

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



**State Fiscal Year 2026  
Massachusetts Municipal Public Safety Staffing Program  
Police and Fire  
Availability of Grant Funds**

**Release Date: Friday July 18, 2025**

**Eligibility**

**Eligible applicants are limited to:** communities that have populations of at least 60,000 and demonstrate that their police departments had an operating budget per capita of less than \$200 in 2010.  
*Please refer to page 2. Section C: Applicant Eligibility*

**Deadlines**

**Applications are due by Friday, August 8, 2025, 4:00 p.m.**  
(See "[Submission Checklist/Helpful Hints](#)")

**Maura T. Healey  
Governor**

**Kimberley Driscoll  
Lieutenant Governor**

**Terrence M. Reidy  
Secretary**

**Kevin J. Stanton  
Executive Director**

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

**SFY26 Massachusetts Municipal Public Safety Staffing Program**  
**Police and Fire**  
**Availability of Grant Funds**

**A. Overview**

The Office of Grants and Research is pleased to announce the Availability of Grant Funds (AGF) for the SFY26 Massachusetts Municipal Public Safety Staffing Program. The intent of this grant program is to assist eligible municipalities in maintaining public safety and emergency response services by providing funds to address **police and/or fire** department staffing shortfalls. Funds are authorized under a reserve to support municipal improvements under Chapter 24 of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' General Appropriations Act of 2025.

Due to level funding, OGR expects to make available \$5,760,000.00 in funding for SFY 2026. Applicants are encouraged to apply for the same amounts that they were awarded in SFY 2025. Per legislative language, these grant funds are only available to communities that submitted qualifying applications that were approved by OGR in SFY 2025.

**B. Key Dates**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Solicitation Posted:</b>  | <b>Friday July 18, 2025</b>                    |
| <b>Application Deadline:</b>   | <b>Friday, August 8, 2025, 4:00 p.m.</b>       |
| <b>Applicants may submit their proposal prior to the deadline if an expedited award is needed.</b> |  |
| <b>Anticipated Grant Period:</b>   | <b>Contract Start Date – December 31, 2026</b> |

**C. Applicant Eligibility**

Per legislative language, only the ten communities listed below are eligible to apply for funding:

| <b>Massachusetts Department of Revenue</b><br><b>Division of Local Services</b><br><b>Municipal Databank/Local Aid Section</b> |                                   |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Municipality-<br/>DOR Code</b>  | <b>Census 2010<br/>Population</b> | <b>FY 2010 Police<br/>Department<br/>Expenditure</b> | <b>Per Capita<br/>Expenditure</b> |
| LOWELL-160   | 106,519                           | \$19,414,966   | \$182.27                          |
| BROCKTON-44  | 93,810                            | \$17,370,071   | \$185.16                          |
| LYNN-163   | 90,329                            | \$16,732,413   | \$185.24                          |
| FALL RIVER-95  | 88,857                            | \$15,252,488   | \$171.65                          |
| NEWTON-207   | 85,146                            | \$14,071,461   | \$165.26                          |
| LAWRENCE-149   | 76,377                            | \$12,792,247   | \$167.49                          |
| SOMERVILLE-274   | 75,754                            | \$12,500,233   | \$165.01                          |
| FRAMINGHAM-100   | 68,318                            | \$10,471,060   | \$153.27                          |
| HAVERHILL-128  | 60,879                            | \$8,604,135  | \$141.33                          |
| MALDEN-165   | 59,561                            | \$8,618,741  | \$144.70                          |

The funds are available for both *public safety and emergency staffing*, thus allowing municipalities to utilize funds for **police** and/or **fire** needs. The Mayor/City Manager for each municipality must determine whether applications for funding will be submitted for police and/or fire, and how much will be appropriated to the respective department.

#### D. Funding Purposes

Funding may be requested for the following purposes:

- To restore laid off sworn police officers and/or firefighters,
- To retain police officers/firefighters who would otherwise be laid off during the current fiscal year if not for this funding,
- To restore police/fire staffing levels due to attrition and other reasons,
- To restore or retain civilian employees working at the police and/or fire department, and/or
- For overtime necessary to provide adequate shift coverage and/or to maintain staffing levels.

#### E. How to Apply/Application Requirements

Applicants may choose either Fire or Police for each application. **Please note that two separate applications must be submitted if a municipality is applying for both police and fire department funds.** Please complete all sections of the grant application using the [online application form](#).

