

Massachusetts Equitable PPP Access Initiative

This is Your Last Chance to Get a Grant to Help or Even Save Your Business! You Will Need to Move Fast Because the Program Ends in a Few Days.

For Spanish, Haitian Creole or Portuguese translation, read here: <https://bit.ly/PPPTranslation>

Available Funds - They have \$100 billion left

Banks - We have six (6) banks waiting for applications

Technical Assistance - We have processed hundreds of applications (We know how to help you complete the paperwork)

Taxes - By now you should have your taxes completed, but even if you don't we can still help you get your grant)

Language Access - We can help you with your paperwork in a large number of languages.

Grant Size - The average grant size has been \$14k.

Contact **Doug Ling** at 617 504 8882, DLing@lisc.org or **Ed Gaskin** at 617.460.2326
We will be glad to help you, but you must hurry.

This is your last chance for these grants.

[Click Here to View Form](#)

MA Equitable PPP Access Initiative Sign Up Form

The Massachusetts Equitable PPP Access Initiative is committed to providing timely and equitable access to the SBA Paycheck Protect Program (PPP) loans for underbanked businesses and historically disadvantaged demographic groups, including people of color and women.

As part of this initiative, a coalition of banks are committing to making PPP loans directly, and a network of CDFIs are providing technical assistance with loan applications. If you are a minority-owned business and meet the criteria below, we encourage you to apply through this initiative.

Criteria:

1. You are a minority-owned business, sole proprietor or independent contractor operating in Massachusetts
2. You do not have a banking relationship with an SBA PPP lender.
3. You can complete the PPP application and have access to payroll, benefits and owner compensation records.

Please Contact Your Legislators at the Statehouse and Let Them Know You Support the Attached Recommendations to Support Small Businesses in the State.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)



Cummings \$25 Million Grant Program

As a member of the selection committee, I want to express my sincere hope that you can find time to apply for a \$100,000 Cummings grant. They sent me an email that said,

We know there are organizations that have not yet applied.

We would greatly appreciate your and your board's help in spreading the word about the upcoming **\$25 Million Grant Program**.

We are accepting Letters of Inquiry through September 4, and we would love to see more requests from communities of color.

More information, as well as the link to our online portal, can be found here [on our website](#).

REOPEN BOSTON FUND

STILL OPEN!!!!!!

The City of Boston is committed to supporting small businesses through the reopening of our economy. The Reopen Boston Fund will help small businesses put in place the necessary public health guidance requirements needed to reopen in the coming months. The funding is to be used for PPE and other safety measures.

This fund is intended to support businesses with a majority of employees working in close proximity to their clients and each other. **Please note: We will not consider professional service businesses, including those that are able to work from home or any online businesses, for our grants.**

Applications will open on Thursday, May 28th at 5:00pm and will be reviewed and approved on a rolling basis and be awarded in a phased approach as business types are approved to reopen over the coming weeks.

Please review the qualifications in the link provided below as there are several as well as information to submit. There are specific actions needed before going online to apply.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)



Please Share & Join Us: Virtual Open House About UCB Position

Write Through Pain, Write to Heal, Write Together

August Virtual Network Nights

An opportunity to come together online, build relationships & trust, engage in meaningful conversations about issues & action, and exchange favors and resources.

Hosted in English

Tuesday August 4 at 7:00-8:30pm

Wednesday August 12 at 7:00-8:30pm

Tuesday August 18 at 7:00-8:30pm

Wednesday August 26 at 7:00-8:30pm

Hosted in Spanish

August 6 at 7:00-8:30pm

August 20 at 7:00-8:30pm

Join us on Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/6179716815>

or Call in by phone 1-646-558-8656 with access code 6179716815#

[View Flyer](#)



Community Writing Program

Write Through Pain, Write to Heal, Write Together

The Grove Hall library is excited to bring Writers Without Margins back to teach a creative, therapeutic writing class, this time on Zoom. Please join Author and Professor, Olivia Kate Cerrone and Licensed Drug and Alcohol Councilor, Sharaye Ragland, for a 4 week, Zoom workshop of art and advocacy.

Experience expressive writing as a tool for recovery, reform, and revolution.

August 5: 12-1 PM

Zoom link will be sent to registered participants.

