

## MICHIGAN MARITIME & PORT FACILITY ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

The Michigan Maritime & Port Facility Assistance Grant Program will provide grants for maritime projects that help strengthen Michigan's economic competitiveness, reduce the cost of freight transportation, improve reliability, and mitigate the impact of freight movement on the environment.

**Background:** Senate Bill 744 and House Bill 5291, signed into law on July 19, 2022, established the Maritime and Port Facility Assistance Office within the department and created the Maritime and Port Facility Assistance Grant Program. The Michigan Department of Transportation's FY2024 budget included a one-time appropriation of \$5 million for the Maritime and Port Facility Assistance Grant Program.

**Grant Awards:** The office will award grants of not more than \$2,500,000 per grant and will not award more than 50 percent of the amount available under the grant program in a single year to one grant applicant, unless there are no other grant applicants in that year. Construction must be completed, and grant funds spent by September 28, 2028.

Public Act 119 of 2023 requires that all grant agreements must include the following requirements:

- An initial disbursement of 50 percent to the grant recipient upon execution of the grant agreement. After the 50 percent disbursement, additional funds shall be disbursed only after verification that the initial payment has been fully expended, in accordance with the project purpose. The remaining funds shall be disbursed after the grantee has provided sufficient documentation, as determined by the department, to verify that all expenditures were made in accordance with the project purpose.
- A report from the recipient to the department that provides the status of the project and an accounting of all funds expended by the recipient, as determined by the department.
- A claw-back provision that allows the Michigan Department of Treasury to recoup or otherwise collect any funds that are declined, unspent, or otherwise misused.

**Requirements:** Joint applications and public/private partnerships are allowed, but the applicants shall designate one contact person. The applicant or joint applicants shall own, lease, or otherwise have control of the property in which the proposed project would occur and be responsible for the project development and financial obligations stated in the application.

**Required Match:** There is no required match for the Maritime and Port Facility Assistance Grant Program.

**Applications are due by June 3, 2024.** Project selections will be made within 90 days of the application deadline. It takes approximately six weeks for the necessary approvals and to award a contract. A contract is required before any reimbursable costs can be incurred.

Submit completed applications and/or any questions to Elisha Wulff, Freight Policy Specialist, at [WulffE@Michigan.gov](mailto:WulffE@Michigan.gov) or (517) 243-3620.

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## GUIDANCE ON ELIGIBLE COSTS

### **Work Items Eligible for Funding**

A grant awarded under this section by the office may be used by the owner of a port facility for public purposes, including one or more of the following:

- Increasing the amount of either of the following:
  - Direct port facility activity, including the amount or value of freight moving through the port facility.
  - Overall maritime-related economic development or maritime-related transportation opportunities in the port facility's region.
- Achieving or improving green marine certification.
- Matching federal funding opportunities related to ports.
- Dredging waterways and harbors, dredge disposal facilities, projects for the beneficial use of dredge material.
- Repairing seawalls.
- Transitioning to cleaner technology.
- Infrastructure resiliency and security enhancements (Electronic screening, credentialing, and security technologies).
- Modernization, upgrading, expansion or reconstruction of existing and new facilities that support direct freight interchange between modes.
- Construction of wharves, quay walls, bulkheads, jetties, revetments, breakwaters, shipping channels, improvements directly related to maritime commerce and harbor infrastructure.
- Construction and repair of warehouses, transit sheds, railroad tracks, roadways, gates and gatehouses, fencing, bridges, shipyards, and other improvements needed for a marine cargo terminal.
- Acquisition of cargo handling equipment, including mobile shore cranes, stationary cranes, tow motors, forklifts, yard tractors, craneways, conveyor and bulk material handling equipment, and all types of ship loading and unloading equipment.
- Planning and design functions and other services associated with construction.
- Other projects related to port facilities as determined by the office.

### **Work Items Ineligible for Funding**

Activities or items ineligible for funding include, but are not limited to:

- Costs associated with marine passenger activities.
- Contract administration.
- Refinancing of a completed project that would have otherwise qualified under this program.
- Operating costs (Labor, fuel, energy, insurance, maintenance, and other non-capital costs).

