

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
Office of Grants and Research**



**State Fiscal Year 2025
Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Grant Program**

Report to the Massachusetts General Court
Senate and House Committees on Ways and Means

September 2025

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Governor**

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Lieutenant Governor**

**Terrence M. Reidy
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Introduction

Legislation – 8000-1127

The Office of Grants and Research (OGR) is pleased to submit this report on the FY25 Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Grant Program to the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means.

OGR is a state agency that is part of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS). EOPSS is responsible for the policy development and budget oversight of the secretariat's agencies, independent programs, and several boards which aid in crime prevention, homeland security preparedness, and ensuring the safety of residents and visitors in the Commonwealth. The agencies that fall under EOPSS are:

- Massachusetts State Police
- Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
- Sex Offender Registry Board
- Department of Fire Services
- Department of Criminal Justice Information Services
- Department of Correction
- Parole Board
- Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
- State 911 Department
- Massachusetts State Police Crime Lab
- Municipal Police Training Committee
- Massachusetts National Guard
- Office of Grants and Research
- Massachusetts Public Safety Broadband Office

In addition to managing and administering state-funded criminal justice, homeland security, and traffic safety grant programs, OGR is the State Administering Agency (SAA) for federal grant funding received by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from the Department of Justice (DOJ), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). In total, the agency manages more than \$279 million in grant funds annually. Additionally, OGR's Research and Policy Analysis Division (RPAD), which houses the Massachusetts Statistical Analysis Center, utilizes research and evaluation to promote public safety in the Commonwealth by informing criminal justice and public safety policy. The goals of the OGR include:

- Improving community safety and local preparedness by providing resources to communities based on need;
- Investing in evidenced based innovative programs;
- Granting awards based on national and state priorities;
- Fostering collaboration across jurisdictions by delivering grant dollars with a regional approach;
- Making funding decisions based upon research, empirical data, and best practices; and
- Ensuring the grant awarding process is transparent and in compliance with federal and

state guidelines.

This document serves as the report authored by OGR regarding the FY25 Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Grant Program.

Program Overview

Pursuant to Fiscal Year 2025 General Appropriation Act, Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024, OGR released two Availability of Grant Funds (AGFs) inviting eligible nonprofit organizations at risk of a hate crime or terror attack to apply for funding to enhance security. One program provided funding for physical security enhancements, while the second offered funding to assist with the cost of security personnel. The relevant appropriation language states:

8000-1127 For a nonprofit security grant program to provide support for target hardening and other security enhancements to nonprofit organizations that are at high risk of terrorist attacks or hate crimes, as defined under section 32 of chapter 22C of the General Laws; provided, that prioritization shall be given to nonprofit organizations that have experienced instances of terrorist attacks or hate crimes, as defined in said section 32 of said chapter 22C; provided further, that: (i) at least 1 such grant shall be awarded to a nonprofit organization in the eastern region of the commonwealth; (ii) at least 1 such grant shall be awarded to a nonprofit organization in the central region of the commonwealth; and (iii) at least 1 such grant shall be awarded to a nonprofit organization in the western region of the commonwealth; provided further, that the grants shall be distributed in a geographically equitable manner across the eastern, central and western regions of the commonwealth; provided further, that not later than March 3, 2025, the executive office of public safety and security shall submit a report to the house and senate committees on ways and means that shall include, but not be limited to, the: (i) number of grant applicants; (ii) successful grant applicants; (iii) criteria used to evaluate grant applications; and (iv) amount of funds awarded to each grant recipient; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Springfield Jewish Community Center, Inc. in Longmeadow to upgrade and purchase new lighting for the parking lot areas to ensure safety and security; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended by the executive office for a security personnel program to be piloted at nonprofits that have demonstrated to be at high risk for terrorist attacks or hate crimes; and provided further, that the participating nonprofits shall contribute matching funds to the pilot program equal to \$1 for every \$1 contributed by the commonwealth.

Funding allocated by the Legislature was distributed through the FY25 Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Grant Program and the FY25 Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Personnel Grant Program.

Applicant Eligibility

Massachusetts 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations were eligible to apply for both programs. A nonprofit was required to demonstrate that they face a high risk of a terror attack or hate crime to be eligible for funding. Only one application per nonprofit was accepted for consideration of

funding. A nonprofit was permitted to submit separate applications seeking funds for multiple locations in separate communities.

Allowable Funding Purposes

For the Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Grant Program, applicants were permitted to request funding for physical security enhancement equipment and/or inspection and screening systems. Eligible purchases included but were not limited to exterior doors and door locks (with single secure entry points), surveillance video cameras, site alarms, internal public address systems, tourniquets or other emergency first aid equipment, security fencing, lighting, and access control systems.

