

# **Appropriations and Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) Guide**

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## **Overview of the Annual Appropriations Process**

Each year, the United States Congress considers annual appropriations bills that fund our federal government. This funding is used for infrastructure, public transportation, affordable housing, climate resiliency, clean energy, and so much more.

An important part of the annual appropriations process is hearing directly from the people of Massachusetts to ensure we invest in the policies, programs, and projects that best serve the Commonwealth's needs. As part of this process, constituents can make two types of requests:

1. Programmatic / Language requests
  - a. Programmatic requests are those that increase funding for particular **programs already included in the president's budget**. Language requests provide bill or report text which will be used to direct or specify how programmatic funds are spent.
2. Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) requests
  - a. CDS requests are for funding "earmarked" to a specific entity and project. CDS requests are strictly for **non-profit organizations and state, tribal and municipal governments**.
  - b. Recent Massachusetts projects funded through the CDS process are found [here](#) and include:
    - i. Vocational training for persons with disabilities in Dennis
    - ii. Family engagement and education programming in Brockton
    - iii. Affordable housing in Aquinnah
    - iv. Equitable approaches to public safety in New Bedford
    - v. Climate resilient infrastructure in Medway
    - vi. Energy Efficiency Workforce Training in Boston
    - vii. A business incubator and community economic development services in Berkshire County
    - viii. Behavioral health services in Lawrence
    - ix. Equipment for Volunteer Firefighters in Greenfield
    - x. To build a new build a new Distribution Center and Headquarters for food distribution in Hatfield.
    - xi. Increase access to behavioral health services in Springfield
    - xii. Capital improvements to Worcester Union Station in Worcester
    - xiii. Treatment upgrades to the city's Water Pollution Control Facility in Gloucester

Senator Markey's office receives hundreds of CDS requests each year. It is the Senator's goal to fund as many projects as possible but **funding decisions are ultimately made by the Senate Appropriations Committee**.

To make either a CDS or programmatic request, you will need to make an account with the Senate Office Application Manager and, after the application window opens, submit the request through the appropriate portal on the Senator's website. **Be sure you submit an application through the correct portal (Programmatic or CDS)**. Senators Markey and Warren have a joint application.

**You are also welcome to schedule a meeting with the Senator's staff so they can share further guidance on how to advance your funding priorities and apply for funding for the upcoming fiscal year.** To request a meeting, please email [Appropriations@Markey.senate.gov](mailto:Appropriations@Markey.senate.gov).

## *Timeline for Next Year's Appropriation Requests (FY 2027)*

**Caution:** The timeline below is a general guideline and actual dates may vary . It is recommended to be in touch with the Senator's staff to ensure you have the most up to date information.

**March 2026** – Each office sets their own deadline for submitting requests and will post information on their website. Senator Markey's requests can be found here: <https://www.markey.senate.gov/fy-2026-appropriations-requests>

**May to July 2026** – Appropriations Committees in the House and Senate write legislation and decide which programs and projects to fund. Typically, by the end of July, the Appropriation Committees have completed action on annual appropriation bills that include programmatic and CDS funding.

**October 2026** – October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 is the beginning of Fiscal Year 2027. However, Congress rarely passes appropriations bills by the start of the fiscal year and will typically pass a stopgap appropriations bill that may last for several weeks or months.

**December 2026-March 2027**–Typically, Congress will pass all appropriations bills, sometimes in an omnibus, by the end of March of the following year. In FY25, Congress did not act on appropriations bills and instead funded the government with a “continuing resolution (CR)” for the entire year. In the event of a full-year CR, some or all appropriations requests made by constituents and sponsored by a Senator or Member of Congress may fail to be enacted.

## *Programmatic Funding and Bill Language Requests*

Programmatic funding requests are general requests for funding for national and regional programs that are usually included in the [president's budget request](#) to Congress. Bill or report language requests direct, encourage, or urge a federal agency (e.g. Department of Labor, Department of Health and Human Services, etc.) to carry out an action. Funding is not designated to any particular organization and requests must be merit-based and comply with Senate rules regarding competitive or formula-driven processes.