## MICHIGAN MARITIME & PORT FACILITY ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

Complete this form to request funding assistance through the Michigan Maritime & Port Facility Assistance Grant Program. All attached materials will be considered part of the application. Please note that all information provided for the purposes of this application and potential project is subject to public disclosure, in accordance with MCL 15.233 (Freedom of Information Act).

| APPLICANT INFORMATION   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| APPLICANT NAME <i>(Name associated with federal ID and would be used in a contract, including LLC and incorporation, when applicable)</i> |                              |
| PRINCIPAL OFFICE ADDRESS  |                              |
| FEDERAL TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER   |                              |
| PROJECT CONTACT PERSON  | PROJECT CONTACT TITLE        |
| PROJECT CONTACT E-MAIL ADDRESS  | PROJECT CONTACT PHONE NUMBER |

| PROJECT DESCRIPTION   |
|---|
| FACILITY LOCATION <i>(Include township and county)</i>  |
| <p>BREIF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Attach plans/drawings to depict<br/>Layout Detailed cost estimate</p>  |
| <p>PROJECT EVALUATION</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Attach application merit criteria narrative (Not to exceed 10 pages)</p> <p>The narrative should explain how the proposed project will address the criteria outlined in this section. A grant awarded by the office under this section must also include a statement defining measurable annual goals for the grant funding recipient. For the three years after a grant is awarded, the office shall annually evaluate the grant funding recipient to determine whether the grant funding recipient is meeting its annual goals as defined in the grant award.</p> <p>Though there is no matching requirement for the program, the office shall give higher priority to a project which provides a funding match.</p> <p>Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis to projects that best meet program goals. Applicants are required to specify how the project meets the below criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Economic benefits</b> – The project applicant must demonstrate how the proposed project will impact the economy (Local, regional, or national), provide cost savings to shippers/public/other beneficiaries to demonstrate a positive economic benefit in contrast to the current economic state.</li> <li>• <b>Environmental improvements</b> – The applicant must demonstrate how the proposed project will provide environmental benefits and mitigate environmental impacts of maritime freight (Reduction of carbon emissions, etc.).</li> <li>• <b>Public benefits</b> – The project applicant must demonstrate how the proposed project will benefit other transportation users, has considered environmental justice in the planning stage, enhances quality of life, or improves safety to demonstrate that the funding will benefit others in addition to the applicant.</li> <li>• <b>Project readiness</b> – The project applicant must realistically demonstrate the estimated project schedule and how prepared the project is to begin. Consequently, priority will be applied based on the applicants' ability to meet obligation deadlines.</li> <li>• <b>Innovation/process improvement</b> – The project applicant must demonstrate if any creative or original solutions are incorporated in the project and how any innovative/new technology or novel construction/project management processes will be used to demonstrate innovative approaches to a project. Additionally, the project applicant must demonstrate how the success of the project will be measured.</li> <li>• <b>Green Marine Certification</b> – The office shall give higher priority in awarding a grant to an owner of a port facility that has achieved green marine certification or that has submitted a grant application to fund achieving or improving green marine certification over other grant applicants.</li> </ul> |

|   |                         |      |
|---|-------------------------|------|
| PROJECT COSTS <i>(Attach estimate)</i>  | PROGRAM FUNDING REQUEST |      |
| <p><b>CERTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS</b></p> <p>Grant recipients will be responsible for following all state and federal environmental laws/regulations, including those enforced by Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy. By checking the below boxes, the grant applicant is certifying the following to the office:</p> <p>That the applicant is currently in compliance with all state and federal environmental laws and regulations applicable to the grant applicant's port facility.</p> <p>That the applicant has not received notice of any violation of a state or federal environmental law or regulation applicable to the grant applicant's port facility in the three years before the grant is applied for.</p> <p>Annually, if participating in the grant program for more than one year, that the grant applicant has not received notice of any violation of a state environmental law or regulation applicable to the grant applicant's port facility in the past year.</p> |                         |      |
| <b>CERTIFICATION</b>  |                         |      |
| THE UNDERSIGNED CERTIFIES THAT THE APPLICATION, INCLUDING ATTACHMENTS, IS TRUE AND COMPLETE.  |                         |      |
| NAME  | TITLE                   |      |
| SIGNATURE   |                         | DATE |