



# Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan

State of Maine  
**Recovery Plan**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**  
2025 Report

**State of Maine**  
**July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 Recovery Plan**



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## **GENERAL OVERVIEW**

### **Executive Summary**

#### ***Plan Development***

On May 4, 2021 Governor Mills introduced the **Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan (the Jobs Plan)** in response to the forthcoming State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) as a roadmap for the State's plan to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic and to promote economic recovery. This plan outlined the Administration's priorities for the State portion of the SLFRF. The plan was designed to complement, not duplicate, funding already committed by Congress to other recovery efforts. Information related to additional Covid -19 funding can be located at <https://www.maine.gov/budget/federal-covid19-assistance>.

The Jobs Plan makes historic investments in unaddressed needs and longstanding challenges to achieve three goals:

1. Immediate economic recovery from the pandemic;
2. Long-term economic growth for Maine; and
3. Infrastructure revitalization.

The Jobs Plan accomplishes these goals by supporting Maine small businesses and heritage industries, enhancing job training and skills programs that help workers access good-paying careers in Maine, and investing in Maine people and communities by expanding child care, affordable housing, broadband, and other critical infrastructure.

By drawing heavily on recommendations from the Governor's Economic Recovery Committee and the State's 10-Year Economic Development Strategy, the Jobs Plan addresses known systemic challenges that have constrained Maine's ability to grow and thrive, with priority focus on investments to grow and develop Maine's workforce.

#### ***Implementation***

The first tranche payment totaling \$498,747,565.05 of the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund was received by the State of Maine on May 19, 2021. The second tranche payment totaling \$498,747,565.05 was received by the State of Maine on June 6, 2022. Public Law 2021, chapter 1, Part BB enacted on March 17, 2021 required that the Legislature approve proposed expenditures utilizing discretionary funds received by the State from the Federal Government due to the COVID -19 pandemic.

On May 25, 2021, the Governor signed PL 2021, chapter 78, An Act to Provide Allocations for the Administration of State Fiscal Recovery Funds, allocating \$4.6 million for initial administrative and planning costs associated with deploying the nearly \$1 billion in SLFRF funding that was anticipated to flow through the State.

On July 19, 2021, the Governor signed PL 2021, chapter 483, An Act to Provide Allocations for the Distribution of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds representing the majority vote of the legislature, and their approval, for the planned uses of the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. This process allocated 100% of the anticipated amount of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. This piece of legislation took effect 90 days after adjournment of the Legislature; funding became available on October 18, 2021.

Since funding became available on October 18, 2021, project statuses and overall obligations have been monitored to ensure that funds are being obligated in a timely manner. During this monitoring, the need for adjustments to the original funding plan were identified. Based on this need, recommendations were made to the State of Maine Legislature resulting in the following changes being enacted:

On February 21, 2023 Governor Mills signed PL 2023, Chapter 3, An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023, Part C of this legislation repealed three initiatives in PL 2021, chapter 483 and redirected the funding to extend the Small Business Health Insurance Premium Support Program through December 31, 2023.

Funding not expended by that date was then redirected to the Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Fund that was established in PL 2021, chapter 483.

In April 2024 Supplemental Budgets passed with effective dates of April 22, 2024, for PL 2023 chapter 645 and August 9, 2024 for PL 2023 chapter 643. The passing of these created a pathway for state agencies to fund anticipated payroll costs through December 2026 following the updated UST guidance on the Obligation Interim Final Rule. Through Public Law 2023 chapter 643, Part D the Legislature provided authorization to adjust allocations in order to maximize the use of funds for projects that may have come in underspent or are otherwise unable to be obligated before the December 2024 deadline.

Utilizing the authority of Public Law 2023, Chapter 643, Part D a review was conducted in Fall 2024 to determine funds that would not be obligated for reasons including but not limited to: funds remained for a program that had been completed, contracts were unable to be executed in accordance with the State's procurement policies on or before the December 2024 deadline, and SLFRF funded staff vacancies were unable to be filled. Funds that were determined to be unable to be obligated on or before the December 2024 deadline were subsequently reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives. Specific project updates including but not limited to cancelled projects, updated budgets (increases or decreases), and new projects are noted in the attached Project Inventories.

A process was developed for Maine state departments and agencies who were allocated funding through the legislative process to develop business cases outlining the planned use of funds along with their associated metrics/KPIs. The business cases are reviewed by an internal Steering Committee, as well as outside experts to determine alignment with US Treasury guidance before they are finally approved, and funds are deployed.

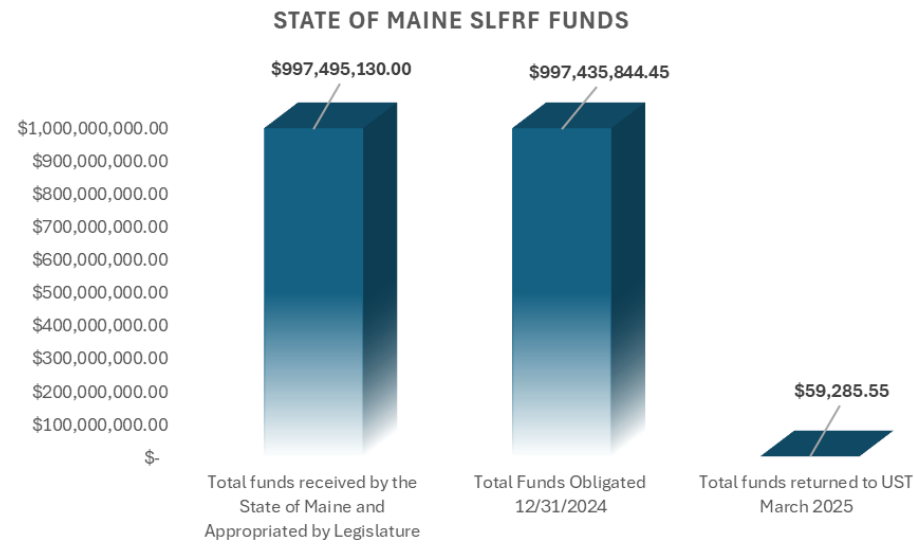
The Steering Committee continues to evaluate any business cases that are developed resulting from the reallocation of funds or updates in the US Treasury guidance. For business cases that have been approved, a post-approval process has been implemented and remains in process to allow for the modification of existing business cases and to ensure that these changes are in line with US Treasury guidelines and statutory language.

A total of 23 state agencies or quasi-state agencies were allocated funding and are responsible for the development and implementation of the business cases. At the time of this report **153** business cases have been processed through the approval process. Following the review in Fall 2024 it was determined that there were **4** projects that had received approvals, but not yet started. Utilizing the authority of Public Law 2023, Chapter 643, Part D the funds were reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives.

At the time of this report **149** business cases remain active and are at varying phases of program implementation, including completed.

In total dollars, \$ 997,495,130 (100%) of the total State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds received by the State of Maine was processed through the business case approval process and approved to deploy. Of the approved funds it was determined that \$997,435,844.45 -- 99.99% of Maine's original allocation -- were obligated by the December 31, 2024, deadline. An unobligated balance of \$59,285.55 was returned to UST per instructions provided. See Chart 1.

**Chart 1.** State of Maine Allocated SLFRF Funds and Total Obligated funds by 12/31/2024



**Ongoing Support and Communication**

Ongoing support and coordination of the Jobs Plan is led by the Maine Department of Administrative and Financial Services and the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future. Staff from these offices are working directly with agencies and quasi- state agencies to provide ongoing training and technical assistance to ensure that programs are implemented in accordance with US Treasury requirements and the approved business plans. Agencies also receive ongoing support related to expenditure reporting and performance reporting requirements.

We have launched an award-winning website [Maine.gov/JobsPlan](https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan) that documents each Jobs Plan investment, streamlines navigation to grants and contracts, and highlights news and results. We also send an email bulletin to highlight new opportunities and provide ongoing transparency and accountability to Maine taxpayers (a subscription link may be found at <https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/contact-us>). And several hundred Maine businesses, school representatives, municipal government officials, and others have participated in webinars about the Jobs Plan.

