



\$50.8 Million in Grants Available to Support Massachusetts Small Businesses

*New Grants for Small Businesses
Applications Open Until 11/13*

The [Commonwealth of Massachusetts](#) has announced \$50.8 million in grants available to support Massachusetts small businesses, microenterprises, and their employees, families and communities. [Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation \(MGCC\)](#) will be administering these funds, available to businesses with fifty (50) employees or less experiencing economic hardship and a loss of income due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These funds were appropriated through the Commonwealth's Supplemental Budget for Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) as well as the CARES Act of 2020 and are divided into two programs. If you have five (5) or fewer employees, review both programs carefully before deciding which one to apply for.

GRANTS:

- [SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS FOR 5 OR FEWER EMPLOYEES \(up to \\$25,000\)](#)
- [SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS 50 OR FEWER EMPLOYEES \(up to \\$75,000\)](#)

If you have questions please email Ed Gaskin at ewgaskin@gmail.com.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)



Cummings Foundation

Cummings Foundation/Babson Program

Greater Grove Hall Main Street was selected to be in the Cummings Foundation/Babson Program for “Entrepreneurial Leadership in the Social Sector.”

CITY *of* **BOSTON**

Mayors Office of Neighborhood Services Community Updates

Update #47

COVID-19 CASES
COVID TESTING PLEDGE
ELECTION REMINDERS
HALLOWEEN GUIDANCE
PAUSING BPS REOPENING PLAN
RESOURCES REMINDER
2021 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND AND

BOSTON'S OPEN SPACE VIRTUAL
OPEN HOUSE
COASTAL RESILIENCE SOLUTIONS IN
DOWNTOWN/ NORTH END AND
DORCHESTER
BOSTON MARATHON FURTHER
POSTPONED

COVID-19 CASES

The City of Boston has **19,986** positive cases of coronavirus. So far, **17,279** of these **19,986** residents have fully recovered. Unfortunately, there have been **778** COVID-19 related deaths in Boston.

The City posts race and ethnicity data for deaths, as well as for confirmed cases [here](#).

The Boston Public Health Commission will be providing the updated total of cases in Boston residents as it is received from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Information can be found at boston.gov/coronavirus or bphc.org.

Massachusetts has **150,498** positive cases of coronavirus and **9,700** deaths reported at this time.

[Click Here to View All Updates](#)



Boston Testing Pledge

Boston and our country are facing an increase in COVID-19 positive rates, the likes of which we haven't seen since the spring. It's critical we all come together to look out for one another and our community, take steps to stop the spread of COVID-19, and avoid a setback in our reopening process.

This Thursday, Mayor Martin J. Walsh will be launching the “Boston Testing Pledge,” and as part of it, we are inviting MassMutual to join the City of Boston in support of increasing testing access for your employees.

A key part of stopping the spread is testing, but not enough people are taking advantage of our resources and getting tested. Boston has expanded access to testing, and we are

now encouraging all residents to get tested -- and especially those who are going outside their home for work or other reasons. Residents with no symptoms can still be infected with COVID-19 and transmit the virus.

For more information, please reach out to Midori Morikawa at 617-710-9457 or midori.morikawa2@boston.gov.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)
[Frequently Asked Questions on Covid-19 Testing in Boston](#)

Small Business Supports

The City's Reopen Boston Fund grants are still available for small businesses to help purchase personal protective equipment (PPE) and other safety tools. The Fund has been expanded for restaurants to buy outdoor heaters, storage equipment, and propane. Grant applications are being reviewed and approved on a rolling basis. The application is available in multiple languages.

Learn more about the application at boston.gov/reopenfund



National Dunk the Vote

20/20 ELECTION DRIVE

Your Vote Counts! Your Contributions Count Too!

National Dunk the Vote is preparing for an all-out GOTV Campaign! In an election year like none other, votes matter more than ever. With mail-in voting and new laws in some states, voters may be confused about the process, or may even be prevented from voting!

