

PROGRAM STATEMENT

Funding Opportunity SPG2026-7

Community Resilience Partnership Service Provider Grant Program

Issued by:

Maine Office of Community Affairs

[Community Resilience Partnership](#)

Marquardt Building, 3rd Floor,

32 Blossom Lane

Augusta, ME 04330

Issue Date: March 6, 2026

PROPOSAL DUE DATES:

- **May 15th at 5:00 P.M.**
- **August 14th at 5:00 P.M.**
- **November 13th at 5:00 P.M.**
- **March 15th at 5:00 P.M.**

All communication regarding this Program Statement should be sent to Marina Tomer, Regional Coordinator Program Manager, marina.tomer@maine.gov

Informational webinar: March 18, 2026; 1:00 P.M.

Zoom Registration Link:

<https://mainestate.zoom.us/j/82574370200pwd=ANjKPAgORK1EhOOx4kvM50TmhpAQMf.1>

A recording will be posted at: <https://www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership>



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SECTION 1. BACKGROUND

The [Community Resilience Partnership](#) (“the Partnership”) provides grants and assistance to municipal governments, Tribal Governments, plantations, townships, or unorganized territories in Maine (“Communities”) for projects that reduce energy use and costs, transition to clean energy and make communities more resilient to climate change impacts such as flooding, extreme temperatures, and public health risks. Communities – those that have already taken significant climate action as well as those considering their early steps – are eligible for Community Action Grants upon completion of the Community Resilience Partnership [enrollment requirements](#).

There are **two** Service Provider Grant Tracks provided through this Program Statement.

- **Track 1** Service Provider Grants enable organizations to assist Communities to prepare for and enroll in the Community Resilience Partnership and then apply for grant funds to undertake priority projects.
- **Track 2** Service Provider Grants enable organizations to assist enrolled/enrolling Communities to complete community vulnerability assessments that identify vulnerable community members, infrastructure, and assets, and then utilize that data to further prioritize climate action projects and apply for grant funds.

1.1 Definitions

MOCA	Maine Office of Community Affairs
State	State of Maine
Service Provider Grant	Grant to a service provider to assist a Group of communities in Maine to prepare for and enroll in the Community Resilience Partnership, or assess community vulnerability, and apply for grant funds to implement priority climate and energy projects.
Community	A municipal government, Tribal Government, plantation, township, or unorganized territory in Maine.
Group	Up to five (5) communities covered by a single application for grant funding.
Community Action Grant	Upon enrollment in the Community Resilience Partnership, communities are eligible for Community Action Grants for projects that reduce energy use and costs, transition to clean energy, and make communities in Maine more resilient to climate change. Please see CAG2026-7 Action Grant Program Statement for more information.

Vulnerability Assessment	In the Community Resilience Partnership, a Vulnerability Assessment (VA) is a community-informed process that identifies priority climate risks and vulnerable assets and produces a prioritized, actionable set of recommendations to guide future community resilience planning and investment.
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1.2 Eligibility

In order to be considered for Grant funding under this application process, Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- 1) Eligible service provider organizations include regional planning organizations, councils of governments, regional economic development organizations, county governments, non-profit organizations, academic institutions and cooperative extension programs, and for-profit enterprises. Municipalities are also eligible to apply for Service Provider grants and will need to demonstrate experience and capacity to serve other communities in the Group (see Section 2.5, subsection B.).
- 2) Service Provider Applicants must recruit up to five (5) Communities as part of applications for Track 1 and Track 2.
 - a. For Track 1, communities may not be enrolled previously in the Partnership nor supported previously by an earlier Service Provider Grant.
 - b. For Track 2, communities may not have been supported by an earlier Track 2 Service Provider Grant.
 - c. Unorganized territories, townships, and plantations are eligible. Letters of support should come from the board of assessors, UT supervisor, or county manager as appropriate. A letter of support from the Maine Land Use Planning Commission is strongly encouraged.
 - d. Applications must include a letter of support from each community in the proposed Group. Letters of support for each community, and other project partners as appropriate, must be included with the application package. Do not send letters separately.
 - i. For Track 1, letters of support should indicate the community's intention to enroll in the Partnership during the grant period and convey its understanding of the enrollment requirements.
 - ii. For Track 2, letters of support should indicate the community's intention to actively participate in completion of a community vulnerability assessment and convey its understanding of its role in the process (data gathering, community outreach, etc.)

An organization may submit applications for both tracks in this grant round but may submit only one (1) application per track. An organization is permitted to participate as a

subcontractor on multiple Service Provider Grant applications and is expected to demonstrate, through the application(s), that it has the capacity to fulfill those commitments effectively.

A Community may participate in applications for both tracks in this grant round but may only participate in one (1) application per track. Communities participating in a Track 2 SPG application are also eligible to participate in a Community Action Grant application.