Organizations seeking funds through the Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Personnel Grant Program were permitted to request funding for qualified and trained security personnel. Funds could not be spent to purchase equipment, uniforms or other items for security personnel or for services provided by on-duty law enforcement personnel.

Application Process

Competitive application processes for both grant programs were held according to the following schedule:

AGF Posted: September 6, 2024

Applicant Assistance Webinar (optional): September 18, 2024

Application deadline: October 10, 2024, no later than 4 p.m.

Award Notification (*anticipated*): December 2024

Performance Period (*anticipated*): January 2025 – September 30, 2025

Applicant assistance webinars were held to provide nonprofits with guidance regarding the application process for each program. Recording of the webinars and copies of the presentations were made publicly available on OGR's website.

OGR received 134 applications for the FY25 Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Grant Program. Of those applications, three were found to be duplicative and one applicant was ineligible for the program. A total of 31 applications were received for the FY25 Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Personnel Grant Program.

Review Process

These were competitive grants and subject to a peer review process consisting of two internal and one external reviewers being assigned to each submission. Applications were reviewed and scored based on the following criteria:

- Clear and adequate responses in the Application Information;
- A thorough explanation of need, including relevant local data to demonstrate need and correlation to the requested services to be purchased that will address the stated need;
- A project description that clearly describes the benefits of security personnel to the nonprofit and community seeking funding;

- An implementation plan and timeline that is feasible and ensures all services will be received and paid for within the anticipated grant period;
- A detailed, reasonable, and complete budget; and
- An overall assessment of applicant risk of hate crimes and terrorist incidents.

In addition to reviewer feedback and scoring, other factors such as achieving geographic diversity, strategic priorities, past performance, previous awards, and available funding were taken into consideration by OGR when making funding decisions.

Awarded Funds

Funds totaling \$4,465,000 was awarded to 82 organizations through the FY25 Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Grant Program.

FY25 Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Grant Program	
Award Recipients	Award Amount
2Life Communities, Framingham	\$40,820
Academy of Notre Dame, Tyngsboro	\$20,000
African Community Education Program, Inc., Worcester	\$42,763.30
Agape Unlimited Church, Lowell	\$30,000
Alef Bet Child Care Inc., Cambridge	\$71,720
Alhuda Academy Inc., Worchester	\$75,000
All Saints Catholic School, New Bedford	\$46,851.07
Arthur J. Epstein Hillel School, Marblehead	\$51,092.62
Armenian Cultural and Educational Center, Watertown	\$75,000
Ar-Raheem Academy Inc., Marlborough	\$75,000
Bay Farm Montessori Academy, Inc., Duxbury	\$39,697.82
Bethany Congregational Church, Quincy	\$45,000
Bethany Health Care Center, Framingham	\$69,450.40
Bishop Feehan High School, Inc., Attleboro	\$28,160
The Boston Home, Boston	\$74,280
Boston Trinity Academy, Boston	\$74,935
Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester	\$44,870
Catholic Charitable Bureau of the Archdiocese of Boston, Inc. (aka Catholic Charities of Boston)	\$46,605
Chabad Lubavitch Inc., Newton	\$72,960
Chabad of Brookline, Inc.	\$75,000
Chai Center of Canton	\$75,000
Cheverus School, Malden	\$75,000
Chinese Bible Church of Greater Boston (CBCGB), Lexington	\$51,838
Chinmaya Mission Boston, Andover	\$30,000
Community Covenant Church, Peabody	\$28,200
Community Church of West Medway, Inc.	\$29,584.42
Congregation Beth Israel, Malden	\$73,980
Congregation B'nai Brith of Somerville (CBBS)	\$75,000

