

# Q&A FY27 Massachusetts Skills Capital Grant Program

Updated April 3, 2026

COMMBUYS BID: BD-26-1036-EDU02-EDU02-125170

## Question 1. Eligibility:

### Are State Universities eligible?

Yes, State Universities are eligible. Keep in mind that this is a workforce training grant so the programs would need to fall within that category

Here is the list of eligible organizations.

The following Massachusetts organizations providing services aligned to the federal Perkins Act definition of career and technical education are eligible to apply as lead applicants on behalf of a partnership:

- Community-based and correctional organizations, including adult basic education and English Language Learner programs, providing career technical instruction
- Nonprofit education, training, or other service providers
- Vocational education institutions and Labor organizations
- Regional Vocational Schools or High Schools
- Community Colleges

## Question 2.

### What equipment is allowed under this grant:

**Only 2 Objects Codes will be used in the budget:**

**12 – Equipment: Equipment having a useful lifetime of greater than 5 years. Must include Quantity and Cost per item**

**09 - Installation and Construction Cost to support installation of equipment, related improvements, and/or renovations necessary for use of equipment. Up to 10% of the total grant can be used for Installation and Construction**

Purchase and installation of capital equipment and related improvements and renovations necessary for installation and use of such equipment. The intent of the program is to allow qualified programs to purchase training equipment. Minor one-time installation costs may be included in the request, as well as requests for minor (less than 10% of the total) facility renovations necessary for the successful installation and usage of the equipment. The main purpose of the funding is to purchase equipment, not

to renovate classroom space. Recipients may begin to incur costs upon contract execution. For FY27 Awards all costs must be incurred between the contract execution date and June 30, 2027, inclusive. Expenses incurred after June 30, 2027, will not be eligible for reimbursement by this program. Requests for reimbursement may be submitted to EOE periodically, but no later than July 15, 2027. Non-capital items such as software, laptops, materials or consumables, professional development, etc., as well as transport vans/buses are Not Eligible for funding. Budgets submissions that are not in compliance will be impacted in the grant evaluation and may not be eligible for the grant award. Indirect costs are not

**\*\*\*the grant does allow the purchase of computers needed to run training specific software or operate the equipment. Proof of need is required in the award process\*\*\***

### Question 3- How many programs and how much funding?

Organizations may submit only one application to support a single year award request FY27, with funding ranging from \$50,000 to \$400,000 to support up to two program areas. Applicants seeking support of [Innovation Career Pathways](#) are limited to a maximum of \$40,000 per designated pathway program and a total of two pathways (\$80,000).

### Question 4. Does a program need to be an Innovation Career Pathways to apply?

Programs do not need to have Innovation Career Pathways designed to apply.

### Question 5. Letters of support.

At least one letter per program. Usually, an employer and or educational partner. Scanning multiple letters of support into one document is the best format for our review.

### Question 6. What tools or data sources should grantees use?

1. Regional Blueprints - <https://www.mass.gov/lists/regional-workforce-blueprints>
2. Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Chapter 74 Partnership Program (also known as "After Dark")  
<https://www.doe.mass.edu/cte/pathways/cte/afterdark/>
3. Career Connected Learning - <https://macte.ns4ed.com/>
4. New CTE Programs (CH74) Application and Process

[New Career Technical Education Programs \(C74\) Application and Process - College, Career and Technical Education](#)

5. CTI Adult Training (Commonwealth Corporation) - <https://commcorp.org/program/career-technical-initiative/>
6. MassHire Career Centers- <https://www.mass.gov/masshire-career-centers>
7. Regional Occupation Alignment Dashboard (ROAD) [Regional Occupation Alignment Dashboard \(ROAD\) | Mass.gov](#)

## Question 7. Cover Page Purpose

The cover page is not scored. The purpose is provide background on the projects in the application. The cover page can now be entered in EOE grants.

## Question 8. Character Limits vs word count

Maximum Response Length,” could you please confirm whether this refers to a character limit (including spaces) or a word limit?

EOE grants uses character limit which refer to the maximum number of characters, including letters, numbers, spaces, and punctuation.

The EOE Grants system allows character counts of 1,500 for Sections A, B, and C. 1,500. This character limit allows for 4-5 short paragraphs per question.

## Question 9. Replace existing capital equipment vs. purchasing new

Is it a requirement to replace existing capital equipment vs. purchasing new equipment for further program development program and expansion?

Grantees can purchase new equipment or replace existing capital equipment. Review the Goals of Funding:

The objective of this funding is to support quality hands-on instruction by providing funding for the purchase and installation of vocational training equipment. The Executive Office of Education (EOE) and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education ("DESE") will coordinate oversight and approvals of proposed projects. The funding will support the applicant to meet the following:

- Increase in the number of students able to participate in an existing program.
- Create a new program to meet demonstrated demand, based on labor market data and employer partnerships.

- Increase enrollment capacity, availability, and utilization of the equipment outside of the organization's traditional hours to serve high school students.
- Increase enrollment capacity, availability, and utilization of the equipment outside of the organization's normal working hours (e.g., after 5 PM, on Saturday, and/or on Sunday) to serve adult students.
- The applicant must also demonstrate a significant improvement in the skills of the students who are able to participate in the program due to replacing capital equipment.

## Question 10. Regarding question #5 in Section C:

Maintaining Quality Consideration for funding: If no increase in the number of students participating in the existing program is projected in the applicant must demonstrate a significant improvement in the skills of the students who are able to participate in the program due to replacing capital equipment.

I want to confirm that we should still respond to this question about demonstrated skill improvement even if we anticipate an increase in the number of students participating.

Both demonstrated skill improvement and an increase in student served should be addressed in answering this question.

## Question 11. Budget uploads vs manual entry of line items

The EOE grants system isn't allowing uploads of pre-filled budgets. You will need to add each item to its own line. Then you can download the budget as an Excel file for your own use.