- Provide Program and Fiscal contact information, Senior/Municipal Department Official and amount requested.
- **Signature:** The Senior/Municipal Department Official must digitally sign the completed online application form to demonstrate support of the application. If agency cannot digitally sign, the application must be printed, signed, and uploaded. This will be the last step of the online application form.
- If a municipality chooses to request funding for only one department (police or fire), the appropriate online application must be completed and submitted as instructed.
- The receipt of grant funds is contingent upon the grantee's ability to certify that it will comply with the Massachusetts General Laws, including G.L. c. 40A, § 3A, the **MBTA Communities Act**. Compliance with the MBTA Communities Act is determined by the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities. This will be included in the OGR Grant Conditions form disseminated at the time of contracting.
- **Complete and Submit Attachment A (Excel Budget Worksheet):** Each online application must be accompanied by a completed Attachment A (Excel Budget Worksheet). Please complete the summary and detail for all proposed costs. The worksheet labeled "Budget Summary" will automatically be updated as the proposed costs are added to the second worksheet, labeled "Detailed Budget." Instructions are provided on the Detailed Budget worksheet. Applications that combine budgets for both police and fire will not be accepted. This will be uploaded via the online application form.

| Allowable Budget Cost Categories | Definitions and Required Documentation for Proposal   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <i>Personnel</i>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full- or part-time regular salaried employees working on the grant-funded initiative.</li> </ul>   |
| <i>Fringe</i>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Based on federally-negotiated rate agreement <i>or</i> established formula by sub-recipient's accountant, comptroller, or human resource unit. Costs are limited to the employer's share of life insurance, health insurance, social security, pension, unemployment, and workers compensation costs.</li> <li>Include a copy of approved or audited rate with the application.*</li> <li>If applicant does not have a federally-approved or audited rate, actual known costs <i>must be itemized</i> by type and the rate computations must be included in this section of the budget forms.</li> </ul> |
| <i>Overtime</i>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allowable for sworn uniform personnel working on the grant-funded initiative.</li> </ul>   |
| <i>Other</i>                     | <p>Costs listed in this category may include direct costs relevant to the proposed project and/or organization that cannot be listed within the aforementioned cost categories. Costs in this category may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Direct</i> costs associated with new hires such as phone, uniforms, etc.</li> <li><i>Support</i> costs such as recruitment expenses for new hires, training, etc.</li> <li><i>Supplies</i> for new hires (pens, pencils, postage, training materials, copying paper, and other expendable items such as books, ink, etc.).</li> </ul>   |

\*If fringe costs are proposed, please attach a copy of the federally-approved rate agreement or a copy of the audited rate prepared by the applicant's fiscal contact, comptroller, or HR.

### Grant Review Process

OGR intends to carry out a fair and transparent process for reviewing all applications. This process will be facilitated by the OGR in consultation with EOPSS.

### Notification of Awards

Awards will be approved by the Executive Director of OGR and Secretary of Public Safety and Security.

### Payments

It is anticipated that an awardee's payment will be disbursed once the returned contract is approved and signed by the Executive Director of OGR. Funds provided for Fiscal Year 2025 (SFY25) must be expended by December 31, 2025. Any unspent SFY25 funds remaining after this date must be returned to OGR via check.

Due to the earlier-than-usual dissemination of these funds, municipalities wishing to begin spending immediately will be required to track and submit separate quarterly reports for these expenditures as SFY25 and SFY26 funds cannot be commingled.

To ensure funding is available, applicants will need to respond in the application if SFY26 funds will be needed before January 1, 2026.

Further detailed guidance will be provided when award notifications are made, as recipients will be required to report to OGR on a quarterly basis to monitor spending and ensure compliance with the grant rules and regulations. Failure to comply with the grant's programmatic and/or fiscal reporting requirements could result in delays, a termination of the contract, and/or impact future grant awards.

### Post-Award Reporting Requirements

Recipients will be required to strictly comply with all OGR reporting requirements, which include but are not limited to submitting quarterly financial and programmatic reporting forms and cooperation with desk reviews and/or site visits. Non-compliance with programmatic and/or reporting requirements – such as late or delinquent report submission, missing required supporting documentation, and the like – may result in the termination of an award. Details regarding grant compliance, forms, and reporting requirements will be provided at the time of contracting. **Note: all SFY25 funded municipalities must be in compliance with all programmatic and fiscal reporting requirements in order to receive a SFY26 grant award.**

### **Reporting Alleged Waste, Fraud, and Abuse**

It is the responsibility of the award recipient to report alleged Waste, Fraud, 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 legislative statutes, related laws and regulations, and appropriate guidelines for purposes of the grant. Reports must be made to the Massachusetts Inspector General or State Auditor.

Office of the Inspector General  
John W. McCormack State Office Building  
One Ashburton Place, Room 1311  
Boston, MA 02108  
800-322-1323  
[MA\\_OIG@maoig.net](mailto: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](mailto:Auditor@SAO.state.ma.us)

### **F. Submission Checklist/Helpful Hints**

Submit completed [online application](#) form which can be found here:

[SFY2026 Massachusetts Municipal Public Safety Staffing Police And Fire Grant Program Application](#)

- No hard copies are required.
- All required attachments (Attachment A- Budget Excel Form and Fringe Documentation if needed) should be uploaded via the online application form.

***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 [Allison.C.Garvey@mass.gov](mailto:Allison.C.Garvey@mass.gov)***

**Applications must be submitted via the online application form no later than Friday, August 8, 2025, 4:00 p.m.**

If you have an extenuating circumstance that prevents you from meeting this grant submission deadline, please contact [Allison.C.Garvey@mass.gov](mailto:Allison.C.Garvey@mass.gov).