## Uses of Funds

### Strategy & Goals

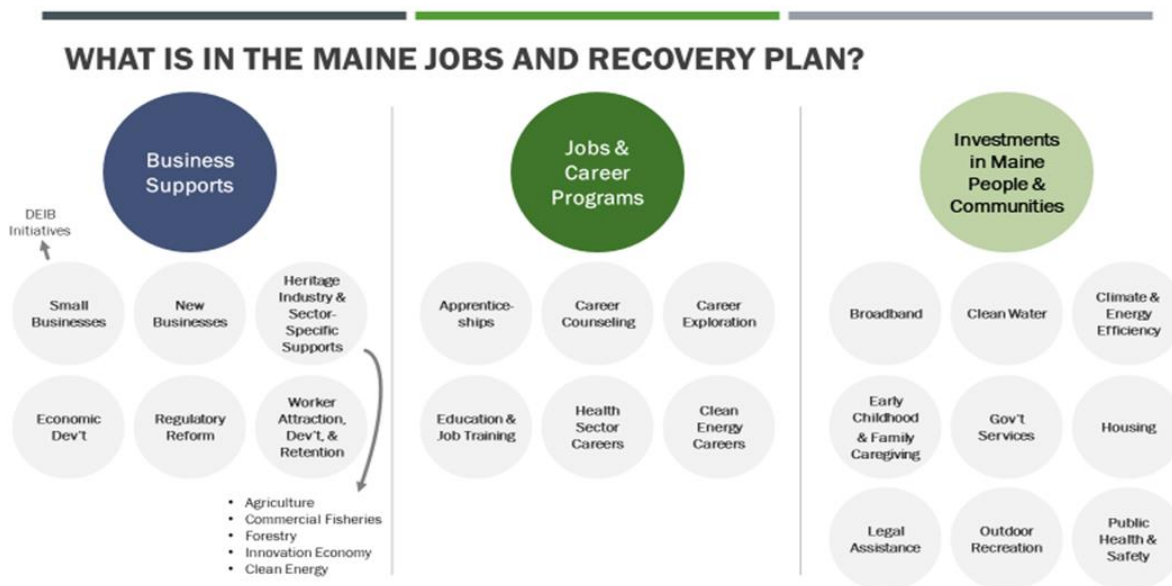
The Jobs Plan uses Maine's nearly \$1 billion in State Fiscal Recovery Funds for strategic investments to relieve the significant toll of the COVID-19 pandemic on Maine's people, communities, and economy while addressing known, systemic challenges that have constrained our state's ability to grow and thrive for years.

The Governor's plan makes historic investments in unaddressed needs and longstanding challenges to achieve three goals:

1. Immediate economic recovery from the pandemic;
2. Long-term economic growth for Maine; and
3. Infrastructure revitalization.

The plan accomplishes these goals by investing in programs organized across three domains, as show in graphic below:

- *Business Supports* that sustain and grow Maine's small businesses and heritage industries by keeping employer doors open, reducing the costs of doing business, and supporting innovation.
- *Job and Career Programs* that help Maine workers and students improve their career opportunities by enhancing job training, credential attainment, and experiential learning.
- *Investments in Maine People & Communities* that revitalize the support systems and community infrastructure that ensure people are able to live healthy and productive lives in Maine.
- Details on individual programs can be found on the Jobs Plan website – via [Maine.gov/JobsPlan](https://Maine.gov/JobsPlan) Maine.gov/JobsPlan/find-a-program – as well as in the Project Inventory section of this report./find-a-program – as well as in the Project Inventory section of this report.

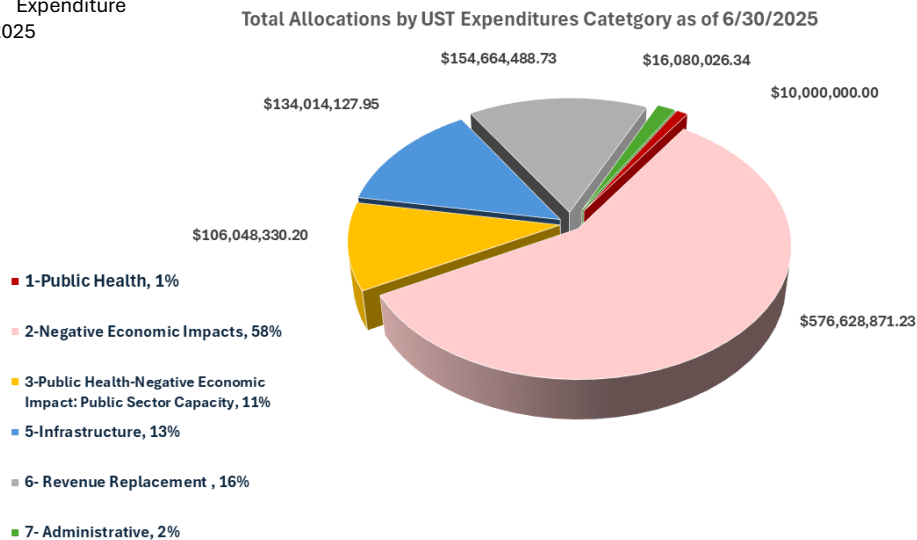


### US Treasury Expenditure Category Breakdown

The bulk of the allocated funds, 58%, continues to fall into the US Treasury Expenditure Category 2- Negative Economic Impacts. The next highest expenditure category is US Treasury Expenditure Category 6 -Provision of Government Services at 16%, followed by US Treasury Expenditure Category 5 – Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure at 13%; and US Treasury Expenditure Category 3 - Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity at 11 %.

Chart 2 delineates total allocated funds and their planned US Treasury Expenditure Category at the time of this report. If the US Treasury provides updated guidance regarding expenditure categories and subcategories, the breakdown by category and subcategory will change accordingly in subsequent reports.

**Chart 2.** State of Maine allocations by U.S. Treasury Expenditure Category as of 6/30/2025



In addition to planned use of funds by broad expenditure category Charts 3, 4, and 5 provide a breakdown of planned use of funds by subcategory within broad expenditure categories EC 2, EC 3 and EC 5.