To support a free and fair election, we are preparing an all-out national GOTV and need your help. Here's what we're doing:

- Increasing voting registration, census, and voter turnout in the Black community throughout
- Massachusetts and in other cities in the US that have large Black populations.
- Helping voters with mail-in voting applications
- Increasing the youth vote, particularly among members of Generation Y and Z using social media outlets
- Providing PPE to community members (Masks, gloves, cleaning supplies, etc.)
- Implementing a major focus on ballot questions and electoral reform; promoting and educating communities on similar issues

Donations

Paypal: <https://tinyurl.com/y5dqn9gk>

Cash App: \$DTV2020

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[Click Here to Learn More](#)



Staples and Boston Public Schools Provide \$50 to Every BPS Student to Shop at Staples Stores

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and Boston Public Schools (BPS) Superintendent Brenda Cassellius announced that, through a partnership between Staples and the City of Boston, every BPS student will receive a \$50 Staples in-store shopping card, to support families with their back-to-school shopping.

Staples partnered with BPS to help Boston families purchase school supplies and prepare for the new school year. The 54,000 \$50 cards were distributed to schools in recent days, and schools are currently arranging distribution with families.

The cards can be used at any time until **November 30, 2020** in any Staples retail store, but are not eligible for online purchases. The cards must be redeemed in one transaction and some restrictions apply.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)



BOSTON CULTURAL COUNCIL GRANTS FOR ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

*Applications open
October 1, 2020 - November 16, 2020
boston.gov/arts-grants*

BCC BOSTON CULTURAL COUNCIL

City of Boston Arts & Culture

GET A NEW HEATING SYSTEM WITH SENIORS SAVE



Boston Residents like Joseph Cappucio have updated their heating systems with Seniors Save.

The program is now providing up to \$8,000 to income-eligible Bostonians over 60 years old to replace faulty heating systems.

Visit boston.gov/how-join-seniors-save-program for the application and more information.

KEEP YOUR CHILDREN SAFE

Apply for a Lead Removal Loan

Lead poisoning can lead to learning disabilities in young children. Our lead abatement program offers you **financial help** to get rid of lead-based paint in your home.

WE OFFER:

- Forgivable loans of up to \$10,000 for each unit in your home
- Technical advice from City lead specialists
- Free lead paint inspections
- Help complying with state lead laws



LCR | BizGrow

Need Help with Your Small business? Contact Us!

On Fridays from 11:00AM - 12:00PM we will be holding free virtual office hours! To join us just click this link at the right time: <http://bit.ly/BizGrowOfficeHours>

We are here to help! If you need any assistance please

Upcoming Events

November 2020

NOVEMBER

WED 11/4 6pm **Employment Law Workshop**

THU 11/5 6pm **Building a Basic Website**

TUE 11/10 6pm **Tax Workshop**

EVERY FRIDAY **Small Business Legal Office Hours**
11 am – 12 pm

LCR | BizGrow

RSVP: linktr.ee/bizgrow



Center For Women & Enterprise

Eastern Massachusetts - Women's Business Center

Get Your Business Back on Track! Register Now for New Classes

Webinars *free* for any residents of Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan, Jamaica Plain, Hyde Park and Roslindale and discounts available for others in need.

Email bdahan@cweonline.org for info and discount codes.

The pandemic has been difficult for all small businesses but there are tools that can help you get your business back on track.

REGISTER BELOW!

Finding New Revenue Streams in the Retail & Food Industries November 4 at 11am

This webinar will help retail stores, restaurants and food/beverage producers learn about alternative revenue streams as we move into winter during the pandemic. A panel of local entrepreneurs will discuss measures that they have taken to thrive and generate revenue in creative ways during the pandemic.

[Register Here !](#)



11/5 JOIN US! #VetBiz Resources in Your Local Community

REGISTER

Thursday, November 5, 2020 / 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Please join us for the Veterans EDGE (Engage, Develop, Grow, Elevate) Workshop in collaboration with the Plymouth Area Chamber of Commerce Veterans Center for Business and Entrepreneurship.

