



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

Maura T. Healey
Governor

Kimberley Driscoll
Lieutenant Governor

Rebecca L. Tepper
Secretary

Bonnie Heiple
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August 23, 2023

RE: Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities (EC-SDC) Grant Program Update and Request for Information Survey

Dear Public Water Supplier:

On February 13, 2023, EPA announced the availability of the EC-SDC grant program. This program provides states with grants for Public Water Suppliers (PWS) in small or disadvantaged communities to address emerging contaminants, including PFAS. EPA allotted \$38 million to Massachusetts for the next two fiscal years.* Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) successfully applied for the Massachusetts allocation as required and received conditional approval to proceed with a grant program on August 10, 2023.**

MassDEP may provide EC-SDC grant funds for work that includes but is not limited to testing, planning and design, treatment, and PWS consolidation or creation. Small systems are PWS serving less than 10,000 persons and disadvantaged communities are those that meet the criteria specified by the [Disadvantaged Community program](#).

MassDEP is developing the work plan for the PWS that are eligible and ready to access grant funds for the next two fiscal years. Many of you responded to the initial survey we sent in April regarding your system's needs to address emerging contaminants. We are sending a second more comprehensive survey to you to help us compile a list of projects with detailed information regarding costs and readiness to proceed. Please note:

ACTION REQUESTED: If you already completed the April survey, or have a new project, we would greatly appreciate it if you could complete the attached form.*** **Please submit a separate form for each of your projects. Please email this information by August 30th to program.director-dwp@mass.gov.** Subject: PFAS Survey.

Upon review of your submittal, MassDEP Drinking Water Program staff may contact you for further information. If you have any questions on this information, you may also contact the MassDEP Drinking Water Program at program.director-dwp@mass.gov. Subject: PFAS Survey or 617-292-5770.

Sincerely,

Yvette DePeiza,
Program Director
MassDEP Drinking Water Program

* USEPA information on the EC-SDC grant program: [Emerging Contaminants \(EC\) in Small or Disadvantaged Communities Grant \(SDC\) | US EPA](#)

** Please Note: the needs of all eligible Massachusetts Public Water Suppliers in small or disadvantaged communities to address emerging contaminants far exceeds the available EC-SDC funding and therefore there will be a cap on the number grant awards and the amount of any single grant awarded to a PWS based on the statewide need. Public Water Systems may also apply to the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan program; MassDEP encourages you to do so if you are planning to construct a large water treatment facility to address PFAS contamination. The DWSRF program provides 0% interest rate loans for construction projects to address PFAS contamination as well as a percent of principal forgiveness on the loans for disadvantaged communities. See Information about the PFAS loans at [Zero Interest PFAS Mitigation Loans | Mass.gov](#) and how to apply for a loan at [State Revolving Fund Applications & Forms | Mass.gov](#).

*** This survey is for MassDEP Drinking Water Program general information gathering and is not an application for funding and as such does not guarantee grant program funding.