**Chart 3.** State of Maine allocations by U.S. Treasury Expenditure Category 2 subcategories as of 6/30/2025

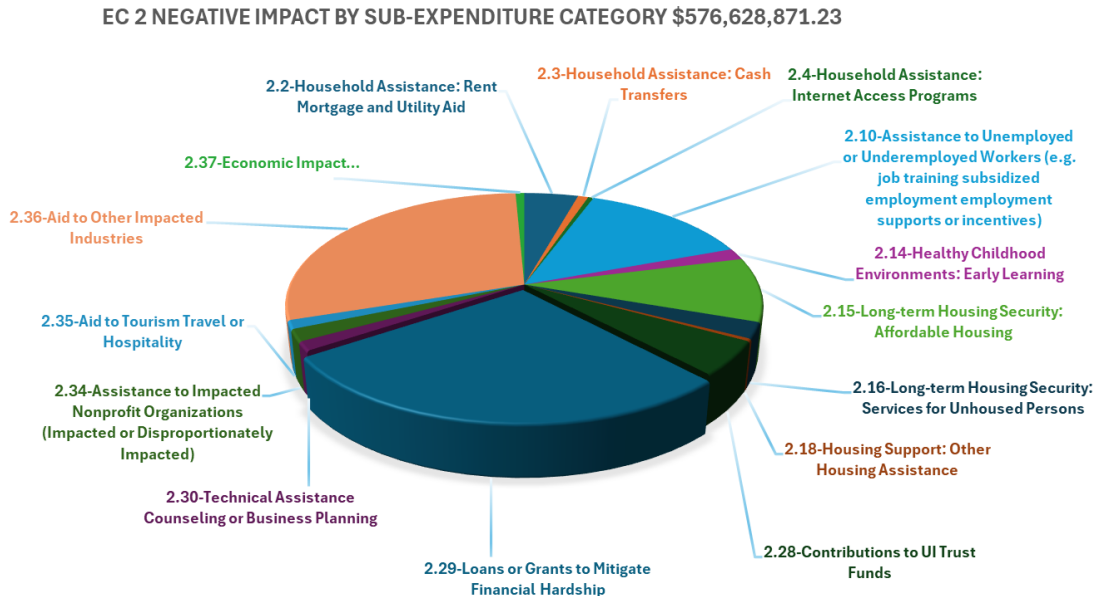


**Chart 4.** State of Maine allocations by U.S. Treasury Expenditure Category 3 subcategories as of

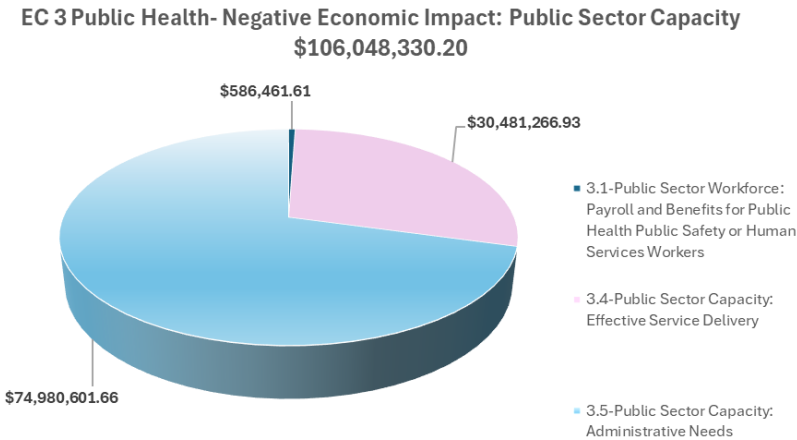


**Chart 5.** State of Maine allocations by U.S. Treasury Expenditure Category 5 subcategories as of 6/30/2025

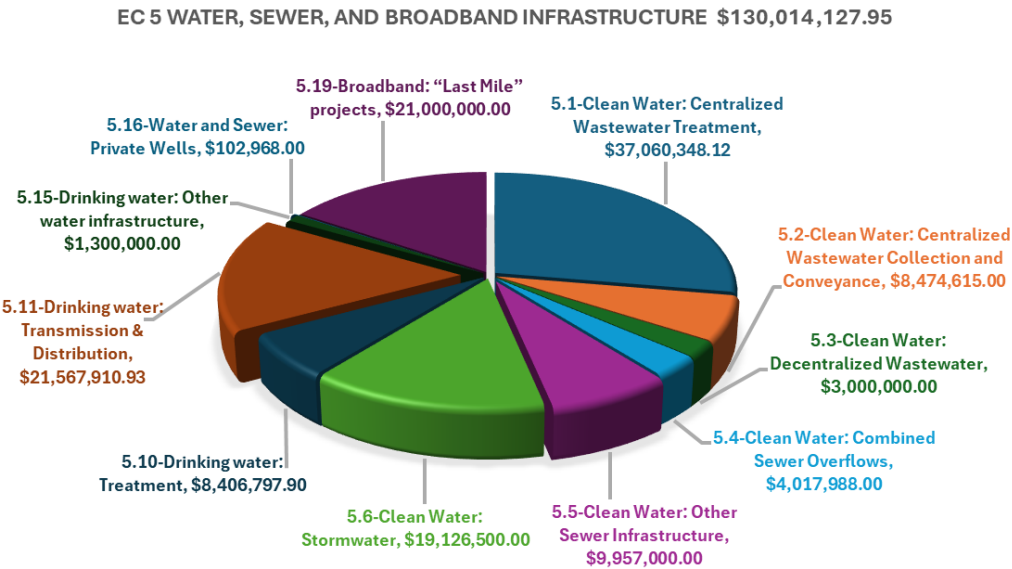
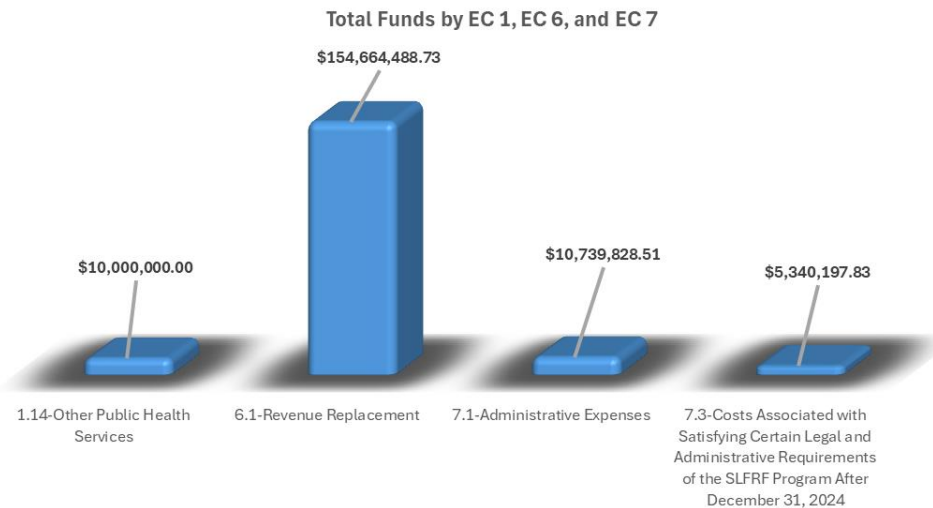




Chart 6 provides the amount for the broad expenditure categories of Public Health EC 1, Provision of Government Service EC 6, and Administrative Expenses EC 7, including the new 7.3.

**Chart 6.** State of Maine allocations by U.S. Treasury Expenditure Category 1, 6, and 7 subcategories as of 6/30/2025



In addition to the planned use of funds outlined in the Jobs Plan, the State of Maine utilized other Federal Assistance tied to the American Rescue Plan in addition to the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to support the State's overall recovery from the Pandemic:

- Maine's Department of Health and Human Services was awarded increased funding for the Mental Health Block Grant as well as the Substance Abuse Treatment and Prevention Block Grant to help address the COVID-19 pandemic's behavioral health impacts.

- American Rescue Plan funding was allocated to Maine's Office of Child and Family Services through the Child Care Development Block Grant to address childcare issues that were created or exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

- There is also American Rescue Plan funding allocated to the Homeowner Assistance fund to address some of the financial hardships that homeowners are facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including mortgage delinquencies and defaults, foreclosures, and utility fees.

- The Department of Education made historic investments in education and school COVID response.

- The jobs and workforce sectors are being allocated funding for Unemployment Program supports. Investments are being made in Economic Development through business recovery programs.

- The Transportation sectors are being supported with transit and transportation recovery funds.

- Other programs that are administered by various State departments received enhanced funding through the American Rescue Plan. This included funding for Public Health, Health Care and Human Services through programs such as SNAP, WIC, and Emergency TANF. There is also funding for environmental and climate change issues through the LIHEAP Weatherization and Transit Support programs.

- The State of Maine partnered with the Maine State Housing Authority to administer the Emergency Rental Assistance Program which is also authorized by the American Rescue Plan.

- The Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) is utilizing \$62 million in Federal relief funds from American Rescue Plan's reauthorization of the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) to expand financing options for small businesses. The new "Grow Maine" initiative will offer greater access to capital for entrepreneurs and small business owners to sustain or expand their operations.

- Outside of ARPA, Maine has also been able to leverage significant funding through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), which has invested over \$3.75 billion into Maine's infrastructure as of June 26, 2025.

## Community Engagement

In 2019, the State of Maine embarked on its first strategic economic plan in two decades. The initiative was led by the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), in partnership with other government agencies, business leaders and private organizations, and focused on strategies to enhance economic growth, particularly in rural Maine, and address Maine's workforce challenges. This effort, which included over 1,500 voices in public meetings, a series of regional meetings, online comments, and a broad set of working group members, culminated in November 2019, when Governor Janet Mills released the State's new 10-year strategic economic development plan.

In May 2020, following the onset of the pandemic, Governor Mills formed the Economic Recovery Committee to develop recommendations for stabilizing and supporting Maine's economy in the near-term, and sustain and grow our state over the longer-term, in the spirit of the Administration's 10-year economic plan. The Economic Recovery Committee included representatives of small businesses, non-profits, financial institutions, unions, municipalities, tribal and immigrant communities, hospitality and tourism industries, and educational institutions as well as a bipartisan slate of state legislators and representatives of Maine's Congressional delegation. It held 20 full public meetings and over 50 public meetings of subcommittees focused on vital sectors of Maine's economy.

It is from this collective set of input, goals, and recommendations that the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan was formed. As we have turned towards implementing the Jobs Plan, we have continued to prioritize community engagement. We launched an award-winning website – [Maine.gov/JobsPlan](https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan) – that documents each Jobs Plan investment, streamlines navigation to grants and contracts, and highlights news and results. We also send an email bulletin to highlight new opportunities and provide ongoing transparency and accountability to Maine taxpayers (a subscription link may be found at <https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/contact-us>). And several hundred Maine businesses, school representatives, municipal government officials, and others have participated in webinars about the Jobs Plan.

