

## Massachusetts CARES Act Fisheries Relief – For-hire Sector

### Round One Funding Information

#### **Charter Boat Program Overview:**

Applications were mailed to all individuals who obtained a MA 2020 Charter Boat Permit prior to June 1. All applications and appeals were due August 22, 2020. Checks were mailed to those eligible to receive relief funds the week of September 15, 2020. See the [Charter Boat Round One Application Status for CARES Act Fisheries Relief](#) for the list of Round One applicants and recipients. Overall Funding: \$584,000

#### **Basic Program Eligibility:**

1. Must have held a MA 2020 Charter Boat Permit by June 1.
2. Must have held a MA 2019 Charter Boat Permit.
3. Must have met a threshold of at least 50 for-hire fishing trips in 2018 or 2019.
4. Must have suffered a 35% revenue loss during March 1 - June 30, 2020, compared to the prior 5-year average during the same time frame.
5. Must be a Massachusetts resident, with an exception for non-residents who fish entirely out of MA and were not eligible to receive CARES Act Sec. 12005 for-hire fishing aid from another state.
6. Assistance from this and other federal relief programs plus traditional revenue must not make the applicant more than whole. The determination of “made more than whole” will include the calendar year and be based on a comparison to the average revenue earned across the previous 5-year period.
7. Must be in good standing with the State and Federal government.

#### **Vessel Tiering & Payment Share:**

- Eligible participants were binned by vessel size (length) and vessel activity level (annual # for-hire fishing trips) using available data.
- Tax Records were required to support an “Active” vessel designation except for those with qualified Vessel Trip Reports.
- Applicants could appeal their assigned bin, providing vessel registration documentation for a revised vessel size class or tax records for a revised vessel activity level.
- Payment shares were scaled by bin according to vessel size (small is < 28’ and large is ≥ 28’) and activity level in a calendar year (< 50 trips is ineligible and ≥ 50 trips is eligible):

	Share	Payment
Any size vessel < 50 trips	0	\$0
Small vessel ≥ 50 trips	0.5	\$4,672
Large vessel ≥ 50 trips	1.0	\$9,344

**Head Boat Program Overview:**

Applications were emailed to all individuals who obtained a MA 2020 Head Boat Permit prior to June 1. All applications and appeals were due June 30, 2020. Those found eligible to receive relief funds received payments in late July 2020. See the [Head Boat Round One Application Status for CARES Act Fisheries Relief](#) for the list of Round One applicants and recipients. Overall Funding: \$416,000

**Basic Program Eligibility:**

1. Must have held a MA 2020 Head Boat Permit by June 1.
2. Must have held a MA 2019 Head Boat Permit.
3. Must have met a threshold of at least 10 for-hire fishing trips in 2018 or 2019.
4. Must have suffered a 35% revenue loss during March 1–June 30, 2020, compared to the prior 5-year average during the same time frame.
5. Must be a Massachusetts resident, with an exception for non-residents who fish entirely out of MA and were not eligible to receive CARES Act Sec. 12005 for-hire fishing aid from another state.
6. Assistance from this and other federal relief programs plus traditional revenue must not make the applicant more than whole. The determination of “made more than whole” will include the calendar year and be based on a comparison to the average revenue earned across the previous 5-year period.
7. Must be in good standing with the state and federal government.

**Vessel Tiering & Payment Share:**

- Eligible participants were binned by vessel size (length) and vessel activity level (annual # for-hire fishing trips) using available data.
- Applicants could appeal their assigned bin, providing vessel registration documentation for a revised vessel size class or logbook data for a revised vessel activity level.
- Payment shares were scaled by bin according to vessel size (small is ≤ 40’, medium is 41’ to ≤ 65’, and large is ≥ 66’) and activity level in a calendar year (< 10 trips is ineligible, 10 to ≤ 40 trips is limited, and ≥ 41 trips is active).

	<b>Share</b>	<b>Payment</b>
<b>Any size vessel &lt; 10 trips</b>	0	\$0
<b>Small vessel limited</b>	0.0625	\$1,432
<b>Small vessel active</b>	0.25	\$5,728
<b>Medium vessel limited</b>	0.15625	\$3,580
<b>Medium vessel active</b>	0.625	\$14,320
<b>Large vessel limited</b>	0.25	\$5,728
<b>Large vessel active</b>	1.0	\$22,912

**Additional information:**

- ASMFC mailed 1099 forms to charter boat recipients on February 24, 2021. Head boat recipients should email [dmf.caresrelief@mass.gov](mailto:dmf.caresrelief@mass.gov) for inquiries about their 1099 forms.
- For 2020, if you have been made "more than whole" by this relief payment, please see guidance to return relief funds: [MA CARES Act Fisheries Relief Payment Return](#)