be sought, so sometimes these can take longer than anticipated to receive.

Question: Is there a threshold for demonstrating financial need?

Answer: Financial need is not considered for this grant.

Question: For community outreach, is outreach to the entire community eligible or is it just for EJ neighborhoods?

Answer: Outreach to the entire community is eligible.

Question: Could the budget be provided as a spreadsheet?

Answer: The budget template, which is an Excel spreadsheet, is available in the Grants Management System.

Question: Would it be possible for the list of application questions to be posted?

Answer: An application guide, which includes application questions and required uploads, is available in the GMS and on the [grant webpage](#).

Question: Are there any ineligible types of match?

Answer: Any other types of state funds are not eligible as match. It's always a good idea to check with the grant manager about what is eligible or not eligible. Both cash and in-kind match can be used.

Question: Are costs associated with a donation eligible for a grant, i.e. the Conservation Assistance applicant won't be applying for a grant to close on the property?

Answer: Yes.