## Labor Practices

The Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan makes critical investments to revitalize Maine's infrastructure so that people can live decent, healthy, and productive lives in Maine. These projects improve public health and safety, provide lasting community and environmental benefits, and support local construction jobs.

Maine has strong labor standards embedded in its state procurement law and purchasing practices. Maine prevailing wage law applies to public works construction projects led by a state agency of a value that exceeds \$50,000 and funded in part or all with state money. Each wage determination includes the minimum hourly wages and benefits the construction workers are to receive while working on that particular project. Through Title 26: Labor and Industry Chapter 15: Preference to Maine Works and Contractor Section 1301 Local residents preferred; exception Maine prioritizes local contractors and workers. In addition, State of Maine Departments and agencies are obligated to comply with Davis-Bacon wage requirements when applicable.

For the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, as part of the process for Departments and agencies to outline the planned use of funds, each infrastructure initiative is required to consider how the project is using strong labor standards to promote

effective and efficient delivery of high-quality infrastructure projects while also supporting economic recovery through strong employment opportunities for workers. Not all initiatives where capital expenditures are being pursued involve labor, as the capital expenditures are related to equipment purchases.

Maine State Housing Authority (MSHA) has been allocated funds to expand affordable housing. The authorizing legislation for the Jobs Plan directs that \$20 million of these funds support affordable housing projects where there is a project labor agreement in place.

## Use of Evidence

**Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan** investments have been shaped by careful quantitative and qualitative analysis about the industries, workers, and communities who have been most negatively impacted by the pandemic. Using data from the Maine Department of Labor Center for Workforce Research and Information, the administration identified the industry sectors experiencing the greatest job losses and other disruptions. These analyses have been supplemented by other administrative data, focus groups, surveys, and other tools.

Across the entire Jobs Plan, each initiative is required to identify evidence to support that the project will have its intended impact. This evidence may include results from previous programs in Maine, similar programs in other states, or information from academic research or existing evidence clearinghouses. In addition, the Jobs Plan allocates more than \$2 million towards data-driven policymaking and evidence development through improved data collection, outcomes analysis, and impact evaluation.

Among eligible initiatives, we estimate that 16% of spending out of the Jobs Plan is allocated towards interventions supported by evidence.

## Performance Report

The Jobs Plan builds on Maine's recovery from the pandemic by addressing known, systemic challenges that have constrained Maine's ability to grow and thrive. Monitoring the Jobs Plan against clear and transparent metrics can tell us about the Jobs Plan's success. With this information, we can assess whether evidence-based adjustments, enhancements, or replacements to policies are needed in pursuit of goals laid out in Maine's 10-Year Economic Development Strategy and recommendations by the Governor's Economic Recovery Committee.

Performance management for the Jobs Plan is organized around four priorities:

- 1) Swiftly deploying urgent Jobs Plan funding
- 2) Supporting Mainers harmed by the pandemic across all communities of the state
- 3) Investing in the right solutions for Maine
- 4) Effectively advancing Maine's immediate economic recovery and long-term growth

Swiftly deploying urgent Jobs Plan funding: Maine was among the first four states to allocate 100 percent of its State Fiscal Recovery Funds when the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan was passed by the legislature. We have continued to swiftly move towards injecting urgent recovery funds into the economy.

100% of Jobs Plan funding – has been approved through the state's internal documentation process to ensure alignment with federal eligibility.

And over [\$735 million] – approximately [74%] in Jobs Plan funding has now been deployed as an expenditure to benefit Mainers.

Supporting Mainers harmed by the pandemic across all communities of the state: Many workers and families, especially those who struggled prior to COVID-19, face immense challenges. .

Jobs Plan funding is reaching communities statewide, with more than 3,000 investments totaling over \$490 million awarded to support businesses, workers, households, and communities across every Maine county.<sup>1</sup>

Public engagement with the Jobs Plan is also considerable.—For example, more than 500 Maine businesses, school representatives, municipal government officials, and others have participated in live webinars about the Jobs Plan and more than 1,250 receive our regular Jobs Plan email bulletin.

Investing in the right solutions for Maine: The Jobs Plan is laser focused on accelerating the recovery and long-term growth of Maine’s economy, with an emphasis on investments to grow, develop, and support Maine’s workforce.

In a March 2022 report, Maine was highlighted by the non-partisan Center on Budget and Policy Priorities as a national leader in deploying of American Rescue Plan recovery funds towards talent, jobs, and innovation. The report ranked Maine in the top three states for share of funds allocated towards workforce development, higher education, and business assistance.

Effectively advancing Maine’s immediate economic recovery and long-term growth: Governor Mills identified three goals when she introduced the Jobs Plan:

1. *Immediate economic recovery from the pandemic:* Ensure Maine businesses stay open, their workers are safe and remain on-the-job, and our economy is secure in the short-term.
2. *Long-term economic growth for Maine:* Strengthen Maine’s workforce, spur innovation, and draw new people and their families to Maine.
3. *Infrastructure revitalization:* Revitalize the support systems and community infrastructure that ensure people and families can live healthy and productive lives in Maine.

With these and other investments, Maine’s recovery from the pandemic has been one of the swiftest and strongest in the nation.

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<sup>1</sup> Announced grants include support for Maine small businesses and heritage industries, grants to job training organizations, and investments in communities through expanding child care, affordable housing, broadband, and other critical infrastructure. Data as of June 25, 2025.

## **PROJECT INVENTORY**

This Project Inventory reflects initiatives that were approved as of June 30, 2025 through the State's documentation process. For information on all initiatives, visit the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan website at [Maine.gov/JobsPlan](https://Maine.gov/JobsPlan).

## Premium Relief FY23

### Project Information

Control Number \*

3.C.1

Funding Amount

\$3,881,223.04

Initiative Name

Premium Relief FY23

Project Name

Premium Relief FY23

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

### Project Overview

Project Description

Public Law 2021, chapter 483, part C established and allocated \$39 million for The Small Business Health Insurance Premium Support Program within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance, as a temporary program to provide payments to small group health insurance carriers in the State to reduce insurance premium costs for small businesses and their employees. The program will reimburse small group health insurance carriers for actual premium credits made monthly by the carriers to small businesses and will ensure the payments result in a reduction of small group health insurance premiums of \$50 per employee per month with an additional reduction for family coverage. Public Law 2023, chapter 3 part C increased funding by \$6,495.414 and extended the program through December 31, 2023, or until such time as the original and additional funds allocated to the program are used, whichever occurs first.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities were completed as of June 30, 2024.

Partners

The Bureau of Insurance will be partnering with all insurance carriers in Maine offering fully-insured small group plans in Maine. The insurers participating are:

- Aetna
- Anthem
- CHO (Community Health Options)
- Harvard Pilgrim
- United Healthcare
- Taro Health Plan of Maine Inc.

Link to Project Website

## Key Performance Indicators

Insurance carriers will be required to report monthly to the Bureau of Insurance. The program will have monthly totals of numbers of small businesses who receive the premium credits as well as the number of employees who are receiving a portion of the credits. It is not anticipated that the program will have specific demographic information for individual subscribers other than adults and dependents.

Based on reporting information from the carriers, there are approximately 5,500 qualifying small groups in Maine. This represents more than 30,000 employees and close to 50,000 total covered lives. \*

For reporting, see C.7.1.

Performance indicators through the program will include monthly and total numbers for the number of small employers who participate in the program, the amounts of premium credits received, and the numbers of employees who participate in the program and the amount of premium credits that they receive. \*

For reporting, see C.7.1.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

As noted in Project Description above 3.C.1 is an increase in funding which allowed for an extension of the already approved Premium Relief project ( C.7.1). Metrics for 3.C.1 are being reported as part of C.7.1

## Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment 2024.

### Project Information

Control Number \*

3.C.8

Funding Amount

\$2,602,115.96

Initiative Name

Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment 2024

Project Name

Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment 2024.