Register Here: <https://bpl.bibliocommons.com/events/5ef106c065fbe34500698c5f>

[Click Here to View Flyer](#)

2020 MA State and House of Representatives Candidate Forums

On **Thursday, August 6**, at **6:30 pm**, an online forum will be held with 14th Suffolk District state representative candidates: former City Councilor Rob Consalvo, Duckens Petit-Maitre, and Gretchen Van Ness. To register and submit your questions, visit [bitly/31THqH](#).

On **Monday, August 17**, at **5:00 pm**, Dorchester Bay will host an online Q&A with 5th Suffolk District Massachusetts Representative Liz Miranda. To register and submit your questions, visit [bit.l/20S4icM](#).

On **Monday, August 24**, at **5:00 pm**, the 1st Suffolk District state senate candidate forum will be held online with incumbent Nick Collins and his challenger, Samuel Pierce. More information and the registration link will soon be available.

Tech Goes Home for Small Business

Tech Goes Home strives to ensure that all residents of the City of Boston are equipped with the tools, training, and access to support 21st - century skill development. The TGH program offers residents the ability to improve their quality of life as new members of the online community, and use the internet to Live, Learn, Earn, Work, and Play.



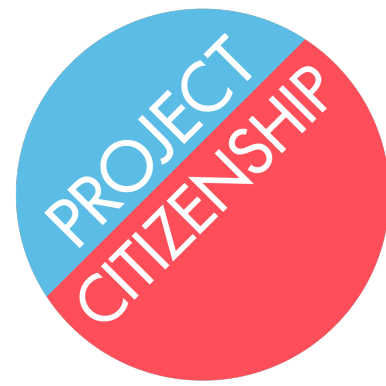
This class is for Small Business Owners. You will learn online tools to help your small business. These resources include business skills like getting organized for business, marketing skills information, selling skills information, and basic tutorials to help you start using them.

Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:00 – 5:30
August 11 – September 17

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

Project Citizenship and Citizenship Day

Every year, the City of Boston partners with Project Citizenship to host Citizenship Day in Boston. Will increase their capacity to assist people with their Citizenship application virtually during the month of September and October.



We are looking for partners from a variety of areas to help us reach eligible constituents in the Greater Boston area with a particular focus in reaching out to Boston constituents eligible to naturalize. Here is the eligibility criteria to apply for citizenship:

- Be 18 years of age
- Be a legal permanent resident for 5 years or 3 years if married to a U.S. citizen
- Read, write, and speak basic English
- Have had physical presence in the United States for at least 30 months out of the 5 years or 18 months if married to a U.S. citizen

For more information on Project Citizenship please contact Luidgi Lalanne
luidgi.lalanne@boston.gov

source: <https://families4familiesdmv.org/>



The Marshall family
Founders of Families 4 Families

Thank frontline
heroes in your
community.

**Nominate
them today.**

JOHN F. KENNEDY
LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Community Preservation Act Virtual Meetings

Dear Friend,

During the COVID-19 pandemic, courage has been a constant, as we rely on Profiles in Courage in our own lives as never before. That's why my mom, Ambassador Caroline Kennedy, and I want to recognize these everyday acts of courage with our special

Profile in Courage Award, celebrating those who have risked their health and safety for the greater good of our nation.

[We're asking you to nominate individuals you know for this special award. Share the stories of your friends, family members, and loved ones who have inspired you with their COVID courage.](#)

PROTECT YOUR ELECTRIC ACCOUNT

Competitive electric suppliers sometimes hire marketers who use aggressive door-to-door sales and telemarketing tactics to sign up residents. Residents who sign up with competitive electric suppliers tend to pay more for electricity. The Massachusetts Attorney General reports that from 2015 to 2019, Massachusetts consumers spent an additional \$340 million for electricity above and beyond what they would have paid if they had simply received their electricity supply from the local utility.

The Environment Department is not only looking to raise awareness of this issue but also to help residents avoid predatory or dishonest sales tactics and — if they feel they have been wronged in some way — to seek some sort of remedy. You can learn more about this campaign and the City's messaging at our [Protect Your Electric Bill](#) website.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

COVID-19 POSTERS AVAILABLE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

The Office of Economic Development's Small Business Office is

offering free personalized posters for businesses to display information on their window.

Please See This Link for More Information:

<https://www.boston.gov/news/covid-19-posters-available-small-businesses>



Strengthen Your Practice. Expand Your Impact.

