



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

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December 23, 2021

Grant Opportunity

ROUND 2

MassDEP PFAS6 Interim Response Program:

Grants to Reimburse Public Water Suppliers for Interim Measures Required to Address PFAS6 Exceedance

GRANT OPPORTUNITY SUMMARY:

Applications sought: In 2020, MassDEP promulgated new regulations to establish a per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) drinking water Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 20 ng/L, or parts per trillion (ppt) for a sum of six PFAS contaminants (“PFAS6”): perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA), and perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA). The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has appropriated a total of \$2,281,450 to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) for the current State Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22, which ends on June 30, 2022) to help impacted public water systems offset the cost of emergency response measures implemented to address PFAS6 contamination in drinking water. This grant program provides funds (including reimbursement for costs and expenses already incurred) to impacted systems for interim public health measures implemented in response to the discovery of PFAS6 contamination in the drinking water supply. **Round 1 of this grant program was recently completed, resulting in the funding of grant awards in the total amount of \$1,281,450. MassDEP is now offering Round 2 of this grant program, which makes up to \$1,000,000 available for reimbursements for qualifying applications from eligible entities.**

Overview and goals: Public water systems with PFAS6 concentrations exceeding MassDEP’s drinking water Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) are required to immediately eliminate or minimize the threat to public health by turning off a contaminated water source, connecting to a neighboring water supply, or taking other steps to ensure that clean drinking water is available to all system users. These systems

This information is available in alternate format. Contact Michelle Waters-Ekanem, Director of Diversity/Civil Rights at 617-292-5751.

TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370

MassDEP Website: www.mass.gov/dep

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may not currently have an interim solution to remedy their elevated PFAS6 levels prior to implementing a long-term treatment plan. MassDEP has established this grant program to provide financial assistance to these public water systems and their customers who took action to provide clean drinking water in the interim period between the confirmation of an exceedance of the PFAS6 MCL in the water supply and the implementation of a long-term treatment solution. MassDEP will provide grants to **reimburse** public water systems that are taking action to address their elevated PFAS6 levels, but that did not have interim alternatives immediately available to enable them to provide water to customers at acceptable PFAS6 levels. Public Water Suppliers will be given the flexibility to determine the interim solution that best suits their customers' needs.

Grant purpose: The goal of this program is to provide grant funds for **reimbursement of previously incurred costs**, associated with a Public Water System's (PWS) immediate response to PFAS6 contamination in its drinking water supply.

Eligible Applicants: Community and Non-Transient Non-Community (NTNC) MassDEP registered PWSs, as defined in 310 CMR 22.02, under public or private ownership, with PFAS6 levels exceeding the PFAS6 MCL as defined in 310 CMR 22.00. **Transient Non-Community Systems (TNCs) are NOT eligible for this program.**

Examples of eligible costs that can be reimbursed:

- Reimbursement of costs for prior purchase and distribution of bottled water and/or alternative source of clean drinking water, whether purchased directly by the PWS, or as a reimbursement to the PWS for customers who previously made these expenditures in response to the PFAS6 exceedance;
- Procuring, installing, and maintaining water vending units;
- Engineering and construction costs associated with:
 - shutting down one or more wells;
 - reconfiguring the drinking water system to enable blending with a water supply with less (or no) PFAS6 contamination, such that the resulting concentration of PFAS6 does not exceed the MCL;
 - establishing an interconnection to an alternate water supply; and/or
 - installing temporary treatment;
- Purchasing water from an adjacent PWS via an interconnection;
- Purchase and distribution of Point of Use (POU) or Point of Entry Treatment (POET) units or water filtration pitchers through a program that has received prior approval from MassDEP's Drinking Water Program; and/or
- Any other immediate action undertaken to provide safe drinking water to PFAS6 impacted users, where PFAS6 levels exceed the MCL.

Examples of ineligible costs:

- New work that might otherwise be eligible, but that has not yet been undertaken;

- Administrative and mailing costs associated with community notification of the PFAS6 exceedance;
- Laboratory and sampling costs for new PFAS6 identification in drinking water;
- Expenses relating to ongoing maintenance and treatment at drinking water facilities (whether or not related to PFAS6 treatment);
- Legal expenses associated with determining liability or addressing other legal matters;
- Planning, design, or construction of new or reconfigured drinking water treatment facilities;
- Costs for work that has been funded or reimbursed by another federal or state grant or loan program (such as, but not limited to, the State Revolving Fund Program);
- Pilot studies or other investigations that will lead to permanent resolution of the PFAS6 contamination problem; and/or
- Attorney fees, engineering fees, or other administrative expenses related to the PWS response to PFAS6 exceedance.