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

This initiative will supplement the funding included under H.18.1, pursuant to Public Law 2023, c.3, Part C Sec. C-8. The Program supports rebuilding Maine's healthcare workforce, negatively impacted by COVID-19. The program attracts & retains healthcare professionals by repaying outstanding student loans of selected participants who commit to live & work in Maine for three years. FAME will pay up to \$25,000 per year and, in aggregate, the lesser of \$75,000 and 50% of the recipient's outstanding student loan balance. FAME has created the process to review applications from candidates for eligibility, notify selected candidates of the award amount for which they are eligible & ultimately enter into return service agreements between it and the selected healthcare providers. Recipients must verify, annually, they have maintained, in the preceding 12-month period prior to a payment being made to their student loan servicer, residency in the state of Maine and full-time employment as a health care provider at a Maine-based organization.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process May 2024.

Partners

Department of Health and Human Services Deputy Commissioner collaborated with FAME on the creation of the pilot program, provided feedback on draft program rules, and helped to advise FAME regarding prioritization of high-demand health care occupations needed in Maine.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/small-business-health-insurance-premium-relief-program>



## Key Performance Indicators

Measure number of program recipients who were originally selected to receive student loan repayment and monitor annually from their program anniversary date their continuation in the program. Aggregate across all recipients a program retention rate and more specifically calculate the number of program recipients who completed the full three-year return service commitment as healthcare professionals in Maine. \*

We launched the second traunch application cycle in February 2024 and received 454 eligible applications; approximately 30% percent of second traunch applicants had applied as first traunch applicants who were not selected. December 2025 and December 2026 distributions will be funded with MJRP monies since these must be expended by December 31, 2026. September 2027 distributions will be funded with FY24 state appropriations. Program participants are required to submit an annual employment certification and complete a survey capturing the data described as a pre-condition of loan repayments being sent to their student loan servicer. Source of information: Program applications/FAME data

Number of program applicants, number of program recipients, occupation of loan repayment program recipients, location of healthcare organizations where loan repayment recipients work, dollars disbursed annually over the three-year return service commitment, number of recipients retained for each year of their return service commitment. The data will be collected in the normal course of program administration by the Education Program Officer at FAME. The data will be evaluated by FAME's Education Programs Manager and Director of Education. \*

Number of applicants: 454

Number of recipients: 75

Number retained: 72 (1 received PLSF full forgiveness; 2 failed to return selection documents)

Occupations: Behavioral Health (9), Dental Hygienists (5), Medical Technologists (2), Occupational Therapist (11), Pharmacist (6), Physical Therapist (8), Physician Assistant (2), Registered Nurse (21) [3 are psych. nurses], Respiratory Therapist (1), Social Worker (6), Speech Therapist (1)

County Health Care Org Locations: Androscoggin (7), Aroostook (4), Cumberland (13), Franklin (2), Hancock (3), Knox (3), Lincoln (5), Oxford (2), Penobscot (19), Somerset (5), Waldo (2), Washington (4), York (3)

Projected 3 year total = \$1,164,570 (one third of this will be funded by state appropriations)

Program participants are required to submit an annual employment certification that includes a survey capturing the data described as a pre-condition of loan repayments being sent to their student loan servicer.

Source: Program applications/FAME data, annual program participant survey and annual employment certifications.

Measure job openings in a specific healthcare occupation in similar Maine-based organizations and compare between organizations with loan repayment recipients and those without program recipients. The data will be collected by the FAME Education Program Officer and evaluated by FAME's Education Programs Manager and Director of Education. \*

Program participants will be required to submit an annual employment certification and complete a survey capturing the data described as a pre-condition of loan repayments being sent to their student loan servicer. According to the Maine Health Occupations Report issued September 15, 2022 [<https://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/publications/pdf/2022MEHealthOccupationsReport.pdf>] indicated there were an estimated 74,860 people working in payroll-covered healthcare occupations in Maine in 2021. Much of the data in this report came from OEWS. For May 2023, OEWS lists 87,470 Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations plus Healthcare Support Occupations. Loan repayment recipients were selected in rural and or critical access locations hit hardest by the pandemic. Seventy-two of the seventy-five program recipients who were originally selected to receive student loan repayment should receive their first distribution. Thirty percent of second traunch applicants had applied as first traunch applicants who were not selected.

For the length of the return service commitment (three years), annually collect qualitative survey data from program participants assessing the impact that receipt of annual student loan repayments has had on their persistence through the return service period as well as their future plans (after the three-year return service period) to live and work in Maine. The data will be collected by the FAME Education Program Officer and evaluated by FAME's Education Programs Manager and Director of Education. 4) Outcome measurement: Upon completion of the return service (at the end of year three) determine an on-going commitment to live and work in Maine by program participants. The data will be collected by the FAME Education Program Officer and evaluated by FAME's Education Programs Manager and Director of Education. \*

Program participants will be required to submit an annual employment certification and complete a survey capturing the data described as a pre-condition of loan repayments being sent to their student loan servicer.

Upon completion of the return service (at the end of year three) determine an on-going commitment to live and work in Maine by program participants. The data will be collected by the FAME Education Program Officer and evaluated by FAME's Education Programs Manager and Director of Education. \*

Annual program reporting is collected from program participants and is required prior to disbursements being made on their student loans. This information is prepared in an annual and aggregated report reflecting the data as described in Program Evaluation for Federal Reporting. Application turnout can be used to measure demand for such a program within Maine's Healthcare system and a tool to maintain current workforce levels. Program participant losses are not attributed to recipients moving out of state. They've left for nonqualifying employment (faculty/part-time/non-underserved area).

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Annual program reporting is collected from program participants and is required prior to disbursements being made on their student loans. This information is prepared in an annual and aggregated report reflecting the data as described in Program Evaluation for Federal Reporting. Application turnout can be used to measure demand for such a program within Maine's Healthcare system and a tool to maintain current workforce levels. Program participant losses in the other similarly funded loan repayment programs are not attributed to recipients moving out of state. They've left for nonqualifying employment (faculty/part-time/non-underserved area).

## Child Care Services

### Project Information

Control Number \*

635.A.1

Funding Amount

\$5,236,475

Initiative Name

Child Care Services

Project Name

Child Care Services

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

With funding from the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, Maine's Office of Child and Family Services in the Department of Health and Human Services is establishing the Child Care Infrastructure Grant Program, which will deliver funding and technical assistance to launch or grow child care programs throughout the state. The program will enable providers to build or renovate facilities, increase enrollment, and add to the number of providers in Maine.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in July 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 04/01/2022.

Partners

Children's Cabinet , Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future, and Coastal Enterprises Inc.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/child-care-infrastructure-grant-program>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

Refer to project R.62.1.

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

Refer to project R.62.1.

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

Refer to project R.62.1.

Number of new businesses started \*

Refer to project R.62.1.

Number of children enrolled in early childhood or PreK programs \*

Refer to project R.62.1.

Total number of grant awards \*

Refer to project R.62.1.

Total number of grant awards made to minority businesses \*

Refer to project R.62.1.

Total number of new start child care providers \*

Refer to project R.62.1.

Total number of child care providers expanding capacity \*

Refer to project R.62.1.

Total number of new child care slots created \*

Refer to project R.62.1.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The project is extending efforts that were already in motion under R.62.1.

## MRS Provision of Government Services

### Project Information

Control Number \*

643.D.1

Funding Amount

\$10,000,000

Initiative Name

MRS Provision of Government Services

Project Name

MRS Provision of Government Services

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

Provides funding for Maine Revenue Services staffing and other costs under the provision of government services, offsetting a portion of the revenue losses incurred by the State of Maine due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in August 2024 and program activities are fully complete as of 10/01/2024.

Partners

This initiative will be carried out solely by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services.

Link to Project Website

n/a

### Key Performance Indicators

The successful public services provided by the Maine Revenue Service. \*

Funding was utilized by Maine Revenue Services to continue public services.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Funding for Maine Revenue Services staffing and other costs under the provision of government services, offsetting a portion of the revenue losses incurred by the State of Maine due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

## Parks Provision of Government Services

### Project Information

Control Number \*

643.NNN.1

Funding Amount

\$6,000,000

Initiative Name

Parks Provision of Government Services

Project Name

Parks Provision of Government Services

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

Provides funding for the Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry – State Parks staffing under the provision of government services, offsetting a portion of the revenue losses incurred by the State of Maine due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in August 2024 and program activities are fully complete as of 03/31/2025.

Partners

This initiative will be carried out solely by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry.