Senator Markey accepts Programmatic Funding / Language Requests through an online submission portal located on his website. **To submit a request, you will need to create an account with the Senate Office Application Manager and complete a questionnaire.** Questionnaires are not accepted until the online portal is open and, for programmatic requests, after the President has submitted a budget

All applications must be submitted electronically through the portal on the website by the deadline. **You should only submit programmatic requests after the president's budget is released so that you may fully complete the questionnaire.**

### Example of Programmatic Request

**Programmatic Funding:** Provide \$4,000,000,000 for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program

### Example of Language Request

**Language:** The Committee directs the Secretary to undergo a review of how USDA can utilize commodity food programs to strengthen the resilience of our domestic food system and create more equitable opportunities for small and family farmers and fishermen.

## *Congressionally Directed Spending Requests*

Congressionally directed spending (CDS) allows Senators and Representatives to direct federal investment to local communities. CDS requests are strictly reserved for non-profit organizations and state, tribal and municipal governments and must comply with Senate Rules.

Competition for CDS funding is highly competitive. **The Senate Appropriations Committee is responsible for all final funding decisions and many projects that Senator Markey supports will unfortunately not be funded.**

The Massachusetts federal delegation works together to secure as many projects as possible and you are encouraged to submit an identical to your House member. You can find your House member using [this tool](#). In the House of Representative, the CDS program is called Community Project Funding (CPF). Requests through the Senate CDS or House CPF program are also commonly called “earmarks.”

Since the restoration of earmarks in 2021, Senator Markey has secured millions of dollars of federal investment in hundreds of projects that serve the people of Massachusetts every day.

An interactive map with detail about each project can be found at <https://www.markey.senate.gov/map>.

Senator Markey accepts CDS requests through an online submission portal located on the [Senator’s website](#). To submit a request, you will need to create an account with the Senate Office Application Manager and complete a questionnaire. A blank questionnaire for CDS requests can be found [here](#). In addition the questionnaire, applicants **should include TWO (2) letters of support from third parties** within the community or communities that would benefit from the fulfillment of the request. These letters must clearly communicate the benefits that the request would confer upon the community/communities.

## *Congressionally Directed Spending Eligible Accounts*

Each year the Senate Appropriations Committee provides [guidance](#) on eligible accounts under which applicants can apply for CDS funding. To apply for CDS funding, you must apply under one of the eligible accounts. Senator Markey's staff can assist you with identifying the most appropriate account for your project ([Appropriations@markey.senate.gov](mailto:Appropriations@markey.senate.gov))

You should feel welcome to ask the Senator's staff for guidance about the most appropriate account(s) to select considering your project goals. Staff contact information is available at the end of this document.

Please be aware, the CDS program is generally intended for high-impact projects that can be expanded or completed with assistance from the federal government. CDS is not intended to support ongoing operations. Instead, CDS funding is viewed as supportive funding to expand or complete a specific project.

**Please note that each of these accounts have detailed requirements that you must review.** These can be reviewed on the Senator's website. Ranges for past CDS awards are provided as a guide and you consult with the Senator's staff if you have any questions.

### I. Construction and Rehabilitation of Community Infrastructure and Public Works

Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives (EDI), or Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

- Allowable activities under this account include the acquisition of real property, construction and rehabilitation of community facilities, beautification of urban land, conservation of open spaces, natural resources or scenic areas for recreational opportunities, demolition or removal of buildings, elimination of blight, housing projects and projects to remove barriers that restrict the mobility and accessibility of elderly and handicapped persons.
- Projects must primarily benefit low and moderate-income residents of a community and cannot be used for the acquisition, construction or rehabilitation of buildings for the general conduct of government, such as a town hall.
- Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this account ranged from \$750,000 to \$5,000,000.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development (USDA RD), Community Facilities

- This flexible account can be used to purchase, construct, make improvements to or purchase equipment for community facilities in rural communities
- Allowable uses of funds include support for health care facilities, public facilities such as town halls, courthouses or street improvements, community support services for child care centers, community centers or fairgrounds, improvements to the facilities of emergency personnel, community educational services for museums, libraries or private schools, food systems including community gardens, food pantries and utility services for telemedicine and distance learning equipment
- Only rural communities with populations of 20,000 or less are eligible to compete for this funding source. The maximum federal share is up to 75 percent for communities with 5,000 people or fewer.