Service Providers with an active Service Provider Grant from an earlier round are eligible to apply. Applicants with active Service Provider Grants must be in good standing, meaning that grant reporting requirements and deliverables are being met, and project completion is expected on time and on budget.

1.3 Grant Size and Duration

The Community Resilience Partnership plans to allocate approximately \$600,000 for Service Provider Grant awards in Track 1 and Track 2 during this grant round. The Community Resilience Partnership may award all, part, or none of this allocation at its discretion.

For both Track 1 and Track 2, applicants may request up to \$15,000 per community in the Group.

Quarterly Application Process

For this round, the Community Resilience Partnership is accepting applications for Service Provider grants on a recurring basis, with four scheduled review cycles throughout the year. This approach is intended to ensure that funding decisions better align with community readiness and emerging resilience needs.

Applications for both **Track 1 and Track 2** may be submitted at any time and are reviewed quarterly. Applications submitted by the deadlines listed below will be considered in the corresponding review cycle. Applications submitted after a deadline will be reviewed in the next scheduled cycle. Applicants will be notified of review timelines and award decisions following each quarterly review period.

Quarterly Submission Deadlines

- **May 15th at 5:00 P.M.**
- **August 14th at 5:00 P.M.**
- **November 13th at 5:00 P.M.**
- **March 15th at 5:00 P.M.**

Awards are made as funding is available and are subject to the annual program funding limit indicated above. The Community Resilience Partnership will close the Service Provider Grant round when the funding limit has been reached.

Track 1 awardees are expected to complete the scope of work within 12 months, and Track 2 within 18 months. Contract terms cannot exceed 24 months. Please see Section 2.1 under Grant Program Details below.

1.4 Future Grant Rounds

The next Community Action Grant round is anticipated to have a deadline in May 2027, subject to change with availability of funding.

1.5 Cancellation Notice

The Community Resilience Partnership reserves the right to cancel this Program Statement at any time.

1.6 Final Action on Grant Awards

Awards made through this program are considered final and are not subject to internal agency appeal. Any person aggrieved by a decision may pursue judicial review according to the provisions of 5 MRS§§ 11001 – 11008 within 30 days of the agency decision.

1.7 Contact information

Questions about this Program Statement should be sent via email to marina.tomer@maine.gov.

SECTION 2. GRANT PROGRAM DETAILS

2.1 Description

The Maine Office of Community Affairs (MOCA) is seeking applications for Service Provider Grants as defined in this Program Statement. There are **two** Service Provider Grants Tracks provided through this Program Statement.

Track 1: A Track 1 Service Provider Grant is a grant to an eligible service provider to provide assistance to up to five (5) communities in Maine to prepare for and enroll in the [Community Resilience Partnership](#) and then apply for grant funds for priority climate and energy projects. Desired outcomes from the Track 1 Service Provider Grants are:

1. Completion of the enrollment requirements (see Section 2.5, Subsection C.) and enrollment in the Community Resilience Partnership program by each of the recruited communities;
2. A list of priority climate and energy projects for each community and collaborative projects for the Group; and
3. Assistance to communities to submit a Community Action Grant application or an application for another funding opportunity for priority projects.

Track 2: A Track 2 Service Provider Grant is a grant to an eligible service provider to provide assistance to up to five (5) communities in Maine that are enrolled/enrolling in the Partnership to complete a community vulnerability assessment. Desired outcomes from the Track 2 Service Provider Grants are:

- Completion of a community vulnerability assessment that meets program requirements (see Section 2.5, Subsection C.)
- Assistance to communities to apply for a Community Action Grant or another funding opportunity for priority projects.

Once the Service Provider Grant is awarded, the grantee will initiate program activities in accordance with the approved work plan and timeline. All funded Service Providers will be required to provide quarterly updates, project deliverables, and a brief project case study that communicates lessons learned.

2.2 Eligible Uses of Funds

Reasonable project-related expenses may include personnel costs, contractual expenses, supplies, travel, indirect costs, and venue rental fees for meetings. These funds may not be used for construction, computer equipment, permit fees, or to support unrelated staffing needs of the applicant organization.

2.3 Cost-Share (or Match)

For all Service Provider Grants, a 15% cost share (“match”) is required of the Applicant. In-kind match is permitted. In-kind match is the value of equipment, goods, or services contributed to the grant that would have been eligible costs. Costs incurred prior to the grant award period are not eligible as match.

2.4 Community Access and Engagement

The state's climate response should benefit all Maine people. Applicants should include robust community engagement to increase participation of underrepresented populations in their community workshops and public meetings (for example, planning processes that include underrepresented and at-risk community voices and partnerships with community-based organizations).

Climate change impacts will create the greatest hardships for already underserved communities, and therefore it is important to identify and promote solutions to help the people who are most vulnerable to climate impacts. As communities are identifying priority projects, they should consider the potential benefits of their proposed climate action projects and describe how the project promotes access to those benefits.