Link to Project Website

n/a

### Key Performance Indicators

The successful public services provided by the Maine State Parks. \*

Funding was utilized by DACF – State Parks for staffing for continued public services.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Funding for the Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry – State Parks staffing provided under the provision of government services, offsetting a portion of the revenue losses incurred by the State of Maine due to the COVID 19 pandemic.



## Controller & Program Management

### Project Information

Control Number \*

78.A.1

Funding Amount

\$3,000,000

Initiative Name

Controller & Program Management

Project Name

Controller & Program Management

Sub-Expenditure Category

7.1-Administrative Expenses

### Project Overview

Project Description

The funding allocated to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services (DAFS), American Rescue Plan Audit, Controller and Program Management program will be used, in conjunction with the \$3 million allocated as part of Public Law 2021, chapter 78, to support all aspects of financial management oversight of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. This includes the distribution of funding to the Non-Entitlement Units. Funds will be used throughout the eligibility period to supplement staffing within DAFS Offices through both limited period positions and contracts supporting accounting, budgeting, reporting, procurement, and human resources. Additionally, the funds will be used for project management, information technology to assist in the management and flow of data required to assess allowability of plans and facilitate federal and public reporting, sub-recipient monitoring, and reporting.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program started 11/29/2021 and activities are ongoing.

Partners

Coordination with the Maine Municipal Association on communication and outreach strategies for the non-entitlement unit Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/oversight-american-rescue-plan-act-funds>

### Key Performance Indicators

Percentage, number of and dollar amount of NEU disbursements made by 9/3 \*

| No                                                                                                     | change | since | 2023 | Annual | Report: |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------|------|--------|---------|
| Tranche 1 By 9/3- 1.07%/ \$643,197 total NEU disbursements were released.                              |        |       |      |        |         |
| Additionally, by 12/30/2021 100% of Tranche 1 NEU disbursements was released totaling \$59,611,882.26. |        |       |      |        |         |
| Tranche 2 payments released 6/22/2022 totaling \$59,611,881.74.                                        |        |       |      |        |         |
| Total of NEU payments: 119,223,764.00                                                                  |        |       |      |        |         |

Number of Business Cases completed (112 items in PL21, c.483) \*

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| At the time of this report 153 business cases have been processed through the approval process. Following theFall 2024 obligation review it was determined that there were 4 projects that had received approvals, but had not yet started. Utilizing the authority of Public Law 2023 Chapter 643 Part D those the funds for those projects, along with the other remaining unobligated funds and subsequently, reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives. At the time of this report 149 business cases remain and are at varying phases of program implementation, including completed. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Number and dollar value of Business Cases determined eligible for SLFRF \*

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6/30/2025 149 Business Cases remain active totaling \$997,495,130 of approved SLFRF dollars. Of the approved funds it was determined that \$ 59,285.55 were unobligated by the December 31, 2024 deadline. Those funds were returned to UST per instructions provided. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| In April 2024 Supplemental Budgets passed with effective dates of April 22, 2024, for PL 2023 chapter 645 and August 9, 2024 for PL 2023 chapter 643. The passing of these created a pathway for state agencies to fund anticipated payroll costs through December 2026 following the updated UST guidance on the Obligation Interim Final Rule. Through Public Law 2023 chapter 643, Part D the Legislature provided authorization to adjust allocations in order to maximize the use of funds for projects that may have come in underspent or are otherwise unable to obligated before the December 2024 deadline. Utilizing the authority of Public Law 2023, Chapter 643, Part D a review was conducted in Fall 2024 to determine funds that would not be obligated for reasons including but not limited to: funds remained for a program that had been completed, contracts were unable to be executed in accordance with the States procurement policies on or before the December 2024 deadline, and SLFRF funded staff vacancies were unable to be filled. Funds that were determined to be unable to be obligated on or before the December 2024 deadline were subsequently swept from their projects budgets and reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives. Specific project updates including but not limited to: cancelled projects, budget increases or decreases, and new projects are noted in the attached Project Inventories. In total dollars, \$ 997,495,130 (100%) of the total State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds received by the State of Maine was processed through the business case approval process and approved to deploy. Of the approved funds it was determined that \$ 59,285.55 were unobligated by the December 31, 2024 deadline. Those funds were returned to UST per instructions provided. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## Workforce & Innovation

### Project Information

Control Number \*

78.A.2

Funding Amount

\$1,729,092

Initiative Name

Workforce & Innovation

Project Name

Workforce & Innovation

Sub-Expenditure Category

7.1-Administrative Expenses

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Governor's Office of Policy Innovation & the Future (GOPIF) will support all aspects of policy management oversight of State Fiscal Recovery Funds and the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan. This includes coordination, policy development, metrics planning, and data needs including but not limited to cross-agency planning on economic, workforce, and infrastructure projects.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in May 2021 and program activities are ongoing as of 09/05/2021.

Partners

Coordination with Department of Administrative and Financial Services – including the Project Management Office and Controller's Office – and across state agencies on implementation of state plans, reporting to legislature, program evaluation actions, and MJRP policy development.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/oversight-american-rescue-plan-act-funds>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number and value of launched MJRP programs \*

149 business cases remain active and are at varying phases of program implementation, including completed.

Number of entities that are reached by MJRP outreach activities, such as participating in an information webinar to learn about grant opportunities \*

876 subscribers to Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan email bulletin. 541 participants in Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan webinars.

Number of programs for which we analyze data at least quarterly \*

153 programs as of quarter ending March 31, 2025.

Number and quality of success stories submitted by agencies \*

More than 270 success stories including many that feature individuals directly benefiting from MJRP programs.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Economic Recovery Grants

### Project Information

Control Number \*

A.1.1

Funding Amount

\$5,999,908

Initiative Name

Economic Recovery Grants

Project Name

Economic Recovery Grants

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

### Project Overview

Project Description

Federal and State economic relief and recovery programs have been a crucial lifeline for Maine businesses and non-profits during the pandemic. These additional recovery grants aim to support those organizations facing ongoing challenges, or that may have failed to qualify for prior programs.

The economic impact of the pandemic continues to impact Maine businesses. These impacts vary by industry sector, as well as by the size, age, location, and structure of the business. High service-related industries that rely on large numbers of people in small spaces and lots of face to face support are the areas of the economy that are most visibly impacted. Additionally, there are businesses in other sectors like dry cleaning and transportation that have also experienced significant losses. This need is urgent, businesses need our support now in order to quickly build back their own capacity.

These funds will be used to offer grant funding for businesses and nonprofits that demonstrate a financial impact due to COVID.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in October 2021 and program activities are ongoing as of 12/07/2021.

Partners

Maine Economic Development Agencies:  
Northern Maine Development Corporation  
Greater Portland Council of Governments  
Eastern Maine Development Corporation  
Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments  
Mid Coast Economic Development District

Kennebec Valley Council of Governments  
Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/economic-recovery-grants-maine-jobs-and-recovery-small-business-grant-program>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

403 recipients.

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

As the program evolved prior to delivery, the number of job losses avoided or new jobs created due directly to the small loans issued as part of this grant program was neither available nor applicable to the majority of the recipients.

This is a one time grant program that will collect loss data and issue out awards. We will track location and industry for informational purposes. \*

The 403 awards were made across 183 industries per the reported North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes provided by applicants. These industries were located in approximately 156 cities and towns across the State of Maine.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

These funds were distributed in partnership with regional Economic Development Districts and focused on local small businesses seeking to recover from the financial costs of the pandemic.

## Economic Recovery Grants - Nonprofits

### Project Information

Control Number \*

A.1.2

Funding Amount

Initiative Name

Economic Recovery Grants

Project Name

Economic Recovery Grants - Nonprofits

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.34-Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

### Project Overview

Project Description

The COVID-19 pandemic brought substantial harm to Maine's nonprofits, many of whom experienced lost revenue, increased costs, and/or difficulty securing investment capital. The Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) will use this program to provide Maine nonprofits with supports to help weather financial hardships, increase their access to credit, and advance development.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. Following a review conducted in Fall 2024, it was determined that the funds allocated to this project would not be obligated within the required timeframe. Following the authority granted under Chapter 643, Part D, the project was cancelled. The funds were subsequently swept and reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives.