- To be eligible for a Congressional earmark, these projects must be vetted by the Massachusetts USDA Director's office to verify that the project is eligible to receive funding. My office can connect you to the appropriate USDA RD staffer for verification.
- Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$223,000 to \$4,000,000

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development (USDA RD). Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband (DLT) program

- The USDA RD offers the Distance Learning, Telemedicine and Broadband (DLT) program to provide resources for rural county and municipal governments to assist in connecting teachers and medical service providers with students or patients in another location
- Eligible uses of funds include the purchase of capital assets such as broadband facilities, audio, video and interactive video equipment, terminal and data terminal equipment, computer hardware and software, and wiring and infrastructure services necessary for distance learning and telemedicine purposes along with technical assistance and instruction for using eligible equipment
- Only rural communities with populations of 20,000 or less are eligible to compete for this funding source. The maximum federal share is up to 75 percent for communities with 5,000 people or fewer.
- To be eligible for a Congressional earmark, these projects must be vetted by the Massachusetts USDA Director's office to verify that the project is eligible to receive funding. My office can connect you to the appropriate USDA RD staffer for verification
- There were no Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)

- For Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure
  - The EPA's STAG program provides funding for the construction of and modification to municipal sewage or drinking water treatment plants, replacement of sewer and water pipes, activities to facilitate compliance with primary national drinking water regulations and planning and design work.
  - The Committee will prioritize awarding projects on the [Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection \(MassDEP\) State Intended Use Plan \(IUP\)](#) that have been reviewed by MassDEP.
  - There is a minimum 20 percent local cost share for earmarked projects
  - Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$700,000 to \$4,642,000.
- For Infrastructure Grants
  - Requests will only be considered for projects related to existing funding categories and activities within the STAG account that will result in improvements in environmental quality and/or human health.
  - There were no Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority.

#### Indian Health Service, Sanitation Facilities Construction, Sanitation Facilities Construction

- The Appropriations Committee accept CDS requests for projects included on the Indian Health Services' (IHS) Sanitation Deficiency System (SDS) list.
- There were no Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority.

#### Department of Energy, Energy Projects

- The Appropriations Committee considers limited types of requests for projects under the Department of Energy.
- The Department of Energy funds projects in five topic areas including: Renewable and Clean Energy Electricity and Energy Resiliency Cybersecurity and Energy Security Nuclear Energy Fossil Energy or Carbon Management
- Massachusetts CDS awards in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$0 to \$3,000,000.

## II. HISTORIC PRESERVATION, CONSERVATION, LAND MANAGEMENT

#### National Archives and Records Administration

- Projects that help ensure online public discovery and use of historical records collections, encourage public engagement with historical records, strengthen the nation's archival network, or publish documentary editions of historical records. This includes initiatives like record digitization, programming, and online availability of records.
- Projects that direct spending for presidential libraries or new archival facilities
- Massachusetts CDS awards in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$0 to \$222,000

#### National Park Service, Historic Preservation Fund Projects

- The Historic Preservation Fund (HPF), established to help fund the programs engendered by the National Historic Preservation Act, was designed to preserve historical and archaeological sites in the United States of America. Most requests will be made within the HPF for the Save America's Treasures (SAT) program. For more information, please visit [here](#).
- The maximum project amount is \$500,000.

#### U.S. Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, Forest Resource Information and Analysis

- The State and Private Forestry account provides technical and financial assistance grants to non-federal forest landowners, including state, Tribal, and local governments.
- Activities within this account include forest health management, cooperative fire protection, wood innovation, and urban and community forestry. Project requests should be part of the state's Forest Action Plan, or contribute to meeting the goals of the Forest Action Plan.
- There were no Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority.