Round 2 Grant Program term: approximately 3 months, from March 28, 2022 through June 30, 2022. (see Estimated Grant Procurement Calendar below).

Application Deadline:

The Grant Application deadline for Round 2 of the PFAS6 Interim Response Program is February 1, 2022, at 5 p.m.

In its discretion, MassDEP reserves the right to alter or revise the Round 2 application submission date and/or any other date set forth in the Estimated Grant Procurement Calendar, and/or eliminate or reduce the Round 2 funding based upon funding availability, and/or other factors.

Program structure: As noted above, a total of \$2,281,450 million has been made available for this program through FY22 state funds. Round 1 was recently completed, with 12 communities receiving funds totaling \$1,281,450. Up to an additional \$1 million is currently available for Round 2 of this program, contingent upon the continued availability of funding. Applications that have been received by the Grant Procurement Calendar deadline will be reviewed, selected, and awarded following the Round 2 application deadline. MassDEP is offering Round 2 of this program in recognition of the need to address the emergency nature of interim PWS public health measures to respond to the discovery of PFAS6 in a drinking water supply, as regulatory requirements for testing are expected to have revealed additional PFAS6 contamination following the announcement of Round 1 grant awards.

Estimated number of awards: 5+ awards. In its discretion, MassDEP reserves the right to alter the proportional amount of funding for Round 2, based upon applications received and/or public health risks identified that need immediate interim funding to address PFAS6 contamination.

Round 2 Total Grant award Funding Availability: Up to \$1,000,000

Estimated Maximum award: per system size (number of users)

Large (>50,000)	\$200,000
Medium (>3300 – 49,999)	\$150,000

Small (>500 -3299)	\$10,000
Very Small (up to 500)	\$1,500

Evaluation criteria:

This is a **reimbursement** grant program based upon presentation of eligible costs by Eligible Applicants to address PFAS6 contamination on an interim, emergency basis. Eligible applicants will receive funding in accordance with these application requirements:

- Documented PFAS6 exceedance per MGL 310 CMR 22.00
- Status as a Community and Non-Transient Non-Community (NTNC) MassDEP registered Public Water Systems as defined in 310 CMR 22.02, under public or private ownership
- No awards previously received by the PWS in Round 1 of this PFAS6 Interim Response Program
- Existence of an emergency that has not been funded or reimbursed by another federal or state grant or loan program (such as, but not limited to, the State Revolving Fund Program)
- Eligible expenses are already incurred to be submitted for reimbursement

In its discretion, the Grant Review Team may consider any and all relevant information that is or may become available through MassDEP’s Statewide Sampling Program or its Drinking Water Program activities, up to and including the date of MassDEP’s Grant Review Team’s final review meeting for the Round 2 applications, with respect to all applications submitted for funding through this Grant Program.

Funding availability: The total amount of funding currently available for all grant/reimbursement requests through Round 2 of this Program is up to \$1,000,000. Applicants should note that MassDEP reserves the right not to award the total funding currently available for this program and also reserves the right to award lesser individual grant/reimbursement amounts, based on availability of funds for this application period (i.e., Round 2). MassDEP also reserves the right to increase individual awards if all applicants have received the maximum awards and funds remain to be distributed at the end of the Round 2 application period.

Applicants should note that MassDEP currently anticipates that the following parameters will govern Round 2 of the PFAS6 Interim Response Grant awards:

- A maximum award per system size will apply, as noted above;
 - If the total amount of eligible requests for Round 2 funds exceeds \$1,000,000, each award in Round 2 will be reduced by a prorated amount based on the Funding Distribution Formula (see Attachment B); and
 - If the total amount of eligible requests for Round 2 funds is less than \$1,000,000, in its discretion, MassDEP may direct all or a portion(s) of any remaining funds to those cases with extraordinary public health needs, based upon MassDEP’s review of both the facts and project-specific circumstances.
- A. **Match Requirement:** There is no match requirement for the PFAS6 Interim Response Program.
- B. **No Bidders’ Conference:** No bidders’ conference will be held for this grant program. Applicants are encouraged to send questions to program.director-dwp@mass.gov by the deadline for submission of questions for Round 2, which is by 12 noon on the date shown on the Estimated

Grant Procurement Calendar. All Questions and MassDEP's official Answers will be posted on this website (<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/water-resources-grants-financial-assistance>) by 5 p.m. on the date listed in the Estimated Grant Procurement Calendar.

