



**2025**  
**MassHousing**  
**Food and**  
**Nutrition Access**  
**Grant**  
**Info Session**  
**2.28.25**

Housing Stability Department  
Notice of Funding Availability  
Maximum \$10,000 per  
application



# Agenda

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- Overview
- Eligible Initiatives
- Application Requirements
- Evaluation Criteria
- Proposal Requirements
- Reporting Requirements
- Accessing Application
- Application Deadline
- Q&A



# The Importance of Food, Nutrition, and Housing

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"The right to adequate food is indivisibly linked to the inherent dignity of the human person and is indispensable for the fulfillment of other human rights." – *United Nations*

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Food insecurity and housing instability are associated with negative health outcomes in children and adults. Families who experience food insecurity are at increased risk of experiencing housing instability.- *Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics*

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Nearly 2 million adults in Massachusetts face food insecurity – *The Greater Boston Food Bank*



MassHousing  
Housing  
Stability  
Department

MassHousing's mission is to confront the housing challenges facing the Commonwealth to improve the lives of its people.

The Housing Stability Department **provides training, programming, and investments to reduce evictions and advance opportunity in multifamily communities across Massachusetts.**

# Overview 2025 Food and Nutrition Grant

**Maximum \$10,000 per application**

This grant aims to:

- Expand access to nutritious food in MassHousing-financed developments
- Address food insecurity as a social determinant of health
- Support innovative solutions to improve food availability and education

**Priority is given to low-income communities and areas with limited access to fresh food.**



# Programs must target MassHousing Financed Sites

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- To confirm MassHousing developments, please review the *MassHousing Rental Housing List*:
- <https://masshousing.com/renters/housing-list>



## HOUSING LIST

August 17, 2023

# Eligible Initiatives

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## 1. **Community Garden Initiatives:**

Ex. Shared gardens, individual plots, container gardens, raised beds, indoor and greenhouse gardening.

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## 2. **Mobile Farmers Markets & Produce Programs:**

Ex. Bringing fresh, local produce to underserved areas i.e., nutrition education, cooking demonstrations, mobile food pantries.

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## 3. **Other Creative Initiatives:**

Ex. Programs that enhance food and nutrition access within housing sites i.e., food heritage programs, grocery store partnerships, prepared meal services for seniors, youth led food initiatives, gardening workshops.

# Application Requirements



Programs must be active during the 2025 planting, growing, and harvest season (May - Oct 2025).



Initiatives should focus on food insecurity in low-income communities and areas with limited access to fresh foods.



Developments must confirm that no restrictions exist for garden installations.



Applications must outline project feasibility.



# Evaluation Criteria

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Applications will be evaluated based on:

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1. Articulated community need and barriers to food access.

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2. Potential impact to increase food security and access.

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3. Budget reasonableness and project feasibility.

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# Proposal Requirements



Submit proposals electronically [housingstabilitygrants@masshousing.com](mailto:housingstabilitygrants@masshousing.com) with the subject line **Food and Nutrition Access Grant**.

# Reporting Requirements

A one-page report summarizing activities and accomplishments must be submitted to MassHousing by November 15, 2025.

A reporting template will be provided upon grant approval.

# Accessing Application

- The application is available on the Rental Business Portal or may be requested by emailing [housingstabilitygrants@masshousing.com](mailto:housingstabilitygrants@masshousing.com)
- Interested sites can gain access to the Rental Business Portal by contacting their organization's Primary Partner Administrator (PPA) and any designated secondary administrators.
- Application is provided as a 4-page fillable PDF form. Attachments and supportive documents are allowed and welcomed.

MassHousing  
Housing Stability Department  
Food and Nutrition Access  
Funding Opportunity  
Maximum \$10,000

Submit application form to [housingstabilitygrants@masshousing.com](mailto:housingstabilitygrants@masshousing.com)

Site Name:  MassHousing ID:

Management Company:  Owner:

Contact Person:  Email:  Phone:

Project Title:

Project Start Date:  Project End Date:

1. What type of initiative are you requesting funding for (select all that apply):

Community Garden

Shared Garden       Individual Gardens

Container Gardening       Raised Gardening

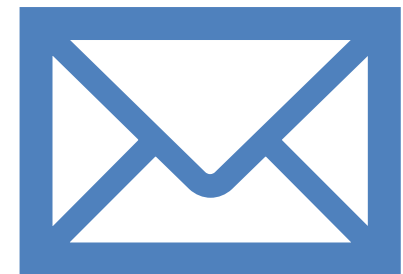
Farmers Market and Produce Programs

Other: Please Specify

Is this a New or Existing Initiative?

New     Existing

2. Site and Community Description: (Please include information about your site including affordability and green space, and relative data and information about food access and food security in the community.)



# Application Deadline & Contact Information

- Application Deadline: **March 21, 2025, by Midnight EST.**
- Submit Applications to:  
**housingstabilitygrants@masshousing.com**
- For inquiries, email  
**housingstabilitygrants@masshousing.com**



# Q&A

## What is the maximum funding available per application?

- The maximum funding available per application is **\$10,000**.

## What are some eligible initiatives for the grant?

- **Community Garden Initiatives:** Shared gardens, individual plots, container gardens, raised beds, and gardening workshops.
- **Mobile Farmers Markets & Produce Programs:** Bringing fresh, local produce to underserved areas, including nutrition education.
- **Other Creative Initiatives:** Programs that enhance food and nutrition access within housing sites.

## What are the application requirements for the grant?

- Programs must be active during the **2025 planting, growing, and harvest season (May - Oct 2025)**.
- Initiatives should focus on food insecurity in **high need communities**.
- Developments must confirm that no restrictions exist for garden installations.
- Applications must outline project feasibility.

# Q&A

## What criteria will be used to evaluate applications?

- Articulated community needs and barriers to food access.
- Potential impact on food. insecurity and lack of food access.
- Feasibility of the proposed project.

## What is the application deadline?

- The application deadline is **March 21, 2025, by Midnight EST.**

## What are the reporting requirements for the grant?

- A one-page report summarizing activities and accomplishments must be submitted to MassHousing by **November 15, 2025.** A reporting template will be provided upon grant approval.