#### Bureau of Indian Affairs, Operation of Indian Programs, Special Initiatives

- BIA provides direct services and funding for compacts and contracts for Tribes to provide programs for a wide range of activities. While the Subcommittee will not consider CDS projects for individual tribes, the Subcommittee may consider requests from other eligible entities that honor the commitment to invest in Tribal communities, create economic opportunities, foster cultural heritage, promote efficient and effective Tribal governance, and conserve natural resources.
- There were no Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority.

#### Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Science and Technology, Research: National Priorities

- Project requests may be considered for high priority lines of research related to environmental quality and/or human health.
- There were no Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority.

### III. CRIMINAL JUSTICE, DISASTER MITIGATION AND EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

The Department of Justice (DOJ) provides funding to local law enforcement agencies and non-profit organizations for the purchase of modern equipment and a wide range of criminal legal programs including law enforcement training, community relations, planning and evaluation, and other critical areas.

#### Department of Justice Byrne JAG Discretionary Projects

- This program has a wide range of allowable uses of funds, generally defined as providing additional personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance, and information systems for criminal legal systems, including the development of new Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) programs.
- Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$185,000 to \$650,000

#### DOJ COPS Law Enforcement Technology

- This grant program funds the acquisition and deployment of technologies and automated systems to assist law enforcement agencies in investigating, responding to, and preventing crime.
- Allowable uses of funds include both the acquisition of equipment and relevant support systems for the new equipment.
- There were no Massachusetts CDS awards in FY24 under this authority.

#### Office of National Drug Control Policy - Prevention Grants

- This program provides funding for drug prevention programs, such as the Drug-Free Communities Supports Programs to help prevent youth substance abuse.
- There were no Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority.

## Disaster Mitigation and Emergency Operations

These projects, funded by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA), must include a written letter of support from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) verifying that the project is eligible to receive funding in order to be considered for an earmark. Please contact the Senator's office so staff can assist you with the steps for securing a letter from MEMA to make CDS request under this account eligible for consideration.

## Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

- This funds projects designed to address potential future disaster areas, including flood mitigation projects. Priorities for funding include projects that address public infrastructure, mitigate risk to community lifelines, incorporate nature-based solutions, or adopt and enforce the latest published editions of building codes.
- These projects maintain the authorized cost-share agreement of 75 percent federal funding, 25 percent local funding.
- Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$750,000 to \$1,275,000

## Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant Program

- This grant program provides resources to ensure continuity of operations for centers in major disasters, including for construction or renovation needs.
- Projects must meet the EOC Grant Program's environmental and historic preservation requirements to be considered for funding.
- These projects maintain the authorized cost-share agreement of 75 percent federal funding, 25 percent local funding
- There were no Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority.

## Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO)

- This authority is for watershed protection in rural communities.
- Any individual project may not exceed a watershed or sub-watershed size of 250,000 acres. At least 20 percent of the project's benefits must be directly related to agriculture.

## IV. HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND FACILITIES

### Department of Health and Human Services: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

#### *Health Facilities Construction and Equipment*

- This flexible account can provide federal funding to contribute towards the cost of construction, renovation, or capital equipment purchase for facilities for health, mental health, or substance abuse services, training of health professionals, or medical research.

- This may include hospitals; health centers and clinics; skilled nursing facilities; mental health centers; facilities for schools of medicine, nursing, or other health professions; and medical research laboratories.
- Funds are prohibited from paying for work previously completed, as well as the acquisition of land or purchase of existing buildings, or to pay for salaries or operating costs of the health care facilities.
- General feasibility studies for a health care facility are prohibited expenses, but architectural and engineering costs with an eligible construction project are permissible uses of funds.
- Funding may also be utilized to purchase capital equipment involved in patient care, such as lab equipment, x-ray machines, or other equipment with a useful life of more than a year and a unit cost of at least \$5,000 are permissible.
- Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$179,000 to \$2,975,000

#### *Rural Health*

- This account may fund project to improve health care in rural areas, including medical, dental, or mental health care services; health promotion and education; chronic disease management; telehealth services; and improvements to emergency medical services
- Eligible applicants are only those county, municipal, or partner nonprofit health care providers that service communities to meet HRSA's definition of a rural community.
- There were no Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority.