Partners

Maine Economic Development Agencies:  
Northern Maine Development Corporation  
Greater Portland Council of Governments  
Eastern Maine Development Corporation  
Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments  
Mid Coast Economic Development District  
Kennebec Valley Council of Governments  
Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/economic-recovery-grants-maine-jobs-and-recovery-small-business-grant-program>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

See: " If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results"

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

See: " If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results"

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

See: " If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results"

Number of forgivable loans and grants to underserved as percent of the ARPA portfolio. \*

See: " If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results"

Number of certified women own nonprofit forgivable loans and grants approved. \*

See: " If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results"

Number of approved forgivable loans and grants with census tracts that match underserved communities. \*

See: " If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results"

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

A.1.2 is part of larger Economic Recovery Grants initiative that was comprised of several business cases/ control numbers: A.1.1, A.1.1, A.1.3, and A1.5. Following a review in Fall of 2024, it was determined that obligation activities would not be completed by the required December 31, 2024 obligation deadline. Utilizing the authority pursuant to Public Law 2023, Chapter 643, Part D - remaining funds were subsequently reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives. No further activity will be reported for this control number.



## Energy Rate Relief for Small Organizations

### Project Information

Control Number \*

A.1.3

Funding Amount

\$6,531,219.51

Initiative Name

Economic Recovery Grants

Project Name

Energy Rate Relief for Small Organizations

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Department of Economic and Community Development will expand its effort to use funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (APRA) to provide direct credits to qualifying Maine small businesses to help defray increased electricity costs. This funding will provide direct relief through framework established in bipartisan legislation recently passed by the legislature and signed by Governor Mills, LD 2010, Resolve, To Help Certain Businesses with Energy Costs.

This program will provide a credit, amount based on usage, for medium commercial customers of Maine's investor-owned utilities (CMP and Versant). The credit will be based on February 2022 invoices, when energy prices significantly increased. Awarded credits will be applied directly to commercial customers' accounts through the utilities.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in October 2021 and program activities are fully complete as of 10/03/2024.

Partners

Department of Economic and Community Development will partner with Central Maine Power, and Versant energy to apply awarded funds as a credit to offset the increased cost of electricity due to disruptions in the supply chain tied to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/economic-recovery-grants-maine-jobs-and-recovery-small-business-grant-program>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

2923

Number of delinquent accounts impacted by receipt of credit. \*

271 delinquent accounts at time credit was applied. After credit was applied there were 104 remaining delinquent.

Distribution of businesses receiving energy relief credits by region. \*

Androscoggin - 252, Aroostook - 48, Cumberland - 830, Franklin - 62, Hancock - 142, Kennebec - 252, Knox - 103, Lincoln - 68, Oxford - 89, Penobscot - 337, Piscataquis - 35, Sagadahoc - 64, Somerset - 103, Waldo - 67, Washington - 97, York - 371

Average size of relief credit received by industry type. \*

Versant power does not collect SIC code information from their business customers.  
CMP distributed their funds across 124 unique SIC codes with the majority falling into the following categories: Code: 5812 Retail-Eating Places - 366 credits, Code: 6512 Operators of Nonresidential buildings - 209 credits;

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Energy Rate Relief Credits Additional Organizations

### Project Information

Control Number \*

A.1.5

Funding Amount

\$591,845.14

Initiative Name

Economic Recovery Grants

Project Name

Energy Rate Relief Credits Additional Organizations

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

L2021, c.483, Part A-1 authorized \$20 million in funding for additional economic recovery grants for businesses and organizations that are struggling to recover from the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has not impacted all sectors equally, and our Department staff are once again adapting to business needs which are not necessarily finance related. Service sector and customer facing businesses are still struggling to achieve pre-pandemic capacity while simultaneously attempting to meet significantly increased energy costs tied to the pandemic and supply chain disruptions.

This program provided a credit, amount based on usage, for medium commercial customers of Maine's investor-owned utilities (CMP and Versant). The credit was based on costs incurred in February 2022 when energy prices significantly increased. The utility sent the organization a letter requiring them to attest to being in good standing with the State, and that they are not in an excluded category.

This program builds upon the State's history of providing support to businesses, municipalities, and schools as authorized under

- Title 5: Administrative Procedures and Services, Part 18-A, C.393, Article 1:
  - o §13072 – Office of Community Development
  - o §13062 – Office of Business Development
- Title 20-A: Education, Part 7, C. 606-B §15671 – Essential programs and services

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in 10/1/2024 and program activities are fully complete as of 10/03/2024.

Partners

DECD will partner with Central Maine Power (CMP), and Versant energy to apply awarded funds as a credit to offset the increased cost of electricity due to disruptions in the supply chain tied to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Department will work

with the General Government Service Center to process payments to the covered utilities.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/oversight-american-rescue-plan-act-funds>

## Key Performance Indicators

The number of medium use customers receiving aid as a subset of businesses provided with energy rate relief. \*

See: Control Number A.1.3

Number of delinquent accounts impacted by receipt of credit. \*

See: Control Number A.1.3

Distribution of businesses receiving energy relief credits by region. \*

See: Control Number A.1.3

Average size of credit received by industry type \*

See: Control Number A.1.3

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Maine Rural Development Authority

### Project Information

Control Number \*

A.2.1

Funding Amount

\$38,400,000

Initiative Name

Maine Rural Development Authority

Project Name

Maine Rural Development Authority

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

### Project Overview

Project Description

The COVID-19 pandemic brought substantial harm to Maine's small businesses and nonprofits, many of whom experienced lost revenue, increased costs, decreased operational profitability, and/or difficulty securing investment capital. The Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) is establishing the Thrive Maine program to provide Maine businesses and nonprofits with supports to help weather financial hardships, increase their access to credit, and advance development. This portion of the program is focused on Maine's small businesses.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in May 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 07/01/2022.

Partners

Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs); Economic Development Districts (EDDs); and other Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program (REDRLP) participants, Municipal Economic Development Offices Banks, Savings Institutions, Credit Unions, and Alternative Commercial Lenders; State Agencies (Department of Economic and Community Development, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry , Maine Rural Development Authority, Maine Technology Institute, Maine Venture Fund, etc.)

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/thrive-maine-pandemic-recovery-business-loan-program>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of forgivable loans and grants to underserved as percent of the ARPA portfolio. \*

21/172 = 12%

Number of certified women own business forgivable loans and grants approved. \*

56/172 = 33%

Number of approved forgivable loans and grants with census tracts that match underserved communities. \*

50/172= 29%

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The Thrive Maine forgivable loans were deployed in two application cycles, while the second application cycle closed Friday June 23, 2023. We utilized process data from the Round 1 application to adjust and create a better, more favorable process for Round 2. We have reviewed the data and made any necessary adjustments. As an example, the first round had first come, first served. We utilized a scoring model in the second round and decreased the maximum loan size from \$2 million to \$500,000 to be able to assist more Maine businesses. We continue to monitor the distributed funds as they are deployed and hired reviewers in the second round to speed the process as opposed to relying on internal FAME staff. All funds have now been deployed within the A.2.1 subcategory.

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

173

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

1,603

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

0

## Maine Rural Development Authority – Nonprofits

### Project Information

Control Number \*

A.2.2

Funding Amount

\$10,000,000

Initiative Name

Maine Rural Development Authority

Project Name

Maine Rural Development Authority – Nonprofits

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.34-Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

### Project Overview

Project Description

The COVID-19 pandemic brought substantial harm to Maine's small businesses and non-profits, many of whom experienced lost revenue, increased costs, decreased operational profitability, and/or difficulty securing investment capital. The Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) is establishing the Thrive Maine program to provide Maine businesses and non-profits with supports to help weather financial hardships, increase their access to credit, and advance development. This business case reflects the portion of the funds that are directed toward the support of non-profits, organizations and businesses.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 07/22/2022.

Partners

Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs); Economic Development Districts (EDDs); and other Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program (REDRLP) participants, Municipal Economic Development Offices  
Banks, Savings Institutions, Credit Unions, and Alternative Commercial Lenders;  
State Agencies (Department of Economic and Community Development, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry , Maine Rural Development Authority, Maine Technology Institute, Maine Venture Fund, etc.)

