



**Non-Binding Notice of Intent to Issue
Solicitation OSW-2025-01:
Offshore Wind Works:
Offshore Wind Workforce Grants**

December 18, 2024

The Massachusetts Clean Energy Technology Center (“MassCEC”) intends to issue a competitive solicitation for funding entitled: *Offshore Wind Works: 2025 Offshore Wind Workforce Grants*. The expected amount of funds to be available through this solicitation is Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000), with a preferred maximum award amount of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) for workforce development and Access to Opportunity projects, and up to Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000) for workforce-related infrastructure and equipment projects. MassCEC reserves the right to increase or decrease funding for this solicitation.

MassCEC intends to invite applications for projects that inform, create, support, and/or expand offshore wind workforce development initiatives in Massachusetts and deliver workforce training for offshore wind to workers and students with an emphasis on expanding opportunities for underrepresented populations.

Applicants may propose one or more of the following project types:

- **Workforce Development and Training Project:** Applicants may propose to establish or expand an existing workforce development or training program. Applicants can propose to build capacity to conduct training, fund members to receive industry specific training, and/or create an introductory pathways program for offshore wind.
- **Access to Opportunity Project:** Applicants may propose an equity-focused project that aims to help mitigate, reduce, or eliminate existing barriers to entry into the offshore wind industry or provide targeted exposure, career guidance, support, and/or counseling to individuals in the identified Priority Group(s) (see Solicitation for further guidance) pursuing a pathway into the offshore wind industry.
- **Infrastructure Project:** Applicants may propose to construct, purchase, or upgrade workforce- or training-related equipment, technology, and/or facilities to better meet the needs of the industry and their specific program.

MassCEC encourages proposals to incorporate project elements that advance Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice (“DEIJ”) principles.

While proposals relating to any dimension of offshore wind workforce development will be considered, this solicitation seeks specifically to advance projects and initiatives that relate to one or more of the focus areas below.

FOCUS AREA 1: PORT WORKFORCE

FOCUS AREA 2: EDUCATION

FOCUS AREA 3: SKILLED TRADES & WORKER SAFETY

FOCUS AREA 4: CAREER PATHWAYS

For examples of projects awarded under past rounds of offshore wind workforce development grants, please see [MassCEC's Offshore Wind Works webpage](#).

As currently planned, grant funds must be matched as follows: (i) for private entities, funds must be matched on a 100% basis (i.e., for every \$1.00 of grant funding, \$1.00 of private monetary investment must be provided); and (ii) for municipal or public entities, funds must be matched on a 25% basis (i.e., for every \$1.00 of grant funding, \$0.25 of local monetary or in-kind investment must be provided). MassCEC's grant funding would be advanced to grantees as critical milestones are met.

Additional general terms for the provision of workforce development initiatives will be articulated in the forthcoming solicitation.

Purpose

The purpose of this Non-Binding Notice of Intent is to notify interested public and private sector entities of the funding opportunity. This is solely a Non-Binding Notice of Intent and not a solicitation for applications. Nor is this a request for information or comment on preferred approaches or provisions for a forthcoming solicitation. MassCEC is not accepting applications at this time. This Non-Binding Notice of Intent does not commit MassCEC to conduct a solicitation seeking applications for the above-listed tracks; MassCEC retains sole discretion regarding whether to conduct such a solicitation.

If issued, MassCEC anticipates the Offshore Wind Works solicitation process to proceed along the following estimated timeline (subject to change):

Issue Solicitation*	January 13, 2025
Proposals due	March 14, 2025
Awards announced	May 2025
Contracting	Spring/Summer 2025
*As part of the solicitation process, there will be a formal opportunity for potential respondents to submit questions and MassCEC will provide answers and responses.	

Background

MassCEC works to advance the responsible development of offshore wind and reduce project risk, increase market confidence, and maximize the associated climate, workforce, and economic benefits of this new industry. MassCEC leads a wide portfolio of initiatives in close collaboration with industry, government agencies, academia, and many other stakeholders. These initiatives are grouped in three (3) primary areas:

- Sector Development – Generate and grow local manufacturing, suppliers, service providers, and infrastructure and develop a well-trained, highly-skilled, safe, and diverse workforce.

- Planning, Analysis, and Engagement – Address identified gaps and needs through the support of technical studies, planning processes, projects, and stakeholder engagement on fisheries, wildlife, wind/ocean conditions, and transmission.
- Research and Innovation – Support and collaborate to expand offshore energy research, foster technology innovations, advance commercialization, and learn from early deployments.

To inform strategic, evidence-based workforce development initiatives and activities that meet the needs of both the emerging offshore wind industry and jobseekers, MassCEC conducts targeted research and analysis. The [2018 Massachusetts Offshore Wind Workforce Assessment](#), developed in partnership with Bristol Community College, UMass Dartmouth, and the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, examined the workforce needs and economic impact associated with 1,600 MW of offshore wind development. Building upon this report, MassCEC commissioned the [2021 Offshore Wind Workforce Training & Development in Massachusetts Report](#), developed by BW Research Partnership. The 2021 Report provided a deeper examination of the capabilities and opportunities in the offshore wind workforce. In 2022, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (“NREL”) released the [U.S. Offshore Wind Workforce Assessment](#) which evaluated the current and future offshore wind workforce needs on a national scale and recommended actions to bridge gaps in training programs. In 2023, MassCEC released the [Massachusetts Clean Energy Workforce Needs Assessment](#) which provides a comprehensive analysis of the clean energy workforce needed to meet the Commonwealth’s 2030 greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, along with strategies to expand and diversify the clean energy workforce.

Contact

To contact the MassCEC offshore wind team, please email us at OffshoreWind@masscec.com.