#### Department of Health and Human Services: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) provides a wide range of funding to create or expand the capacity of state, county, and municipal governments, as well as partner nonprofit health care providers to provide mental health or substance abuse treatment or prevention programs for local residents, such as through crisis stabilization centers. Funding under this account may NOT be used for construction projects.

- Mental Health Substance
  - Eligible SAMHSA Mental Health projects include those to support programs that promote the prevention or treatment of mental health disorders, including rehabilitation, outreach, and other support services.
- Substance Abuse Treatment
  - This account provide resources to enhance programs that improve access, reduce barriers, and promote high quality, effective treatment and recovery services.
- Substance Abuse Prevention
  - Allowable uses of funds for this program include projects to prevent the onset of illegal drug use, prescription drug misuse and abuse, alcohol misuse and abuse, and underage alcohol and tobacco use.
- Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$400,000 to \$600,000

## Department of Health and Human Services: Administration for Children and Families' (ACF)

- Child Abuse Prevention
  - This account funds projects to improve the prevention, assessment, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect through research, model service improvement, information dissemination, and technical assistance.
  - Projects must serve or target abused and/or neglected children and their families.
- Social Services Research and Demonstration
  - Funds are available to promote the ability of families to thrive through financial self-sufficiency, and to promote the healthy development and greater well-being of children and families
  - Projects can serve a diverse population including: low-income individuals, children, youth, families, individuals with developmental disabilities, and Native Americans
  - While not a comprehensive list of eligible activities, the Senate awarded funding for projects in FY23 that provided legal and technical assistance for low-income individuals to reduce poverty, support for bilingual family engagement centers, and support for low-income pregnant women, mentoring services for youth, expansion of child care services and training for child care professionals, and food insecurity programs.
- Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$100,000 to \$270,000

## Administration for Community Living's Aging (ACL) and Disability Services Programs

- Aging and Disability Services Program
  - Funds are available to improve the ability of older adults and individuals of all ages with disabilities to live independently and participate fully in their communities. Generally, projects focus on improving access to, or the quality of, education, training, support services, and independent living services for older adults and individuals with disabilities.
- Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$100,000 to \$1,635,000

## V. SMALL BUSINESS AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

### Small Business Administration

- Projects in support of small businesses, including but not limited to entrepreneur training, counseling, research, and construction or acquisition of facilities.
- SBA CDS funding cannot be used to provide seed capital for small businesses nor can it be used by the CDS recipient to make grants/loans.
- Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$100,000 to \$1,635,000

## Department of Labor: Workforce Development

### *Employment and Training Administration (ETA)*

- Under the Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration authority, CDS funds may be used by county, municipal, partner nonprofit organizations, K-12 school systems, or institutions of higher education to enhance Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) eligible activities.
- Eligible programs for funding include those designed to provide direct services to individuals to enhance their employment opportunities and training for locally available, in-demand, jobs, enhancing connections between a State and local workforce investment system, or evaluating existing workforce investment systems for potential future enhancements.
- CDS funding may be used for the purchase of equipment, but generally only if it is an incidental part of the larger project to provide direct services (a similar standard applies to curriculum development). If a larger portion of the CDS funding is expected to be used for equipment or curriculum development, please note that and provide a detailed justification for why such investments are necessary to meet the employment and training needs of individuals.
- CDS funding within ETA cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities or the purchase of land or build
- Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$627,000 to \$630,000

## VI. EDUCATION AND RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

### Department of Education

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) provides federal funding to enhance K-12, Higher Education and Rehabilitation Services programs provided by nonprofit organizations, local school systems or institutions of higher education. In general, ED CDS funding may not be used for the construction or renovation of facilities.

Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under these authorities ranged from \$125,000 to \$1,658,000 million.

### *Fund for the Improvement of Education (FIE)*

- In general, the focus of elementary and secondary education CDS funding should be providing early childhood or K-12 educational services including instructional services, afterschool centers, curricula development, teacher training, acquisition of books and computers, arts education, social and emotional learning activities, full-service community schools and early childhood education
- In addition, CDS funding to provide and improve special education services at the elementary and secondary levels are also eligible under this account. Eligible projects may include early intervention services for infants and toddlers, transition services and postsecondary education services.