One-year certificate programs designed for working professionals; taught by nonprofit practitioners.

Class locations: Greater Boston, Merrimack Valley/Essex County, Cape Cod & the Islands, and Rhode Island.

Core Certificate Program:

Equips nonprofit executives, senior and mid-career leaders with the skills, knowledge, and networks they need to make strategic, mission-driven decisions.

Community Fellows Program:

Propels early-career leaders by advancing their leadership skills, increasing social capital, and embedding them in a robust professional network.

Apply today to be part of the Institute's New England class of 2021!

Learn More: nonprofitpractice.org/apply-new-england

[Click Here to View Flyer](#)

**Free Bluebikes for
workers of local
businesses**

**Pase de Bluebikes
gratis para
empleados de
negocios locales**



Free Bluebikes Passes for Boston's Grocery, Pharmacy, Restaurant, and Retail Workers

Hi friends,

As the region continues to reopen, the City of Boston has a great opportunity to help many employees get to work. The Boston Transportation Department is offering [free 90-day Bluebikes passes](#) to help out some of our most important workers: those employed at grocery stores, pharmacies, restaurants, and local retail shops. Anyone who works in these industries in Boston is eligible for the pass.

Bluebikes is public transportation by bike, providing a convenient way to get around the city while maintaining physical distance from other people. Most of Boston's small business districts are served by Bluebikes. Workers can pick up a bike near their homes and park it at a station near work. During the free 90-day period, pass-holders will be able to take as many trips as they like, though trips must be completed within 60 minutes to avoid usage fees. There is no obligation to pay for a pass once the free 90 day period is over.

If you own a retail shop or restaurant, can you help share this opportunity with your employees? I've attached a flyer with instructions on how to sign-up. I can also get you hard copies to distribute to your staff.

For more information about the program, email bikeshare@boston.gov or visit boston.gov/bikeshare.

Thank you!

Your Friendly Main Streets Staff

[Click Here to View Flyer](#)



New Report | Best Practices for Enabling a Safe Reopening of Public Transit

We are pleased to release a new report: [Creating a Safer Commute Together: Best Practices for Enabling a Safe Reopening of Public Transit.](#)”

MassDOT/MBTA Employer Panel

MassDOT and the MBTA are looking to hear from the Greater Boston Business Community about their transportation needs. To that end, we are establishing a group of employers to help us gather information while we work to reopen the commonwealth, and **we’re asking for your help to get the word out**. MassDOT and the MBTA will periodically survey this Employer Panel to gather ongoing feedback, with a current focus on the impacts of COVID-19 that affect transportation and travel in the Greater Boston region. The feedback this group provides will be used for planning purposes at MassDOT and the MBTA, and we will periodically share findings from our surveys with members of the panel and the public at large. **We already have roughly 100 businesses signed up, but we’re light on small businesses and retail, so I hoped you could help by forwarding this out to your small businesses.** Our goal is to have the panel be as representative as possible, I’d appreciate the help!

To join the panel, please take our intake survey here: https://mbta.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6nZUqi7QFQj59Jj

The link will take respondents to a short intake survey, along with some questions about their current and upcoming transportation needs. We estimate the initial survey will take about ten minutes to complete. The time commitment for panel members would be to take a similar survey no more than once per month.

You can also participate in our Employer Panel on behalf of your own business. If there's someone else at your organization who can better speak to your organization's transportation needs, please share the link with them.

Carmel Levy

(pronouns: he/him)

MBTA Employer Services

c): 857-329-7325

The image shows the logo for the United States Census 2020. It features the text "United States®" in a smaller font at the top, followed by "Census" in a large, bold, sans-serif font, and "2020" in a very large, bold, sans-serif font below it. The entire logo is white and centered on a dark blue rectangular background.

[Take the 2020 Census | U.S. Census Bureau](https://www.census.gov/2020census.gov)

When you respond to the census, your answers are kept anonymous. They are used only to produce statistics. The U.S. Census Bureau is bound by law to protect your answers and keep them strictly confidential.

[2020census.gov](https://www.census.gov/2020census.gov)

Around the Community



Left to Right: Valeria Ramirez, Diana Maria Aznar, Karen Bunch, Tiera Satchebell, Sunny Hu
Not pictured Nupur Gurjar

[Visit Our Website](#)

