



Flexibility in Number of Submissions

Following the [recent announcement](#) of approximately \$1.5 million in additional funds for planning for housing made available through the Community Planning Grant Program in the Community One Stop, the Community Planning Grant Program will allow for municipal entities to receive more one Community Planning grant in the 2023 round of the Community One Stop for Growth. This flexibility is offered because these funds must be awarded and contracted by 6/30/23.

Can municipalities submit more than one Planning and Zoning application?

If a municipality intended to submit one project for consideration by the Community Planning Grant Program within the Planning and Zoning category of the One Stop, it can submit a second project for consideration as long as that project is eligible to receive funding through these additional funds (please review our [FY24 Additional Funding Announcement and Guidelines](#)).

What is the “early action” round and why is there one this year?

The “early action” round will be an expedited review process conducted by a review team immediately after the Community One Stop for Growth application deadline. This is necessary because these funds must be awarded by mid-June to be contracted by 6/30/23. Applicants should expect to hear whether their planning for housing project has been funded by mid-June.

How will the “early action” proposals be reviewed?

The Community Planning Grant Program remains a competitive grant and planning for housing proposals will be reviewed during an “early action” round by a review panel immediately after the Community One Stop application deadline (midnight on 6/2/23). Notification of awards for “early action” proposals is expected in mid-June. Please note, there are no “cooling off” periods for communities that received a Community Compact Cabinet grant last year.

What happens to planning for housing projects that are not funded in the “early action” round?

Projects not funded in the “early action” round will be reviewed by the Community Planning Grant Program and if applicable will be reviewed by the Housing Choice Grant Program and Rural and Small Town Development Fund.

Can a municipality be awarded more than one grant even if not awarded in the “early action” round?

It depends. All municipal entities are eligible to receive an award from these additional funds, and an award from the Community Planning Grant Program. Housing Choice designated Communities and Rural and Small Towns are eligible to receive funding for planning and zoning projects through those respective grant programs. If a proposal is strong and recommended for award, it may be funded by any combination of these grant programs, or none.

What can communities that did not receive an award from the “early action” funds do?

Proposals that are not funded in the “early action” round will still be reviewed by other eligible grant programs. If a community has questions, please contact Filipe Zamborlini, Community Grants Coordinator, at filipe.zamborlini@mass.gov, after the announcement of these additional funds has been made and inquire about the status of their projects or to request that a certain project be withdrawn from consideration or be prioritized over another.