- Eligible grantees are nonprofit organizations, state education agencies, school districts and colleges and universities. Daycare and childcare projects that do not include educational services are not eligible for funding.

*Rehabilitation Services Demonstration and Training*

- CDS funding authorized by ED's Rehabilitation Services Administration focus on improving access to, or the quality of, services for individuals with disabilities that are authorized under the Rehabilitation Act. Potential projects include providing education, training, support services and independent living services to individuals with disabilities.
- Eligible grantees include non-profit organizations, state vocational rehabilitation agencies or community rehabilitation programs.

*Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)*

- Generally, requests should focus on improving access to, or the quality of, postsecondary education.
- Examples of projects that can be funded under FIPSE include projects to hire and train faculty, establish and improve degree programs, improve teacher preparation programs, develop and improve curricula, upgrade technology and telecommunications, acquire science laboratory equipment, provide student support, implement university partnerships with school districts and establish research and training centers.
- Eligible entities include nonprofit organizations and colleges and universities

Department of Agriculture

*National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Research and Facilities Act Program (NIFA RFAP)*

- Eligible qualifying institutions (Land Grant Universities, Non-Land-Grant Colleges of Agriculture, and other eligible entities as defined in section 7 U.S.C. 6971(f)(1)(C)) may request funds for constructing, purchasing, updating, renovating, or modifying agricultural research buildings to conduct research in the areas of agriculture and food sciences. Funds may be used to fund site design, purchase and installation of permanently affixed equipment for research, as well as for construction or renovation of buildings or sites for agricultural research facilities or other facilities that store agricultural research experimental samples.

Department of Commerce

*NOAA Operations, Research, and Facilities (ORF) Special Projects*

- Projects should address fisheries, marine, mammals, ocean, climate, weather and atmospheric research programs.
- Construction projects will not be accepted. However, equipment necessary to conduct the research programs are eligible for funding.

*NIST Scientific and Technical Research and Services (STRS) External Projects.*

- Projects should address standards-related research and technology development.
- Construction projects will not be accepted.

*NIST; Construction of Research Facilities;*

- Projects are for non-Federal research facilities, including for projects at research institutions and colleges and universities
- However, given the significant investments necessary for construction projects, only a very limited number of projects will be supported on an annual basis.

*NASA Safety, Security and Mission Support (SSMS).*

- Projects should focus on science education, research and technology development related to NASA's mission
- Medical research projects and projects at NASA-owned Visitor Centers or a state's designated Space Grant Consortium will not be funded. This account does not fund construction, but could be used for equipment, research funding or education programs.

*Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Buildings and Facilities*

- Requests for ARS Buildings and Facilities may only include funding for repairs and maintenance to existing facilities.
- Eligible entities include USDA Agricultural Research Service centers, 1865 Land Grant Universities and 1890 Land Grant Universities.
- Funding for construction of a new building will not be considered.

*Agricultural Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Salaries and Expenses (APHIS S&E)*

- Requests under this account are for pest detection and mitigation and wildlife damage management.

*Department of Energy, Energy Projects*

- The Appropriations Committee considers very few items for the Department of Energy.
- The Department of Energy funds projects in five topic areas including: Renewable and Clean Energy Electricity and Energy Resiliency Cybersecurity and Energy Security Nuclear Energy Fossil Energy or Carbon Management

## VII. TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) provides federal support for wide range of transportation projects across all modes of transportation. DOT provides most of this funding to states. It is important to note that nearly all transportation projects require coordination with the State and any applicable Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The Appropriations Committee places priority on funding projects that are included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), authored by the

Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MADOT) or the several Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) that author regional Transportation Improvement Plans (TIP).

Massachusetts Senate CDS awards in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$220,000 to \$2,000,000

#### Grants-in-Aid for Airports

- This program supports projects that are eligible to receive funding through the FAA's Airport Improvement Program, which awards grants for planning and construction of airport infrastructure including the construction or rehabilitation of runways and taxiways, airfield lighting, signage and drainage and safety improvements.

#### Facilities and Equipment for terminal air traffic control facilities

- This account allows for the rehabilitation of terminal air traffic control tower projects eligible under Part A of Subtitle VII of Title 49, United States Code.

#### Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP)

- This authority covers projects that are eligible for funding under the major federal surface transportation programs, including highway and bridge construction and repair, planning, environmental reviews, design and right-of-way acquisition for eligible highway projects.
- Additional activities that can be supported with this account include projects eligible for funding under the Transportation Alternatives Program, which supports local priorities including bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure

#### Transit Infrastructure Grants (TIG)

- This category of funding includes a range of transit infrastructure projects, including projects that can compete for funding from the Federal Transit Administration's programs for buses and bus facilities, Low or No Emission Vehicle Program, the competitive grant program for ferry services in urbanized areas, technical assistance and transit workforce

#### Transportation Planning, Research, and Development

- The applicants can request CDS within the TPR&D account for transportation research projects eligible under title 23 or title 49 of United States Code. Planning for specific local highway, transit, or rail projects that are eligible under HIP, TIG, or CRISI should NOT be included in this account. Applicants are encouraged to use this account for national or regional research and development projects.

#### Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) Grant

- Applicants can request CDS within the PIDP account for port projects eligible under section 54301 of title 46, United States Code. You must provide the Project Name, Project Purpose, Project Website, Project Detail, Member's Request, Total Cost, Location of the Activity, and Project Recipient Information

## Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Grants

- Applicants can request CDS within the CRISI account for rail capital projects eligible under section 22907 of title 49, United States Code. You must provide the Project Name, Project Purpose, Project Website, Project Detail, Member's Request, Total Cost, Location of the Activity, and Project Recipient Information.

## **Contacts**

Please email [Appropriations@markey.senate.gov](mailto:Appropriations@markey.senate.gov) to be connected to Senator Markey's staff

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q:** What is the difference between a programmatic funding request and a Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) funding request?

**A:** Programmatic appropriations requests increase funding for particular programs already included in the president's budget. Programmatic funds are not designated for any specific local government or nonprofit entity. CDS requests, or earmarks, are not in the president's budget and recipients are eligible government or nonprofit entities.

**Q:** What is the difference between the House and Senate earmark process?

**A:** Each year the House and Senate Appropriations Committee put out their own guidance for accepting CDS requests. In contrast to the [Senate](#), the House [does not allow](#) CDS requests for any accounts under the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee or the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee <sup>1</sup>. The House also prohibited memorials, museums, or commemoratives from being eligible for CDS funding. The House and Senate run separate appropriation processes and guidance from the House does not impact the Senate process and vice versa.

**Q:** For a CDS request, which accounts should I apply under if I want to acquire property or pay for construction?

**A:** Senate Appropriations guidance specifies a limited number of accounts for acquisition of property or construction. Accounts that allow for construction costs are [Small Business](#), [Health Facilities Construction and Equipment](#), and [Economic Development Initiatives \(EDI\)](#). Only the EDI account allows for the acquisition of property.

**Q:** I have submitted my CDS request, what happens now?

**A:** Staff will follow up with you and provide updates on timing for Congressional approval of appropriations. Should you be successful in having your award enacted into law, the agency you applied under will engage with you to execute a detailed grant agreement.

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<sup>1</sup> This includes all accounts under the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control, Small Business Administration, National Archives, and General Services Administration.

**Q:** Can I use a CDS award to be reimbursed for costs already incurred?

**A:** Generally, costs incurred prior to execution of your grant agreement will be an ineligible use of your CDS award. You should carefully review the grant agreement and follow up with staff with any questions.

**Q:** What happens if my project is not selected for funding this cycle?

**A:** Every Senate office receives hundreds of requests each year and many projects go unfunded. If your project is not funded it may be due to the competitive nature of the process rather than any issue with your application. You may follow up with the Senator's staff with questions.

**Q:** If I submitted a request to my House representative, does that preclude me from applying to Senator Markey's office for the same project? What if my project/application was successfully selected by my House Representative?

**A:** To move forward, projects need only to be in either the House or the Senate bill. However, we strongly encourage you to apply to both your Senator and Representative. If your project is included in both bills, the final bill will reconcile any differences between the bills.