

**CODE OF MASSACHUSETTS REGULATIONS
TITLE 730: MASSACHUSETTS TURNPIKE AUTHORITY
CHAPTER 6.00: MASSACHUSETTS TURNPIKE AUTHORITY TOURISM GRANT PROGRAM**

6.07: Selection Procedure and Criteria

(1) Goal of Equitable Distribution. It is the Authority's goal to distribute grants equitably for the benefit of the cities and towns listed in 730 CMR 6.09 and 730 CMR 6.10. To this end, the Authority annually gives preference, to the extent practicable, to grant proposals submitted for the benefit of cities or towns that did not receive a grant during the prior year.

(2) Grant Amount. In order to encourage participation by as many eligible applicants as possible, the Authority envisions that each grant ordinarily will not exceed \$100,000 over the grant period. Special circumstances, as determined by the Authority, may warrant the award of a grant(s) in a greater amount.

(3) Selection Based Solely on Proposal. The Authority makes its determination with respect to the awarding of a grant based solely on its assessment of the merits of the grant proposal in accordance with the selection criteria listed in 730 CMR 6.07(4).

(4) Selection Criteria. The Authority employs as its general selection criterion the relationship of the grant proposal to the goal of promoting tourism in the cities and towns listed in 730 CMR 6.00. Tourism will be interpreted so as to include projects that directly impact tourism and those that indirectly impact tourism. The Authority issues a grant in the amount specified in the grant proposal, or a greater or lesser amount as the Authority determines to be appropriate, provided that the Authority concludes that the grant proposal describes a project that satisfies the requirements of 730 CMR 6.00 and that there are sufficient grant funds for each such grant. The Authority reserves the right to award grants based on its sole discretion, however, it offers the following more specific criteria in random order as a guide for eligible applicants in preparing their grant proposal:

- (a) the strength of the connection to the promotion of tourism and the operation or impact on the Turnpike or the Metropolitan Highway System;
- (b) the benefit to the intended beneficiaries;
- (c) the benefit to communities that are eligible applicants;
- (d) the benefit to other communities of the Commonwealth;
- (e) the benefit to the economic or social well-being of the Commonwealth;
- (f) the ability to leverage private investment or additional non-profit investment;
- (g) the impact on regional or local character or identity promotion;
- (h) the degree of innovation;
- (i) the benefit to tourism in the Commonwealth;
- (j) the degree of integration with other tourism projects;
- (k) the degree of collaboration among local agencies or groups; and
- (l) other factors that the Authority determines to be relevant.

(5) Awarding of Grants. The Authority announces the award of each grant by sending a letter to the authorized signatory of the grant proposal and, in the case the grantee is not a city or town listed in 730 CMR 6.09 or 730 CMR 6.10, an additional copy to the treasurer of each such city or town within the Turnpike Corridor that benefits from the grant. However, no grant is effective, that is, the Authority will transfer no funds to the grantee and the grantee may expend no funds in reliance upon such a transfer, before the Authority and the grantee execute a grant agreement in accordance with 730 CMR 6.08. A grantee holds and expends a grant in a manner consistent with the requirements of M.G.L. c. 44, § 53A.