



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

# Department of Environmental Protection

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## **NOTICE OF GRANT OPPORTUNITY** **MS4 MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM**

**Summary of Grant Opportunity:** The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP or the Department) seeks proposals from groups of Massachusetts cities/towns; from Regional Planning Agencies on behalf of groups of Massachusetts cities/towns; from Massachusetts stormwater coalitions representing two or more municipalities; or from non-profit organizations on behalf of groups of Massachusetts cities/towns, for innovative projects that will assist multiple communities in meeting the requirements of the 2016 Small MS4 General Permit. The purpose of this funding is to enable groups of Massachusetts municipalities to expand their efforts to meet MS4 requirements and reduce stormwater pollution through coordinated partnerships that emphasize resource sharing.

**Grant Opportunity Application and Requirements:** The MS4 Municipal Assistance Grant Program document (MS4 Grant Program) was issued on September 27, 2019, and is posted on MassDEP's website at the following link:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/grants-financial-assistance-watersheds-water-quality#stormwater-ms4-municipal-assistance-grant-program>

**Eligible Entities:** Eligible applicants are groups of two or more Massachusetts municipalities that are subject to the 2016 Small MS4 General Permit; Regional Planning Agencies acting on behalf of two or more municipalities that are subject to the 2016 Small MS4 General Permit; Massachusetts stormwater coalitions representing two or more municipalities that are subject to the 2016 Small MS4 General Permit; or non-profit organizations acting on behalf of two or more municipalities that are subject to the 2016 Small MS4 General Permit.

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](http://www.mass.gov/dep)

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**Eligible Projects:** Eligible projects will result in tools or approaches that will help multiple municipalities meet one or more specific requirement(s) of the 2016 Small MS4 General Permit. Eligible projects must also:

- a. Provide a shared benefit to multiple communities
- b. Not duplicate work already done by any Massachusetts stormwater coalition
- c. Examples of potentially eligible, MS4-focused projects include, but are not limited to:
  - i. Development of a model stormwater ordinance and/or by-law by Eligible Entities to meet MS4 permit requirements (e.g., the post-construction requirements at Section 2.3.6 a ii);
  - ii. Formation of new regional MS4 coalitions in areas where none exist;
  - iii. MS4 Capital investments, including equipment;
  - iv. MS4 Outreach and Education services, materials, and/or strategies for public engagement;
  - v. Development of standard operating procedures or templates to meet MS4 permit requirements;
  - vi. Training to meet MS4 permit requirements;
  - vii. Survey research to identify needs of smaller MS4 municipalities; or
  - viii. Pursuit of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for overall improvement to stormwater management.
- d. Projects are eligible for this grant program at any phase, and funding will support work toward any phase(s) from planning through implementation. The Department estimates it will award up to 6 grants. Work funded by this program must be completed by June 30, 2020. All applicants must provide a feasible timeline for completion of the project prior to this deadline. Preference will be given to those grant proposals for projects that can be completed by an earlier date.
- e. Preference will be given to projects that directly assist the greatest number of municipalities.

**Grant Application Process:** The MS4 Grant Program document on MassDEP's website contains a grant application form, a procurement schedule describing the steps of the application process, all project proposal and qualification requirements, and a specific format for responding to this Grant Opportunity. Eligible entities should note that a Bidders' Conference on the MS4 Grant Program will be held on Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 10 a.m. at MassDEP's Worcester Office, located at 8 New Bond Street, Worcester, MA 01606.

**Evaluation Criteria:** The evaluation criteria components for MassDEP's review and scoring of Proposals are as specified in the MS4 Grant Program Document.

**Additional Information:** for additional information regarding the MS4 Grant Program, please refer to the MassDEP website link:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/grants-financial-assistance-watersheds-water-quality#stormwater-ms4-municipal-assistance-grant-program->