



DEPARTMENT OF
CAREER SERVICES

Workforce Issuance

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☐ Policy ☒ Information

To: MassHire Workforce Board Chairs
MassHire Workforce Board Directors
MassHire Career Center Directors
MassHire Fiscal Officers
MDCS Operations Managers

cc: WIOA State Partners

From: Beth Goguen, Director
MassHire Department of Career Services

Date: March 31, 2025

Subject: **Funding Opportunity - Waste Reduction Innovation Grant Applications**

Purpose: To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators and other local workforce partners of the Waste Reduction Innovation Grant opportunity provided by [Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protections \(MassDEP\)](#). Applications open April 15, 2025.

Background: The [Waste Reduction Innovation Grant](#) provides funds to eligible businesses, start-ups, and non-profit organizations for new technology that expands recycling and reuse infrastructure in Massachusetts.

New and existing businesses and institutions seeking to invest in new equipment or technology that is not prevalent in Massachusetts are encouraged to apply. Two main categories will qualify for funding: Startups/Pilot Projects and Innovative Capital Investments

Startups/Pilot Projects: Start-up/pilot projects and capital infrastructure investments. Through the start-up and pilot projects grant category, MassDEP is interested in supporting innovations that have demonstrated success outside of bench-scale laboratory environments and are ready to move from initial development to commercialization.

- Applicants that are eligible for the start-up/pilot funding could be awarded between \$50,000 and \$100,000 with a required 25% match.

Innovative Capital Investments: Capital projects that will make significant infrastructure change to enable diversion of waste at scale through its innovative capital investments grant category.

- Applicants that are eligible for the innovative capital investment funding could be awarded between \$500,000 and \$2,000,000 with a required 50% match.

Applicants may apply for only one category.

Guidelines for the Waste Reduction Innovation Grant can be found at the link below:

[2025 Waste Reduction Innovation Grant Guidelines](#)

Please Note: After the application opens on April 15, questions must be submitted in writing to Joann at Joann.E.Lai@mass.gov. All questions are due on June 2nd, by 11:59 P.M., and responses will be posted on June 16, 2025 on the MassDEP website found [here](#).

The application deadline is July 15, 2025, no later than 11:59 PM.

Action

Required: Please share as appropriate.

Effective: Immediately.

Inquiries: All questions must be submitted in writing to Joann Lai at Joann.E.Lai@mass.gov.