
Notice of Grant Funding Availability
Massachusetts Fire Sprinkler System Program
A MassHousing/DHCD Program
November 10, 2022

MassHousing is pleased to announce the availability of \$3.8M in grant funds through the Massachusetts Fire Sprinkler System Program (FSSP) grant. These FSSP funds are offered to Massachusetts Association of Sober Homes (MASH) certified Sober Homes to install sprinkler systems in compliance with local and state fire codes. MassHousing is administering this program, which is authorized by line item 7004-9318 of Chapter 102 of the Acts of 2021, in coordination with the Department of Housing and Community Development and Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Grant Application Details and Instructions

How much grant assistance is available?

- \$3,800,000 total available statewide for sober home sprinkler retrofits
- One time grant amounts up to \$80,000

Who is eligible?

Applicants must propose automatic sprinkler system installations that benefit Massachusetts residents, and:

- be an owner or operator of a **MASH Certified** Sober Home, in good standing *as evidenced by signed Good Standing form from MASH*; or
- be an owner or operator of a home that has voluntarily decertified due to local adoption of M.G.L. c. 148 s. 26H; and
- have operated the same house for at least one year and have participated in the MASH recertification process at least once.
- own the property for which funds are being requested or apply jointly with the property owner.

MassHousing strongly encourages applications from Sober Homes owned or controlled by minorities, women, persons with disabilities, veterans, or persons who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community.

How do I submit an application?

- **Complete and submit the online application found [here](#).**
- Email all required attachments in one email to FSSP@MassHousing.com and include in the Subject line: MassHousing Fire Sprinkler System Grant Application – *Your Sober Home Name*
- Request an automatic delivery/read receipt.

What are allowable costs?

Design, permitting, purchase and installation costs for an automatic sprinkler system are eligible for grant funds.

Matching Funds

- No Match Required

What are the Program Priorities?

- **Priority One** MASH **Certified** Sober Homes with 6 or more residents who have been cited or are at-risk of being cited due to local municipality adoption of M.G.L. c. 148, section 26H
- **Priority Two** Homes that voluntarily de-certified due to the local adoption of M.G.L. c. 148 s. 26H and who were in good standing prior to de-certifying may also apply with documentation from MASH.
- **Priority Three** MASH **Certified** Sober Homes with fewer than 6 residents; or in a municipality that has not yet adopted M.G.L. c.148, 2.26H; or requiring upgrades to existing fire sprinkler systems.

MassHousing reserves the right to increase or decrease the maximum award for each proposal, and to fund proposals from of the priorities listed above.

What is the anticipated timetable for submission and funding decisions?

- Funding availability announced: November 10, 2022
- Applications accepted: Ongoing beginning November 14, 2022
- MassHousing will make awards within a reasonable timeframe as applications are received and reviewed.
- Applications will be accepted until June 30, 2026, or until all program funds have been expended.
- All expenditures must be made and submitted no later than June 30, 2027.

If awarded, how will I be notified?

- The contact person will receive notice at the email address provided on the online Application.

If awarded, how will I receive the funds?

- Funds will be awarded as follows:
 - 30% upon signing a purchase/installation contract for an automatic sprinkler system.
 - An additional 60% may be requested as progress payments during construction
 - Final 10% after submission of local fire department inspection confirming completion of project and a final bill from the system installer.
- Funds will be transferred to your identified bank account.

Award Conditions

- Awards will consist of a one-time commitment for a twelve-month period. Any award amounts not expended within eighteen months may be recaptured by MassHousing.
- MassHousing reserves the right to award all or no funding portion of each year's funding allocation.
- If a project is awarded and receives MassHousing funding under this RFP, such housing must remain a MA **certified sober home** for a minimum of five years. For joint applications, ALL parties must agree to these terms.

Questions?

- Please direct other questions, if any, to FSSP@masshousing.com.