- C. **Total Anticipated Duration of Grant(s):** The grant contract duration period for Round 2 of this program will be through the end of FY22, i.e., from contract start date through June 30, 2022.
- D. **Applicable Procurement Law:** Grants-- MGL c. 7A, § 7; St. 1986 c. 206, § 17; 815 CMR 2.00
- E. **Application Completion and Submission Instructions:** For all requests, applicants must complete the attached application form. Once the Application Form is complete, the document can be submitted electronically in Microsoft Word; or, to reduce file size, the document may be converted and submitted as an Adobe PDF file.

Applications must be submitted electronically, via email to:

Yvette DePeiza, PFAS6 Interim Response Program Round 2 Grant Coordinator
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
program.director-dwp@mass.gov
617-292-5857

In the subject line of the email, please write the Applicant's name and "PFAS6 Interim Response Program" and specify "Round 2."

All applications must be received electronically by MassDEP by 5:00 P.M. by the required deadline for Round 2 of the PFAS6 Interim Response Program, as set forth in the Estimated Grant Procurement Calendar. Applications received after the deadline will be rejected automatically. MassDEP reserves the right to reject any and all proposals or request additional information if needed.

F. Additional Required Documentation:

Additional Forms: If selected for an award, the applicant will be required to submit the following forms to complete the contracting process. Forms with an asterisk * need not be submitted, if they have been completed previously and are already on file with the Commonwealth:

- [Commonwealth Standard Contract Form](https://www.macomptroller.org/forms), filled out and signed by the applicant
<https://www.macomptroller.org/forms>
- [Commonwealth Terms and Conditions](http://www.macomptroller.info/comptroller/docs/forms/contracts/CommonwealthTermsAndConditions.pdf)
<http://www.macomptroller.info/comptroller/docs/forms/contracts/CommonwealthTermsAndConditions.pdf> These Terms and Conditions are incorporated by reference into the Standard Contract Form, and do not need to be executed separately.
- [Commonwealth W-9 tax information form](#) filled out and signed by the applicant with DUNS number and Federal Tax ID *

- <http://www.macomptroller.info/comptroller/docs/forms/vendorcustomer/newmass-w9.pdf>
- Completed Contractor Authorized Signatory Listing Form
<https://www.macomptroller.org/forms>
- Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) form*
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/electronic-funds-transfer-sign-up-form-0/download>

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

Please note that applicants may be asked to complete these forms again if the application is accepted.

ESTIMATED GRANT PROCUREMENT CALENDAR

ROUND 2

Procurement Activity	Date	Time
Notice of Grant Reimbursement Opportunity for Round 2 (posted on COMMBUYS And MassDEP website)	Thursday, December 23, 2021	
Grant Reimbursement Opportunity Release Date (Posting Date) on MassDEP website (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/water-resources-grants-financial-assistance)	Thursday, December 23, 2021	
Deadline for Submission of Questions to MassDEP (prior to deadline, via email, to): program.director-dwp@mass.gov	Thursday, January 6, 2022	12 noon
Official Answers for Q&A published on MassDEP website (estimated), (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/water-resources-grants-financial-assistance)	Tuesday, January 18, 2022	5 P.M.
<u>GRANT/REIMBURSEMENT APPLICATION DEADLINE; ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION TO</u> program.director-dwp@mass.gov	Tuesday, February 1, 2022	5 P.M.
Notification of Grant/Reimbursement Award(s) (Estimated) (POSTED ON COMMBUYS AND MASSDEP WEBSITE, https://www.mass.gov/info-details/water-resources-grants-financial-assistance)	Monday, February 28, 2022	
Estimated Contract Start Date	Monday, March 28, 2022	

ATTACHMENT A

**Grant/Reimbursement Program Application
PFAS6 Interim Response Program, Round 2**

Overview: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has appropriated a total of \$2,281,450 million for use in FY22 to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) to help offset the cost of emergency response to MCL exceedances of “PFAS6” (the sum of six per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) contamination in drinking water. Round 1 of this program has been recently completed, leaving up to a total of \$1,000,00 in funding available for Round 2 grant awards. **This grant program provides funds for reimbursement of costs and expenses already incurred to impacted public water systems for measures taken to respond to a discovery of PFAS6 contamination in the drinking water supply.** Only projects that meet the specific requirements of the PFAS6 program outlined in this Grant/Reimbursement Opportunity will be considered for funding.