Service Provider awardees are expected to design and implement engagement approaches that are inclusive, accessible, and responsive to community needs, and that meaningfully support participation by underrepresented and at-risk populations throughout workshops, public meetings, and assessment activities.

2.5 Application Guidelines and Required Format

A complete and scoreable application for funding will include the following components.

A. General Information, Eligibility, and Application Information

Applicants must complete the following documents as part of their application:

- Application Cover Page
- General Information / Service Provider and Group Eligibility (See Section 1.2 above for community eligibility information)

B. Capacity, Expertise, and Previous Experience

- Track 1 Applicants must demonstrate expertise and experience across climate resilience, clean energy, and emissions reduction.
- Track 2 Applicants must demonstrate expertise and experience assessing vulnerability and risk and developing recommendations to address identified vulnerabilities.
- All Applicants are strongly encouraged to consider partnerships or subcontractors that fill gaps in in-house expertise and experience in these areas.

C. Scope of Work

Applicants must provide a scope of work that identifies and describes the tasks necessary to achieve the programs' desired outcomes stated in section 2.1 above.

Track 1:

Community Enrollment - Applicants must describe how they will assist their Group of Communities to complete the enrollment requirements and enroll in the Community Resilience Partnership by:

- Completing the Community Resilience Self-Evaluation (available [here](#)) and the List of Community Actions (available [here](#)) to identify activities that have already been accomplished and potential next steps.
- Holding a community workshop(s) to: a) review results of the Community Resilience

Self-Evaluation and the List of Community Actions and b) prioritize climate and energy projects for implementation.

- Adopting a municipal resolution, or for Tribal Governments providing a letter from the Tribal Chief, (sample municipal resolution available [here](#)) that establishes or designates a committee of community stakeholders or a position in municipal government or Tribal Government to coordinate activities to reduce energy use and costs, invest in renewable energy, and make the community more resilient to climate change;
- Submitting completed enrollment materials via the [online enrollment link](#).

Track 2:

Community Vulnerability Assessment -

The purpose of the Vulnerability Assessment is to help communities understand where climate-related risks intersect with valued community assets, prioritize areas of concern, and identify actionable strategies and resource needs to increase resilience.

Applicants must describe how they will assist their Group of Communities to complete a vulnerability assessment that will accomplish the following:

- Identify community goals for the assessment
 - This could include a more regional approach, providing insight into how vulnerabilities due to climate impacts intersect across neighboring towns, and offer direction on where further investigation is needed.
- Identify potential climate hazards, impacts, and planning time horizons
- Identify vulnerabilities to valued community assets from each hazard
 - Types of assets may include, but are not limited to, infrastructure and public property; neighborhoods and business districts; community services, and natural, recreational, and economic resources.
 - Assess the relative risk to priority assets for each hazard, taking into consideration factors such as age, condition, location, criticality, etc.
 - Identify potential consequences to the community if the asset is impaired or lost.
- Identify and engage at-risk populations to determine relevant impacts and develop options for reducing vulnerabilities to impacts.
- **Develop a prioritized set of actionable recommendations** to increase resilience and decrease vulnerability, clearly distinguishing between:
 - Near-term actions
 - Medium-term actions
 - Longer-term strategies

- The service provider is encouraged to explore regional or joint recommendations for shared priorities across two or more of the communities in the Group.
- Identify resource needs, next steps, and potential funding or technical assistance pathways to support implementation of prioritized actions.
- Deliver the completed vulnerability assessment reports to each community.

Both Tracks:

Grant Assistance - Applicants must describe how they will assist their Group of municipalities and Tribal Governments to apply for a Community Action Grant or other funding source for priority climate and energy projects.

Approach to community access and engagement - Applicants must describe specific, actionable steps to increase access for community stakeholders to participate in the enrollment and vulnerability assessment processes, including underrepresented populations and community members particularly vulnerable to climate impacts. Each community should consider who will be most affected by climate change impacts and how the needs of the most vulnerable residents will be considered in the prioritization of community actions.

Project Timeline – Applicants must describe a timeline for completing grant deliverables. Notice of Service Provider Grant award or non-award is expected approximately one month following the close of each award period, and awards will be finalized shortly thereafter. In describing the project timeline applicants should consider the timing of the future Community Action Grant deadline, provided in Section 1.4.

D. Budget Proposal & Cost Share

Track 1 is expected to be completed within 12 months, and Track 2 within 18 months. All program tracks must be fully completed within a maximum period of 24 months.

Applicants must provide a Budget Narrative and Budget Worksheet detailing the cost of the project. The Budget Worksheet (sample provided in Table 1) should list the costs for each task within the scope of work. The Budget Narrative should describe how the costs for each task were determined.

Applicants may request up to \$15,000 per community in the Group.

