



MASSACHUSETTS
**DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY RESOURCES**

Regional School District Decarbonization Grant Program Overview

COMMBUYS Bid Number: BD-25-1041-ENE01-ENE01-117596

Agency Document Number: PON-ENE-2025-032

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Presented by
Caitlin Hart, Clean Energy Project Coordinator, DOER Green
Communities

Mark Rabinsky, Deputy Director, DOER Green Communities



Green Communities Contacts

Regional Coordinators act as direct liaisons with cities and towns on energy activities

Northeastern MA:

Dillan Patel

857-283-1264 – cell

Dillan.Patel@mass.gov



Western MA:

Chris Mason

857-753-2159 – cell

Christopher.Mason2@mass.gov

Central MA:

Kelly Brown

617-780-8144 – cell

Kelly.Brown@mass.gov



Southeastern MA:

Lisa Sullivan

617-312-4018 – cell

Lisa.M.Sullivan@mass.gov

Joanne Bissetta, Director - Joanne.Bissetta@mass.gov

Mark Rabinsky, Deputy Director - Mark.Rabinsky@mass.gov

Caitlin Hart, Clean Energy Project Coordinator - Caitlin.Hart@mass.gov



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PON-ENE-2025-032



Eligibility

Eligibility (1 of 2)

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- Applicants must be Regional School Districts (RSDs) as defined in [603 CMR 41.00](#)
- Applicants meeting the minimum requirements as described in the PON are encouraged to apply
- Applications will be evaluated based on the proposed deployment plan for and cost-effectiveness of electrified solution(s), as well as the respective emissions reduction benefits and co-benefits, where applicable
- If funds are limited, the Program may prioritize eligible Applicants or projects in the following order:
 - Located in disadvantaged communities, as defined by the Justice40 Initiative
 - Not currently part of the Green Communities Program, and thereby ineligible for Green Communities grants
 - Not eligible for Mass Save incentives because Applicant isn't served by a Mass Save utility

Eligibility (2 of 2)

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- To apply for Block 1 of funding, Applicants must do the following **by September 5, 2025 at 4:00 PM:**
 - Submit a Statement of Interest
 - Meet with Green Communities staff to discuss proposed project(s)
 - Solicit quotes
 - Submit application(s) using the Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Grant Management System (GMS)
- **Future Blocks will be open dependent on remaining funding, with application deadlines:**
 - Block 2: March 6, 2026 by 4:00 PM
 - Block 3: September 4, 2026 by 4:00 PM
 - Block 4: March 5, 2027 by 4:00 PM



Award Limits

Award limits (1 of 7)

For Applicants applying for projects located in Justice40 communities
(with Climate and Environmental Justice (EJ) Adder)

Space conditioning projects

\$200,000

Water heating projects

\$150,000

Battery powered facilities maintenance equipment

\$150,000

Commercial kitchen equipment

\$150,000

The maximum grant award per Applicant, including qualifying adders, is **\$250,000**.

Climate and environmental justice (EJ) adder (2 of 7)

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This adder provides up to one hundred percent (100%) of the respective category amounts after accounting for other available incentives.

If the project location, determined by the site street address, falls within a disadvantaged census block under the federal Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, this adder shall apply.

Award limits (3 of 7)

For Applicants applying for projects located in Justice40 communities (with Climate and Environmental Justice (EJ) Adder) *plus* Pollinator Habitat Creation Adder

Space conditioning projects

\$200,000

Water heating projects

\$150,000

Battery powered facilities maintenance equipment

\$150,000

\$5,000 to \$10,000 adder

Commercial kitchen equipment

\$150,000

The maximum grant award per Applicant, including qualifying adders, is \$250,000.

Pollinator habitat creation adder (4 of 7)

This adder can be applied when BPFME is purchased in conjunction with the creation of a new productive pollinator habitat at the site.

- 0.5 – 1.5 acres: up to \$5,000
- > 1.5 acres: up to \$10,000

Applicants may request this for costs associated with site preparation, including but not limited to:

- seeds
- plants
- bulking agents
- site preparation
- equipment rental
- third-party vendor services

Award limits (5 of 7)

For Applicants applying for projects that are not located in Justice40 communities

Space conditioning projects

\$200,000 (25% match required)

Water heating projects

\$150,000 (25% match required)

Battery powered facilities maintenance equipment

\$150,000 (25% match required)

Commercial kitchen equipment

\$150,000 (25% match required)

The maximum grant award per Applicant, including qualifying adders, is \$250,000.

