

# Medium- and Heavy-Duty Mobile Charging Solutions Program

#### **Questions and Answers**

Updated as of September 5, 2024

### Funding & Budget

- 1. The RFP mentions that "Applicants are strongly encouraged to allocate at least 25% of the proposed funding to Diverse Suppliers." Will proposals that do not achieve the 25% be considered?
  - a. We encourage applicants to aim for this goal. However, MassCEC recognizes that the 25% goal is aspirational. All proposals should provide responses detailing how their program will support suppliers, vendors, and businesses that are often underrepresented or underserved in the Commonwealth. Proposals that do not meet this goal should explain the goal they propose and describe the challenges to meeting the 25% goal.
- 2. How is this program related to the Justice 40 requirements?
  - a. This Program advances President Biden's <u>Justice40 Initiative</u>, which made it a goal that 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal climate, clean energy, affordable and sustainable housing, and other investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized by underinvestment and overburdened by pollution. All the funds awarded through the Program are subject to this requirement. This Program will also help both the Commonwealth, and the federal government achieve their emissions reductions goals.
- 3. Who receives the \$5.43M? The technical program manager?
  - a. The Technical Consultant will be awarded \$5,430,000 in funding and is responsible for allocating a percentage of it to each scope of work and administrative costs.

### **Applicant Teams**

4. Are you looking for ONE Technical Consultant to develop the program and run it for MassCEC?



- a. MassCEC encourages Applicants to form a team with sub-vendors, if necessary, to provide all the requisite experience required for the Scope of Work. Proposals must be submitted by a single lead Applicant (Technical Consultant) and must clearly identify relevant Applicant Team sub-vendor(s) with whom to jointly respond to this RFP and their respective roles and experience.
- 5. Are joint ventures rated different in RFP rating?
  - a. Joint ventures are eligible to apply and will not be evaluated differently. MassCEC encourages Applicants to form a team with sub-vendors, if necessary, to provide all the requisite experience required for the Scope of Work. Proposals must be submitted by a single lead Applicant and must clearly identify relevant Applicant Team sub-vendor(s) with whom to jointly respond to this RFP and their respective roles and experience.
- 6. It appears that you are looking for a technical and program management consultant to drive a program, NOT making funding to Fleets to deploy EVSEs at their workplace or in a publicly available space, True?
  - a. MassCEC is seeking qualified Applicants with experience in clean transportation, medium- and heavy-duty fleet electrification support, mobile, temporary, and/or non-grid tied charging stations, and utility coordination to serve as a Technical Consultant to provide technical and financial support for fleets interested in piloting Mobile Charging Projects at two (2) to four (4) sites. Mobile EVSE deployed through this program will be used exclusively by medium- and heavy-duty fleets selected by the Technical Consultant in conjunction with MassCEC and will not be available for public use.
- 7. Will the technical consultant be the sole owner of the equipment/vehicles?
  - a. The Technical Consultant will be responsible for working with each fleet to secure Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment on behalf of the fleet, whether with ownership, lease, or as-a-service model structure. MassCEC anticipates that the Technical Consultant will help facilitate the purchase or lease of EVSE but that ultimately ownership would be with the fleet owners and operators. MassCEC is open to alternative ownership structures for the



duration of the project term but would need to see an ownership plan for when the term ends.

# **Program Eligibility**

- 8. Would bus depots and/or dealerships qualify as fleets under this program?
  - a. Bus depots and/or dealerships qualify under this program if their fleets are comprised of Class 3-8 vehicles.
- 9. What timeframe are the solutions to be put in place and how long it is suggested they will be needed?
  - a. Due to ARPA timelines, MassCEC is required to allocate and contract all funds prior to December 31, 2024, and expend all funds awarded by December 31, 2026. As such, applicants must propose a program schedule compliant with the ARPA deadlines. Most notably, Applicants are expected to run pilot mobile charging projects, with EVSE in use, for at least six (6) months.
- 10. Is there an agreement from relevant utilities to provide grid constraints without additional cost/formal requests?
  - a. The Technical Consultant will work with utility companies to identify areas that are grid constrained and would otherwise experience lengthy waiting periods for non-mobile charging solutions. It is up to the Technical Consultant to work with the relevant utility. There are no agreements in place between MassCEC and utility companies for this Program.
- 11. Are leases eligible for funding reimbursement?
  - a. The Technical Consultant will be responsible for working with each fleet to secure Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment on behalf of the fleet, whether with ownership, lease, or as-a-service model structure.

## Scope of Work



- 12. Is there an option to phase the pilot so that the fleets are staggered in pilot periods to utilize the same equipment between fleets?
  - a. The Technical Consultant will work with fleet owners and operators to determine which Mobile Charging Solution(s) best meets their needs and ensure that each fleet's preferred EVSE and vendor is procured. Due to the accelerated time frame of this Program (January 1, 2025 December 31, 2026), staggering the Pilot Phase is not encouraged as project operations are required to run for at least six (6) months at each site.

#### Additional Resources

- 13. Will full sets of prints and schematics be available?
  - a. There are no prints or schematics to be made available. MassCEC seeks a Technical Consultant who will determine which sites to use for EVSE deployment and which type of EVSE will be utilized at each site
- 14. Can a Minority business bid for this project?
  - a. Minority Owned Businesses are eligible to bid for this project. The only eligibility requirements for Applicant Teams are that they must have experience in clean transportation, medium- and heavy-duty fleet electrification support, mobile, temporary, and/or non-grid tied charging stations, and utility coordination.
- 15. Given the coming long weekend, is it possible to have additional time to finalize our proposal?
  - a. MassCEC will not extend the application deadline at this time. Applications are due September 19, 2024, by 4pm.