For all Service Provider Grants, a 15% cost share (“match”) is required of the Applicant. In-kind match is permitted. In-kind match is the value of equipment, goods, or services contributed to the grant that would have been eligible costs.

Costs incurred prior to the grant award period are not eligible to be included in the budget nor as match.

Table 1: Sample Budget Worksheet

Budget Worksheet			
A 15% cost share is required of the Applicant. In-kind match is permitted. See Section 2.3 of the Program Statement for more information.			
Project Task	Funds Requested	Cost Share and Other Funds	Total Project Budget
Task 1			
Task 2			
Task 3			
Task 4			
<i>(insert lines for additional tasks, as necessary)</i>			
Total			

E. Letters of Support

Letters of support are required from each community in the proposed Group.

- **Track 1:** Letters of support should indicate the community’s intention to enroll in the Partnership during the grant period and its understanding of the enrollment requirements.
- **Track 2:** Letters of support should indicate the community’s intention to actively participate in completion of a community vulnerability assessment and convey its understanding of its role in the process (data gathering, community outreach, etc.).

For unorganized territories, townships, and plantations, letters of support should come from the board of assessors, UT supervisor, or county manager as appropriate. A letter of support from the Maine Land Use Planning Commission is strongly encouraged.

Letters of support are encouraged from any partner organizations or subcontractors that are bringing expertise to the service provider role)

All letters of support must be uploaded to the application form. Do not mail or email letters separately.

2.6 Selection and Award Process

An evaluation team will judge the merits of the proposals received in accordance with the criteria below:

Scoring Criteria	Total Points Available
Criteria 1: General Information/Service Provider and Group Eligibility	Pass/Fail
Criteria 2: Community Characteristics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>5 points</u> for a small (population less than 4,000) community or high social vulnerability. • <u>3 points</u> for a medium-size (population between 4,000 and 10,000) community, or medium social vulnerability, or tax assessment less than \$25 million (according to State Revenue Sharing data). • In a multi-community application, one qualifying community may earn points for the whole application 	5 points
Criteria 3: Capacity, Expertise, and Previous Experience	35 points
Criteria 4: Scope of Work	40 points
Criteria 5: Budget Proposal	25 points
Total Points	105 points

For applications that demonstrate meeting the eligibility requirements in Criteria 1, the evaluation team will use a consensus approach to evaluate and score the remaining Criteria sections shown above.

2.7 Proposal Deadline and Submission

A. Application Submission:

Proposals are due by the time and date listed on page 1. Proposals must be submitted via the MOCA grant portal:

<https://maineofficeofcommunityaffairs.submittable.com/submit>. Directions on how to create an account and use the grant portal for application submission can be found [here](#).

For technical support, use the [Submitter Resource Center](#), or contact [Submittable Customer Support](#), your program lead at MOCA, or email submittable.moca@maine.gov.

Please plan ahead; CRP assumes no responsibility for delays caused by internet outages.

B. Submitting Questions about the Program Statement

Questions about this program statement and the application process may be directed to marina.tomer@maine.gov. Please include in the subject line “**SPG2026-7– Questions**”.

Responses provided by program staff should be considered advisory and are not a guarantee of a successful application.

Any responses deemed substantive and binding will be summarized and posted on the [Community Resilience Partnership website](#) on a rolling basis. It is the applicant’s responsibility to consult this summary.

C. Informational Meeting

MOCA will host a virtual Informational Meeting concerning the Program Statement. See the Program Statement cover page for the date, time, and web link for the meeting.

The purpose of the Informational Meeting is to answer and/or field questions, clarify aspects of the Program Statement requirements, and provide supplemental information to assist potential Applicants in applying. Although attendance at the Informational Meeting is not mandatory, it is strongly encouraged that interested Applicants attend.

The meeting will be recorded and posted to the [Community Resilience Partnership website](#).

SECTION 3. TERMS & CONDITIONS OF GRANT AWARDS

3.1 Grant Agreement

Grant recipients must enter into a written Grant Agreement with the State of Maine.

3.2 Pre-Award Costs

The Community Resilience Partnership is not liable for any cost incurred by the Grantee or any Grantee subcontractor(s) prior to the effective date in the Grant Agreement. The Community

Resilience Partnership will not authorize any payments for work completed prior to the effective date of a fully executed Grant Agreement.

3.3 Reporting Requirements

Quarterly progress reports and a final report are required. Quarterly reports are due 15 days after the close of the preceding quarter (Quarters: 1/1–3/31; 4/1–6/30; 7/1–9/30; 10/1–12/31). A final report is due 30 days after the end of the grant period.

3.4 Public Records

Following announcement of an award decision, scoring and review notes for all submissions will be public records, available for public inspection pursuant to the State of Maine Freedom of Access Act (FOAA) ([1 M.R.S. § 401](#) et seq.).