Award limits (6 of 7)

For Applicants applying for projects that are not located in Justice40 communities *plus* Pollinator Habitat Creation Adder

Space conditioning projects

\$200,000 (25% match required)

Water heating projects

\$150,000 (25% match required)

Battery powered facilities maintenance equipment

\$150,000 (25% match required)

\$5,000 to \$10,000 adder

Commercial kitchen equipment

\$150,000 (25% match required)

The maximum grant award per Applicant, including qualifying adders, is \$250,000.

Award limits (7 of 7)

- Each Applicant may receive no more than **\$250,000**
- For projects located in Justice40 communities, the project category grant may cover 75% of the project cost, and the Climate and Environmental Justice Adder may cover 25% of project cost (no match required)
- For projects not located in Justice40 communities, the project category grant may cover 75% of the project cost, and a 25% match is required



Scenarios

Scenario 1— Prescott Regional School District

Climate and Economic Justice Adder

Item	Cost	Utility Incentive	Cost less Incentives	Grant Request (75%)	RSD Match (25%)
Space Conditioning System (ASHP)	300,000	25,000	275,000	200,000	75,000
Heat Pump Water Heater	50,000	3,500	46,500	34,875	11,625
Battery-Powered Facilities Maint. Equipment	7,000	3,500	3,500	2,625	875
Commercial Kitchen Equipment	25,000	3,500	21,500	12,500	90
Total	382,000	35,500	346,500	250,000	96,500

Scenario 2— Dana Regional School District

Climate and Economic Justice Adder

Pollinator Habitat Creator Adder

Item	Cost	Utility Incentive	Cost less Incentives	Grant Request (75%)	RSD Match (25%)
Heat pump system	180,000	50,000	130,000	97,500	32,500
Battery-powered mower equipment	7,000	3,500	3,500	2,625	875
Adder: Pollinator Habitat >1.5 acres	10,000	-	10,000	10,000	-
Total	197,000	53,500	143,500	110,125	33,375

Scenario 3— Greenwich Regional School District

Climate and Economic Justice Adder

Item	Cost	Utility Incentive	Cost less Incentives	Grant Request	RSD Match
Heat pump system	295,000	50,000	245,000	200,000	45,000
Kitchen Equipment	75,000	10,000	65,000	50,000	15,000
Total	370,000	60,000	310,000	250,000	60,000



Categories

Project category: Space conditioning

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- Replacement of systems currently fueled by oil, natural gas, propane, or electric resistance with air-source heat pumps (ASHPs)
- Standards:
 - When applicable: MA Appliance Energy and Water Efficiency Standards
 - DOER Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard (APS)
 - Alternative: ENERGY STAR[®] Certified
 - Whenever possible: Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP) Cold Climate Air-Source Heat Pump Specification Product List

Project category: Water heating

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- Replacement of systems that are currently fueled by oil, natural gas, propane, or electric resistance with efficient electric heat pump technology or the most efficient electric alternative
- Standards
 - When applicable: MA Appliance Energy and Water Efficiency Standards, when applicable
 - ENERGY STAR® Certified

Project category: Battery powered facilities maintenance equipment

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- Electrification of existing fossil fuel-based landscaping equipment owned by and used at eligible RSD facilities, including:
 - Lawnmowers
 - leaf blowers
 - string trimmers
 - off-road electric utility vehicles
 - hedge trimmers
 - lawn edgers
 - pole saws
 - Chainsaws
- Additional batteries, charging equipment, and applicable accessories are eligible if Applicants can demonstrate necessity
- Standards:
 - When applicable: MA Appliance Energy and Water Efficiency Standards
 - MA Operational Services Division (OSD) Commercial Grade Battery-Powered Landscape Equipment Specifications
 - American Green Zone Alliance (AGZA) Field Tested Certified

Project category: Commercial kitchen equipment

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- Electrification of fossil fuel-based commercial kitchen or food service equipment owned by eligible RSD facilities, including:
 - griddles
 - fryers
 - steam cookers
 - pre-rinse spray valves
 - broilers
 - ovens
 - induction cooktops
- Standards:
 - When applicable: MA Appliance Energy and Water Efficiency Standards
 - ENERGY STAR® Certified



Federal Funding Requirements

Federal funding requirements: Property + equipment

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Relevant to: All projects

When Federal funds are invested into real property and/or used to purchase equipment, there are standards for use, decommissioning, and sales (2 CFR 200.310 – 200.316; 2 CFR 910.360)

Federal funding requirements: Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA)

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Relevant to: Space conditioning and water heating projects

When Federal funds are used for infrastructure projects as defined by the Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA), the following must be certified as manufactured in the United States:

- Iron and steel
- Manufactured products
- Construction materials

Federal funding requirements: Davis-Bacon and Related Acts (DBRA)

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p. 12

Relevant to: Space conditioning and water heating projects

When Federal funds are used for infrastructure projects over \$2,000, labor compliance standards must be met, including:

- Payment of Federal prevailing wage to all laborers
- Submission of certified payroll on a weekly basis once project work begins onsite



Application

Please remember/note...