In this virtual workshop you will learn about the U.S. Small Business Administration, its' Resource Partners, and free support services available to help you start and grow your **Veteran owned business**.

You will also hear from three Veteran business owners who will share their stories of

success, challenges, and lessons learned as they continue work on growing their business amid the COVID-19 crisis.

Additionally, there will also be a brief overview of SBA business certifications and contracting opportunities by **Nadine Boone, SBA MA Lead Business Opportunity Specialist**.



U.S. Small Business
Administration

SBA & Treasury Announce Simpler PPP Forgiveness for Loans of \$50K or Less

The U.S. Small Business Administration, in consultation with the Treasury Department, released a simpler loan forgiveness application for Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans of \$50,000 or less. This action streamlines the PPP forgiveness process to provide financial and administrative relief to America's smallest businesses while also ensuring sound stewardship of taxpayer dollars.

The guidance release may be found [here](#). Form 3508S may be accessed [here](#) along with the [instructions](#).

[Learn more](#)



The Center for Community Wellness Presents: A “Community Convo” – Let’s Talk About Sleep

Tuesday November 10th
7:00-8:15 PM

Join our two Expert Panelists:

Dr. Stuart Quan

Clinical Chief and Medical Director,
BWH Sleep Disorders Service
Gerald E. McGinnis
Professor of Sleep Medicine

Dr. Olabimpe Omobomi

Sleep Medicine Physician, BWH

Discussion Topics will include:

- Why do we sleep, exactly?
- The health risks of chronic sleep deprivation
- Common sleep disorders including insomnia and obstructive sleep apnea
- Sleep in the time of COVID-19
- Strategies to improve your sleep hygiene for yourself and your loved ones

Come with questions!

Hosted by Dr. Rich Joseph, Medical Director of the
Center for Community Wellness

Zoom link for the discussion: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88931270930>

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Massachusetts Offers Rebates for Electric Vehicle (MOR-EV) Program

The [Massachusetts Clean Cities Coalition \(MA CCC\)](#) and the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) [Emerging Technology Department](#) are looking to engage with Environmental Justice communities and stakeholders, virtually, on the [MOR-EV Trucks program enhancement proposal](#).

As part of the State's commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and expanding access to zero-emission vehicle adoption, [DOER](#) intends to revise the [MOR-EV program](#) to provide rebates to private (personal & commercial) purchases of electric medium and heavy-duty (MD/HD) trucks.

DOER will be accepting comments on [this proposal](#) until **Friday, November 13, 2020, at 5 pm**. Comments can be submitted to will.lauwers@mass.gov.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

King Boston Presents: Exploring Spatial Justice Through Art

Join King Boston's Imari Paris Jeffries & MORRES Lori Nelson, as they kick-off a one-on-one with world-renowned conceptual artist, Hank Willis Thomas. A panel including local black artists, curators and space activators will continue the conversation, discussing the power of art and space, as tools, in reframing the narrative to become more representative and inclusive of the Black and Brown experience.

Makeeba McCreary, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Greg Ball, KBX Media

Sheena Collier, Boston While Black

Michael Curry, Mass League

JHA D. Williams, Mass Design Group

November 19th, 2020

Virtual Webinar Conversation Begins at 5pm

Conversation Begins at 5PM

RSVP: [Eventbrite.com/e/exploring-spatial-justice-through-art-tickets-124472274925](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/exploring-spatial-justice-through-art-tickets-124472274925)

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Join Us for a Unique Friends of UCB Virtual Network Night

You are invited to a unique UCB experience. See #UCBinAction as we bring our model to life and build social capital with you. Connect with other guests, join Table Talk groups, participate in our virtual Marketplace. We'll premiere our new UCB video story and welcome exciting guest presenters.