FY25 Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Grant Program

Award Recipients	Award Amount
Congregation Kadimah-Toras Moshe, Brighton	\$75,000
Congregation Kehillath Israel, Brookline	\$74,869.42
Congregation Shalom, Inc., North Chelmsford	\$39,300
Espirito Santo School, Fall River	\$71,758.82
Essex Agricultural Society, Topsfield	\$66,750
Fenway Community Health Center, Boston	\$55,554
First Baptist Church in Jamaica Plain	\$62,762.44
First Congregational Church of Falmouth	\$52,685.93
First Congregational Church of Wellesley Hills	\$74,747.13
First Parish Church of Stow and Acton, Stow	\$7,325
Friends of the Franklin County Fairgrounds, Greenfield	\$49,825
Gateways: Access to Jewish Education, Newton	\$30,000
Grace Chapel, Lexington	\$74,998.96
Greenfield Community College Foundation, Inc., Greenfield	\$22,000
His Providence Church, Swansea	\$74,979
Islamic Society of Boston, Roxbury	\$75,000
Islamic Society of South Shore, Brockton	\$75,000
James P. Harrington Organization, Marshfield	\$53,858.62
JCAM Charitable Foundation, Inc., Boston	\$75,000
Jewish Community Center of Greater Boston, Newton	\$67,658.59
La Colaborativa, Chelsea	\$32,230
Lander-Grinspoon Academy, Northampton	\$68,068.81
LASA Foundation, Inc., Lowell	\$45,000
Liberty Church, Shrewsbury	\$23,803
Montserrat College of Art, Beverly	\$72,849
Merrimack Valley Lubavitch Inc (MVL), Andover	\$75,000
Mesivta of Greater Boston, Boston	\$75,000
Motivation Church, Holbrook	\$24,130.42
Mount Alvernia Academy, Chestnut Hill	\$35,167.50
Nantucket Boys & Girls Club	\$55,000
New England College of Optometry, Boston	\$50,000
New England Hebrew Academy, Brookline	\$75,000
New England Hindu Temple Inc., Ashland	\$63,680.12
North Parish of North Andover	\$45,386.02
Old South Union Church, Weymouth	\$26,756
Presbyterian Church of Ghana - Mount Zion Congregation, Worcester	\$44,420
Radha Krishna Mandir, Inc., Northborough	\$75,000
Sacred Heart School, Weymouth	\$3,871.03
Saint Columbkille Partnership School, Brighton	\$75,000
Saint Francis of Assisi Parish, Dracut	\$59,360
Saint Francis Xavier School, Weymouth	\$55,775.36
Saint Michael School, Fall River	\$47,343

FY25 Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Grant Program	
Award Recipients	Award Amount
Saint Patrick School, Stoneham	\$41,995.38
Samaritans, Inc., Boston	\$10,582.82
Sephardic Community of Greater Boston, Brighton	\$75,000
Sikh Sangat Society Boston, Inc., Everett	\$75,000
St. Augustine School, Andover	\$38,404
St. Bernard's High School, Fitchburg	\$40,000
St. Francis Xavier School, Acushnet	\$19,445.80
St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Dartmouth	\$40,000
Temple Beth Sholom of Nantasket, Hull	\$20,101
Temple Emanuel, Newton	\$75,000
Temple Ohabei Shalom, Brookline	\$75,000
Temple Shalom - William and Charlotte Bloomberg Jewish Community Center, Inc., Medford	\$34,750
Temple Sinai, Brookline	\$75,000
Total:	\$4,465,000

Twenty (20) organizations received a total of \$500,000 in funding through the FY25 Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Personnel Grant Program.

FY25 Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Personnel Grant Program	
Award Recipient	Award Amount
2Life Communities, Brookline	\$4,180
Arthur J. Epstein Hillel School, Marblehead	\$30,800
Alef Bet Child Care, Inc., Cambridge	\$39,998.75
Bais Yaakov of Boston, Brighton	\$21,217.50
Chabad Lubavitch, Inc., Newton	\$5,005.28
Congregation Eitz Chayim, Inc., Cambridge	\$6,705
Congregation Or Atid, Wayland	\$16,074.40
Congregation Sha'aray Shalom, Hingham	\$19,659.96
Gann Academy, Waltham	\$40,000
Islamic Society of Boston, Roxbury	\$38,860
Jewish Community Center of Greater Boston, Newton	\$40,000
St. Anthony Shrine, Boston	\$40,000
Temple Ahavat Achim, Gloucester	\$4,500
Temple Beth Avodah, Newton	\$40,000
Temple Emanuel, Newton	\$18,039.11
Temple Israel of Boston (TIB)	\$40,000
Temple Ohabei Shalom, Brookline	\$40,000
Yachad New England, Brookline	\$27,000
Young Israel of Brookline	\$8,385
Young Israel of Sharon, Inc.	\$19,575
Total:	\$500,000

In accordance with the grant programs' authorizing statute, an additional \$50,000 was awarded to the Springfield Jewish Community Center, Inc., in Longmeadow to allow for the purchase of improved lighting for the organization's parking area.

Disbursement

The full award amount was rendered once a contract was executed and all contract documents approved. To help ensure compliance with grant rules and regulations, OGR scheduled a Technical Assistance Webinar with all the awardees to review quarterly programmatic and financial reporting.

A total of \$235,000 was initially set aside for OGR administration but subsequently reduced to \$188,000 through mid-year cost saving efforts.

Contracting

In December 2024, all grant recipients were sent contracting materials. These materials included a Standard Contract, Contractor Authorization Signature Listing Form, OGR Subrecipient Grant Conditions, and additional materials.

Upon approval of the contracting forms, each grantee was sent a copy of its executed Standard Contract, its formal notification to begin incurring costs.