Applicant Information (NOTE: Applicant must be authorized by the specified organization to submit this application).

Applicant Name: _____ Applicant Title _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

PWS Name: _____ PWS ID number: _____

Type of system (COM/NTNC; public or private) _____

System size: _____ actual number of users during the maximum period of use (i.e., seasonal populations)

Affected Community: _____

Amount of funding requested:
\$ _____ Total

Application instructions:

Print, complete, and submit this form. Attach the following information/documentation in support of this Application:

- Narrative (maximum one page) describing the PWS’s need and strategy for responding to the immediate need for action; and
- Documentation detailing eligible **reimbursement** costs incurred up to and including the application date; and
- Documentation of PFAS6 exceedance, including PFAS6 sampling/analysis results.

ATTACHMENT B
Grant/Reimbursement Funding Distribution Formula

PFAS6 Interim Response Program, Round 2

Summary: Two Rounds of Grant/Reimbursement funding are provided for the PFAS6 Interim Response Program, with a total funding limit of \$2,281,450 million. Round 1 has been completed, leaving up to a total of \$1,000,000 in funding available for Round 2. If the total applications in Round 2 exceed \$1,000,000, awards to each applicant for Round 2 will be reduced by a calculation based on actual system users affected, utilizing the Funding Distribution Formula set forth below. Steps 1-3 of the Example below illustrates how the Funding Distribution Formula will be implemented to ensure that \$1,000,000 in grant funding is equitably distributed in Round 2.

For further information, see the Funding Availability section of the posted Grant/Reimbursement Opportunity (above).

Note: *The Department's goal is to create a simple and transparent process that aims to fairly distribute the Round 2 funds to all eligible applicants. The uncertainty over which systems will step forward at a given time to request grant relief, makes the distribution calculation somewhat complex. Reasonable assumptions and rounding of numbers have been used to create this distribution strategy.*

Basis for Funding Distribution Formula: for all Grant Rounds:

Maximum Grant/Reimbursement award: per system size (number of users)

Large (>50,000)	\$200,000
Medium (>3300 – 49,999)	\$150,000
Small (>500 -3299)	\$10,000
Very Small (up to 500)	\$1,500

Assumptions for Funding Distribution Formula calculation: The maximum award per system size is based upon the following: (1) for medium, small, and very small systems, the system has the maximum number of users for the size; (2) for large system users, the user population number = 65,000; and (3) the system unit cost = \$3 per user.

Examples of application of the Funding Distribution Formula:

1. In Round 2, two systems of each size (for a total of 8 applications) request the maximum award for its category, and each system is awarded funds by MassDEP. The total awards add up to \$723,000. Each applicant receives their requested award up to the maximum, and \$277,000 is held in reserve for final distribution by MassDEP.
2. In Round 2, multiple systems request the maximum award for their category, for a total of 8 award requests. The total awards requested for Round 2 add up to \$1,005,000, exceeding the \$1,000,000 maximum by \$5,000. Using the Funding Distribution Formula, the actual number of users for each of the eight systems is used as the basis to recalculate each award at a system unit cost of \$3 per user. If the amount still exceeds the \$1,000,000 in available funds after applying the Funding Distribution Formula, the per-person award is recalculated again (at a

reduced system unit cost per user) to stay within the \$1,000,000 maximum funding limit, in the following way: the recalculated amount that is still more than \$1,000,000, after adjustment to actual user numbers, is divided by the total number of users for all successful applicants. This yields a per-person discount that is equitably applied to the per-person calculation for each award amount.

3. In its discretion, MassDEP may direct all or a portion(s) of any funds remaining after distribution of Round 2 grant awards to those cases with extraordinary public health needs, based upon MassDEP review of both the facts and project-specific circumstances.