

# OTA Services

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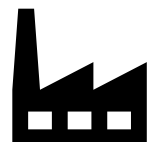
Director, Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance

# TURA and OTA Basics

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General program information

# Toxics Use Reduction Act (TURA) of 1989



## Who reports?

- Massachusetts manufacturers who:
  - Operate under certain Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes
  - Have >10 employees
  - Manufacture or process  $\geq 25,000$ lbs (or otherwise use  $\geq 10,000$ lbs) of listed substances
- This covers a little over 400 Massachusetts facilities



## What TURA requires

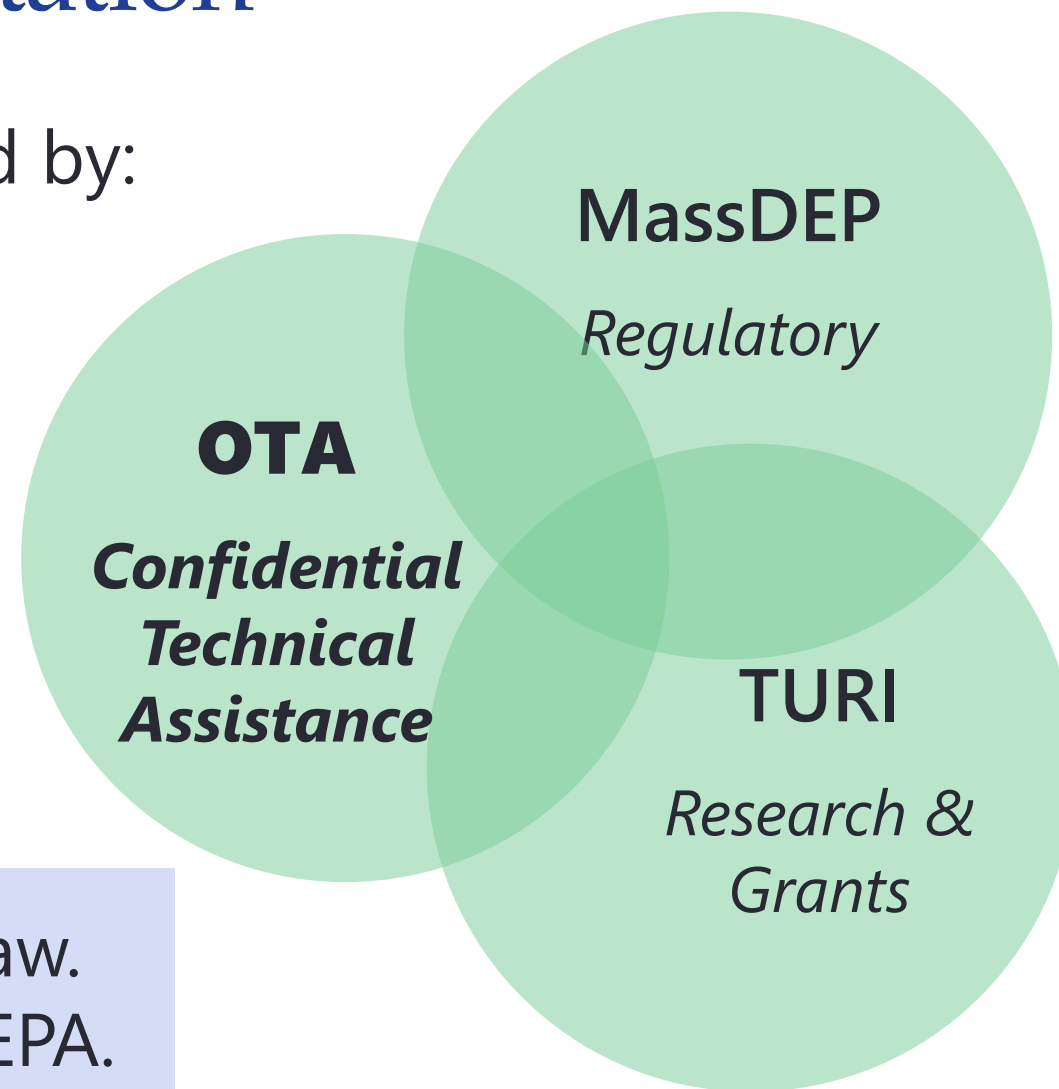
- Report to the state
- Pay a fee
- Create a Toxics Use Reduction Plan every two years

TURA does not prohibit companies from using listed chemicals.

# TURA Program Implementation

The TURA Program is co-implemented by:

- The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
- The Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance
- The Toxics Use Reduction Institute at UMass Lowell



TURA is a state law, not a federal law.  
OTA, DEP, and TURI are not part of EPA.

# Office of Technical Assistance (OTA)

- **Non-regulatory** agency
- Provides **free, confidential** technical and compliance assistance to MA businesses that use toxic substances
- Gives **concrete recommendations** for toxics reduction and resource conservation

OTA has conducted 3,500 site visits at 1,500 facilities, reducing **millions of pounds** of toxic chemicals and **millions of dollars** in operating costs.

# OTA Technical Assistance

- OTA can assist facilities with:
  - Toxics use reduction
  - Environmental compliance
  - Energy efficiency
  - Resource conservation
- Both onsite and remote assistance are available
- After a site visit, OTA delivers a report with tailored recommendations




# OTA Staff

- Chemists, engineers, and public health professionals
- Hands-on manufacturing experience



## OTA understands:

- Health and safety
  - The bottom line
  - Regulatory requirements
  - How to implement change
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# Frequently Asked Questions about OTA

Is OTA's work truly confidential?

Yes. OTA will **never** disclose anything about your company—not even that we worked with you—without your written permission.

What if I'm out of compliance with laws or regulations?

Then we'll help you get in compliance. We can't and won't report any violations.

What kinds of work has OTA done before?

Some companies have given us permission to talk about how we've helped them. Visit [mass.gov/ota](https://mass.gov/ota) to see our case study library.



# Upcoming Tabletop Exercises

## Chemical Safety & Climate Resilience

June 24, 2025

Lawrence Heritage State Park

June 25, 2025

Holyoke Community College

*Registration required –  
stay tuned for more information*

### **We're inviting:**

- Businesses using or storing chemicals
- Local public health officials
- Local emergency management directors
- Community-based organizations

### **To learn about:**

- Chemical hazards and preventing chemical exposure during a disaster
- Improvements to your emergency response plan that can help mitigate chemical emergency impacts
- Available technical assistance resources to reduce risk from chemical hazards