



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Division of Marine Fisheries

(617) 626-1520 | [www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries)



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Director

### Application for the Massachusetts On-Demand Mobile Gear Grant Program

**Applications are due by January 31, 2025**

As part of the Massachusetts Right Whale and Lobster Fishery Research Program, the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (MA DMF) will provide reimbursement of costs, or a portion of costs, for Massachusetts commercial mobile gear fishers to purchase equipment needed to visualize the location of on-demand (ropeless) fishing gear on the seafloor. MA DMF is providing grants for Massachusetts mobile gear commercial fishing permit holders to re-coop relevant costs incurred during the fixed gear closed season. Eligible items for such grants shall include but shall not be limited to the purchase, installation, and/or maintenance of satellite communication systems capable of providing information of on-demand gear locations, monthly costs for satellite services (up to four months corresponding to the MA state water closure period), a device to receive on-demand data, and on-demand software application downloads and/or subscriptions. The maximum amount per eligible vessel is up to \$6,000, pending plan approval by DMF.

For more information on this program, please visit [mass.gov/info-details/on-demand-gear-research-program](http://mass.gov/info-details/on-demand-gear-research-program). For questions concerning this application, contact MA DMF at [dmf.grants@mass.gov](mailto:dmf.grants@mass.gov).

#### **To qualify, you must meet the minimum requirements below:**

- Must have held a 2024 Massachusetts Commercial Fishing Permit and have renewed for 2025,
- and must be willing to provide a monthly questionnaire response.

Preference for awards will be given to vessels that have a history of mobile gear fishing within the Massachusetts Restricted Area (MRA; statistical area 514) and/or the South Islands Restricted Area (SIRA; statistical area 537) during the fixed gear closure period (Feb – May). Vessel histories will be assessed over a period from 2021-2023.

#### **To receive funding through this program, applicants must complete all three sections of this application:**

- Section 1: Complete all permit holder and vessel information.
- Section 2: Applicants may detail up to \$6,000 in eligible expenses in the Expense Worksheet.
- Section 3: Be sure to read, sign, and date the Certification.

Once all sections are complete, **return the application to the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, postmarked or emailed by January 31, 2025. Completed applications may be emailed to [dmf.grants@mass.gov](mailto:dmf.grants@mass.gov) or mailed to 836 S. Rodney French Blvd, New Bedford, MA 02744 (Attn: On-Demand Mobile Gear Grant Program).** If you are emailing the completed application, please include "On-Demand Mobile Gear Grant Program" and your Massachusetts permit number in the subject line of the email. **It is the applicant's responsibility to check the program website ([mass.gov/info-details/on-demand-gear-research-program](http://mass.gov/info-details/on-demand-gear-research-program)) to ensure their application is complete and has been received by the deadline, and if not, contact MA DMF prior to January 31, 2025. Applications emailed or postmarked after January 31, 2025, will not be considered for this program.**

**SECTION 1: MASSACHUSETTS COMMERCIAL PERMIT HOLDER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Please update or provide the information for your authorized representative. Applicants must complete an electronic DocuSign for W9 and EFT forms to receive funding. **These forms and a contract will be emailed to this contact after all eligible recipients have been determined.** Please review this information and make changes where necessary.

Information Needed for Reimbursement	Fill in Your Information in This Column
Permit Holder Name	
Phone Number	
Email	
MA Commercial Fishing Permit Number	
Vessel name	
MA vessel identification number	
Vessel target fisheries	

**SECTION 2: REIMBURSEMENT EXPENSE WORKSHEET**

Complete the worksheet below to detail the allowable expenses for which you are requesting reimbursement. When completing the worksheet, please note:

- DMF must pre-approve expenses for reimbursement.
- Expenses must be documented through records kept with the applicant. Copies of your receipts must be submitted to MADMF to receive reimbursement.

You may detail costs totaling up to \$6,000. MA DMF will only reimburse qualified applicants for eligible expenses up to the maximum payment amount. (Make additional copies of this table and submit all costs monthly as needed, along with questionnaire responses).			
Description of on-demand gear related purchases or services	Unit Cost	Quantity (#, month's service, etc.)	Total Cost
<b>TOTAL REQUESTED REIMBURSEMENT:</b>			<b>\$</b>

**SECTION 3: CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the information provided in Section 2 is accurate and I will provide documentation of the incurred expenses before submitting for reimbursement to MA DMF. I also affirm that I held a 2024 Massachusetts Commercial Fishing Permit and have renewed for 2025.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please type or print the name of authorized individual.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
This application must be signed by a person legally authorized to represent the entity submitting this application.