

MGH Community Health Impact Funds

Economic Stability and Mobility Funds Allocation/Letter of Intent (LOI) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Who is eligible to apply?

Massachusetts-based workforce development centers, academic centers, other non-profit community-based organizations, and municipalities servicing Suffolk County are eligible to apply.

Internal MGB affiliated community, clinical or research departments are **not** eligible for this funding.

2. What is the timeline for funding and how much is expected to be allocated to the three strategies?

There is a total funding amount of \$15 Million dollars that will be distributed over the next 7 years like this:

Funding for strategy A- Innovative Workforce Development Strategies:

Available now: \$2 Million. An additional 4 million will be released in future years.
\$6 Million total will be released.

Funding for strategy B- Invest in Multilingual Workforce:

Funding will start to be released in 2025.
\$6 Million in total will be released.

Funding for strategy C- Training on Wealth Building and Business Loans:

Available now: \$1 Million.
An additional 2 million will be released in the coming years.
\$3 Million in total will be released.

Total to allocate during the current grant opportunity: \$2 Million for Strategy A, and \$1 Million for strategy C.

Projects for strategy A should be designed to extend 3 years.

Projects for strategy C can be designed to extend from 1-4 years.

Proposals should reflect this intention.

3. What types of economic stability and mobility grants are available and how do they differ?

Economic Stability and Mobility strategies approved for funding during this cycle:

A) Innovative Workforce Development Strategies: Adopt innovative workforce development strategies to train low-and moderate-income residents, as well as returning citizens (through e.g., apprenticeships, as well as promotion and training for new careers such as Community Health Workers (CHWs) and Community Liaisons, Childcare Specialists, etc.

C) Training on Wealth Building and Business Loans:

Provide entrepreneurs within the community with training on financial management and sustainability, how to establish wealth and financing for new businesses (e.g., new childcare businesses, etc.).

We're funding projects that aim to make it easier for everyone to find work or get financial support. Proposed projects could involve implementing one or a mix of strategies aimed at enhancing inclusivity in workforce development or financing opportunities. Funding is allocated for upstream initiatives intended to modify operating infrastructure or policies that have historically marginalized certain populations. These projects might change how things are done to include people who have been left out before. For example:

1. Helping schools and businesses work together to help students get jobs.
2. Offering training programs at work to help employees learn new skills or languages. Upstream changes for trainings involve adjusting the way training opportunities are provided or integrated into existing systems. Instead of focusing solely on individual training programs, upstream changes look at broader structures or policies that can enhance access to training for a larger group of people.
3. Trying out new loan programs to help small businesses, even if they don't meet all the usual rules.

We're also interested in projects that want to change local or state rules to make things fairer for everyone. Proposed projects may include one or a combination of strategies.

b) What documentation (forms or proof of status) is required?

At this stage, for the letter of intent (LOI), none. No documents outside of the LOI are required at this time.

If invited to submit a full proposal, you will need to include all the components described and required by the Request for Proposals such as a W-9 form.



c) What are the priority neighborhoods?

- Any Boston neighborhood
- City of Chelsea
- City of Revere
- Town of Winthrop

d) Is there a limit to the amount of funds requested?

Strategy A: \$2 M available for an estimate of 8-10 awards.
Max amount awarded \$300, 000.00 over 3 years.
Indirect costs at 20%

Strategy C: \$1 M available for an estimate of 10 awards.
Max amount awarded \$100,00.00 over 1-4 years.
Indirect costs at 20%

Applicants should apply for what they need.

During this phase of the process, the allocation committee will gain an understanding of the need in communities and the creative ways organizations and municipalities would like to respond to these needs.

e) What are the deadlines and announcement dates?

Event	Date
1. Letter of Intent (LOI) Opens	April 22, 2024
2. Informational Forum for LOI	May 1, from 12 to 1:30 PM, 2024
3. Due Date for Letter of Intent	May 17, 2024
4. Selected applicants get notified	June 24, 2024
5. Release of final Request for Proposals	June 26, 2024
6. RFP Technical Support	Upon request
7. Due date for RFP	July 26, 2024
8. Notification of Awards	September, 2024

f) Can one organization apply for more than one grant?

Yes, organizations can submit more than one LOI if the organization has multiple projects that fit the criteria. However, please note that every LOI submitted is competing against all others submitted, even against those submitted by the same organization.



g) What are the restrictions on the usage of these funds?

By Department of Public Health guidelines, funds must address social determinants of health (SDoH) and health equity with an upstream (structural/policy) approach to improving community health in the target areas.

These funds must address Economic Stability and Mobility (ES&M) through the strategies identified by the Community Advisory Board (CAB) and overseen by the ES&M Allocation Committee outlined in question #3. Proposals must serve one or more of the listed regions (see question #5). As per the Department of Public Health, funds are not allowed to be awarded to the following projects or activities:

1. Medical treatments
2. Clinical/community linkage programs for existing or future patients
3. Capital and operating expenses for medical programs
4. Costs of transportation to/from the hospital and services unless necessary to accomplish objectives of a specific community health improvement strategy.
5. Reimbursed services, costs associated with developing or expanding interpretive services.
6. Funding support for (Community Health Improvement (CHIP) Coordinating organizations (such as the Boston Collaborative, or North Suffolk Collaborative, etc.)

h) Will there be an information session to learn more?

Yes! We are offering an information forum on May 1 from 12-1:30. To attend, please register [here](#).

i) Where can I find help to access and work on the LOI form?

We will be offering a training during the information forum on May 1 from 12-1:30. Also, attached to the LOI application site is an instructional document that will walk you through the steps on how to register for an account in Survey Monkey Apply to access and fill out the LOI.

For more specific questions, feel free to contact **Sylvia Chiang** at srchiang@mgh.harvard.edu.

j) What criteria will be considered in the evaluation of the LOI?

The Economic Stability and Mobility Allocation Committee will be looking for the following criteria in the LOI:

- The project addresses one or more of the strategies outlined.
- The project addresses the needs of priority neighborhoods and areas.



- The project impacts a policy, system, or environmental change.
- The project addresses equity in our communities by benefitting disenfranchised groups.
- The applicant reflects the capacity to manage and implement the project.
- The impact of the project aligns with the cost.
- The project outlines a strong community engagement process.

The review committee will ensure that proposals represent work from all areas of Suffolk County.

For further questions please submit your inquiry to srchiang@mgh.harvard.edu. These FAQs will be updated regularly with answers posted to our MGH website.