Thursday, November 19

7:00-8:30pm on Zoom

This is a free event - RSVP required

<http://bit.ly/UCBFriendsNight>

I hope you can join us as we build people power & social capital together during these continued challenging times.

Eric Leslie

Founder/Lead Organizer

[Click Here to View Flyer](#)



Looking for Interns in 2020? Host MPDC Youth to Work at Your Site!

Over 100 MPDC youth employed by local businesses in 2020!

MPDC's Youth Development Programs prepare youth to be self-sufficient, professional, and confident. MPDC youth work alongside our staff and other agencies to learn the "hard" & "soft" skills necessary to succeed in the workforce.

Become a Partner. Host an Intern Today!

For more information contact Sandra Sierra

ssierra@madison-park.org

617.849.6333

[Click Here to View Flyer](#)



King Boston Book Club

Facilitated by: KBX Media's Gregory Ball

BI - Monthly

Starting Thursday

12/10 AT 5PM

Our first selection will be *My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending Our Hearts And Bodies* by author Resmaa Menakem.

[Click Here to RSVP](#)

[Click Here to View Flyer](#)



New Round of Cultural Facilities Fund Grants Available

Mass Cultural Facilities Fund

Program administered by Mass Cultural Council and MassDevelopment supports capital projects within the cultural sector.

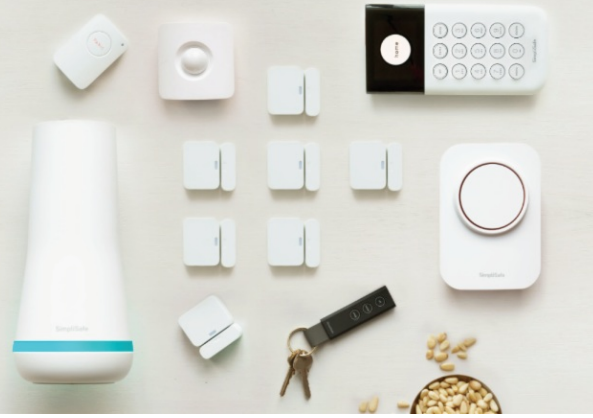
The [MassDevelopment](#) Board of Directors has approved the launch of the 2021 [Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund](#) (CFF) grant round, a state program that provides capital and planning grants to nonprofits, colleges, and municipalities that own or operate facilities primarily focused on the arts, humanities, and sciences. CFF awards invest in the acquisition, design, repair, renovation, expansion, and construction of nonprofit and municipal cultural facilities.

Applications for the 2021 CFF grant round are due **Friday, January 15, 2021 at 11:59pm (ET)**. Interested parties can read the [program guidelines](#), and contact CFF [program staff](#) directly.

[Apply for CFF Grants](#)
[Click Here to Learn More](#)

SimpliSafe

1 year of 24/7
professional security
for Boston small
businesses



1 Year of 24/7 Professional Security for Boston Small Businesses

These are uncertain times, and we know that small businesses are under more pressure than ever to protect their investments and keep their doors open. With our headquarters located in Downtown Crossing, we want to lend a helping hand to our fellow Boston-based businesses, in our neighborhood and beyond. We are offering up to 250 free systems, plus a year's worth of free monitoring to help protect small businesses in Boston.

Limited time offer for small businesses in the city of Boston: FREE Security System + one year of FREE Pro Alarm Monitoring (total package, estimated retail value of over \$800) To redeem offer, visit: Simplisafe.com/Boston-Smallbiz

[Click Here to Learn More](#)



Available Space!

City Realty Boston has a newly completed project at **76 Cross St (corner of Pearl and Cross)** in Somerville with 4 brand new white box retail spaces at ~630, ~925, ~950, and ~2500 square feet.

We're working to identify small local businesses that might be good fits for the spaces. We're offering free rent on all the spaces and there is no broker fee.

Contact

Justin Efron | Project Manager

City Real Estate Development

Phone: 617 651 0931

Email: justin.efron@cityrealtyboston.com

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

[Visit Our Website](#)