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- The application should include estimated **utility incentives**

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- The application must include relevant vendor quote(s)

Application Logistics

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- Use COMMBUYS Q+A section for grant-related questions
 - Block 1 by July 11, 2025; answered by July 25, 2025

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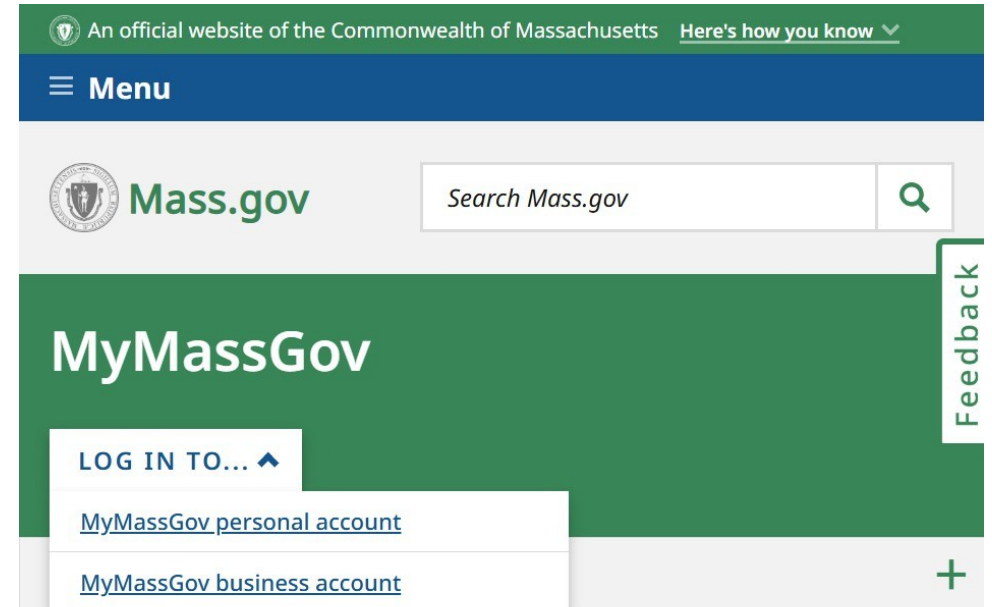
- Must use *EEA's online application portal GMS*
 - Do not submit applications to COMMBUYS

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- Follow instructions
 - Submit Statement of Interest in advance, meet with GC staff, and await Notice to Proceed
 - Reach out to Caitlin Hart for clarification
 - caitlin.hart@mass.gov
 - 617-626-7319

Grant Management System (GMS)

- **Create user profile**
 - Obtain a username and password via [MyMassGov](#).
 - When creating your new MyMassGov username and password, please select the **business account** option and use your **work email address**.
 - Follow the steps to verify your email address and set up multifactor authorization.
- **Navigate to the RSD Decarbonization Grant Program**
 - Log into MyMassGov and select the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Grant Management System **or** access the site at greenhub.mass.gov.
 - Click on the RSD Decarbonization Grant Program.
 - Note: The System will request information about the user in order to validate the user. Users will not be provided access to the grant application until their profile is validated. Validation may require one or more days to complete.



MyMassGov is a secure service that provides people with a single account and password to sign in to all participating Massachusetts state services and applications.




Grant Management System (GMS) uploads

- Complete Attachment B: Application Form
- Complete GMS application form, using information from Attachment B: Application Form
- Upload Attachment B: Application Form and other supporting materials
- Submit and track application status

Summary Tasks **Policies & Procedures** Task Checklist Evaluations Grants Info Requests Audit Trail Budget

Program Procedures



Application Open Date
6/5/2025

Application Close Date
9/5/2025

Application Details - Custom Fields On Application Form

- > Project Details
- > Estimated Project Savings
- > Project Cost & Grant Funding



Q + A



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Thank You!