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/thrive-maine-pandemic-recovery-business-loan-program>

Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

36

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

1,226

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

0

Number of forgivable loans and grants to underserved as percent of the ARPA portfolio. \*

2/36 = 5%

Number of certified women own business forgivable loans and grants approved. \*

8/36 = 22%

Number of approved forgivable loans and grants with census tracts that match underserved communities. \*

9/36 = 25%

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The Thrive Maine forgivable loans were deployed in two application cycles, while the second application cycle closed Friday June 23, 2023. We utilized process data from the Round 1 application to adjust and create a better, more favorable process for Round 2. We have reviewed the data and made any necessary adjustments. As an example, the first round had first come, first served. We utilized a scoring model in the second round and decreased the maximum loan size from \$2 million to \$500,000 to be able to assist more Maine businesses. We continue to monitor the distributed funds as they are deployed and hired reviewers in the second round to speed the process as opposed to relying on internal FAME staff.



## Business Assistance Program

### Project Information

Control Number \*

A.3.1

Funding Amount

\$9,923,370.12

Initiative Name

Business Assistance Program

Project Name

Business Assistance Program

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

### Project Overview

Project Description

The COVID-19 pandemic brought substantial harm to Maine's small businesses and nonprofits, many of whom experienced lost revenue, increased costs, decreased operational profitability, and/or difficulty securing investment capital. The Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) is establishing the Thrive Maine program to provide Maine businesses and nonprofits with supports to help weather financial hardships, increase their access to credit, and advance development. This portion of the program is focused on the subset of Maine's small businesses that are employing emerging financing or organizational models that became market trends during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in May 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 07/22/2022.

Partners

Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs); Economic Development Districts (EDDs); and other Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program (REDRLP) participants, Municipal Economic Development Offices  
Banks, Savings Institutions, Credit Unions, and Alternative Commercial Lenders;  
State Agencies (Department of Economic and Community Development, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, Maine Rural Development Authority, Maine Technology Institute, Maine Venture Fund, etc.)

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/thrive-maine-pandemic-recovery-business-loan-program>

Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

19

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

1,055

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

0

Number of forgivable loans and grants to underserved as percent of the ARPA portfolio. \*

0. Based on collected data from applicants.

Number of certified women own business forgivable loans and grants approved. \*

4/15 = 27%

Number of approved forgivable loans and grants with census tracts that match underserved communities. \*

3/15 = 2%

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The Thrive Maine forgivable loans were deployed in two application cycles, while the second application cycle closed Friday June 23, 2023. We utilized process data from the Round 1 application to adjust and create a better, more favorable process for Round 2. We have reviewed the data and made any necessary adjustments. As an example, the first round had first come, first served. We utilized a scoring model in the second round and decreased the maximum loan size from \$2 million to \$500,000 to be able to assist more Maine businesses. We continue to monitor the distributed funds as they are deployed and hired reviewers in the second round to speed the process as opposed to relying on internal FAME staff.

## Business Assistance Program - Nonprofits

### Project Information

Control Number \*

A.3.2

Funding Amount

\$76,629.88

Initiative Name

Business Assistance Program

Project Name

Business Assistance Program - Nonprofits

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.34-Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

### Project Overview

Project Description

The COVID-19 pandemic brought substantial harm to Maine's non-profits, many of whom experienced lost revenue, increased costs, decreased operational profitability, and/or difficulty securing investment capital. The Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) is establishing this program to provide Maine non-profits with supports to help weather financial hardships, increase their access to credit, and advance development. This portion of the program is focused on Maine's non-profits.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022,. SLFRF program expenditures are complete at of 6/30/2024.

Partners

Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs); Economic Development Districts (EDDs); and other Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program (REDRLP) participants, Municipal Economic Development Offices  
Banks, Savings Institutions, Credit Unions, and Alternative Commercial Lenders;  
State Agencies (Department of Economic and Community Development, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry , Maine Rural Development Authority, Maine Technology Institute, Maine Venture Fund, etc.).

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/thrive-maine-pandemic-recovery-business-loan-program>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

1

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

2

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

0, none reported by applicants.

Number of forgivable loans and grants to underserved as percent of the ARPA portfolio. \*

1

Number of certified Non Profit forgivable loans and grants approved. \*

1

Number of approved forgivable loans and grants with census tracts that match underserved communities. \*

0, applicant data was matched against Treasury CDFI database.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The Thrive Maine forgivable loans were deployed in two application cycles, while the second application cycle closed Friday June 23, 2023. We utilized process data from the Round 1 application to adjust and create a better, more favorable process for Round 2. We have reviewed the data and made any necessary adjustments. As an example, the first round had first come, first served. We utilized a scoring model in the second round and decreased the maximum loan size from \$2 million to \$500,000 to be able to assist more Maine businesses. We continue to monitor the distributed funds as they are deployed and hired reviewers in the second round to speed the process as opposed to relying on internal FAME staff.

## Elderly Tax Deferral

### Project Information

Control Number \*

AA.87.1

Funding Amount

\$2,647,376.87

Initiative Name

Elderly Tax Deferral

Project Name

Elderly Tax Deferral

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.37-Economic Impact Assistance: Other

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Elderly Tax Deferral Program allows qualifying individuals to defer payment of the property taxes on their homestead (their principal residence) until their death, or until they move or sell the residence. To be eligible for the program, the individual must be either 65 years of age or older, or be unable to be employed as a result of disability. In addition, the individual must have annual income of less than \$40,000, and liquid assets of less than \$50,000 (\$75,000 if the application is jointly filed).

Under the program, the individual must apply and provide documentation of their eligibility. The State then places a lien on the property, and reimburses the municipality for the amount of property taxes on the individual's residence each year until the individual dies, moves, or sells the residence. At the time of sale or death, the individual or their estate is required to pay back to the State the amount of property taxes that were paid on their behalf plus interest.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 08/05/2022.

Partners

Municipalities will be involved in reviewing and providing feedback on the draft forms Maine Revenue Services prepares.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/state-property-tax-deferral-program>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of households receiving household assistance \*

As of June 30, 2025, 238 households are receiving assistance under this program.

As part of the application process, Maine Revenue Services will be gathering data on the demographics of program participants, as well as the location of participants. This will be reviewed annually after the closure of each year's application cycle. Location data will allow us to determine how effectively the program is being implemented across the different areas of the State and allow us to potentially better target certain geographic areas for promotion. Income and other demographic data from the applications will also allow us to ensure the program is benefitting the intended groups of people. We also intend to review existing data sources on an ongoing basis to monitor foreclosures and property tax abatements to determine any effects from the program.

Household receiving assistance were from all 16 of Maine's Counties and from 125 different towns and cities:

Androscoggin County - Auburn, Livermore, Poland, and Sabattus  
Aroostook County - Caribou, Fort Kent, Grand Isle, Madawaska, New Sweden, Presque Isle, and Woodland  
Cumberland County - Bridgton, Brunswick, Cape Elizabeth, Casco, Falmouth, Freeport, Gray, Naples, Portland, Pownal, Scarborough, South Portland, Standish, Westbrook, Windham, and Yarmouth  
Franklin County - Farmington, Kingfield, and Phillips  
Hancock County - Bar Harbor, Bucksport, Ellsworth, Orland, Southwest Harbor, and Tremont  
Kennebec County - Albion, Augusta, China, Mount Vernon, Randolph, Readfield, Vassalboro, Waterville, Winslow, and Winthrop  
Knox County - Camden, Hope, Owl's Head, Rockland, Rockport, Thomaston, Warren, and Washington  
Lincoln County - Alna, Bristol, Damariscotta, Edgecomb, Jefferson, and Waldoboro  
Oxford County - Bethel, Denmark, Dixfield, Hiram, Mexico, Newry, Oxford, Paris, and Porter  
Penobscot County - Bangor, Bradford, Brewer, Carmel, Clifton, Dexter, Eddington, Hampden, Hermon, Hewburgh, Old Town, Orono, Orrington, and Woodville  
Piscataquis County - Guilford  
Sagadahoc County - Bath and Topsham  
Somerset County - Fairfield, Mercer, Moscow, and Pittsfield  
Waldo County - Belfast, Monroe, Montville, Palermo, Searsport, Stockton Springs, and Swanville  
Washington County - Addison, Columbia, Eastport, Jonesboro, Jonesport, Lubec, Machias, Milbridge, and Northfield  
York County - Alfred, Berwick, Biddeford, Buxton, Cornish, Eliot, Hollis, Kennebunk, Lebanon, Lyman, North Berwick, Old Orchard Beach, Saco, Sanford, Shapleigh, South Berwick, Wells, and York

Existing data sources are still being reviewed to determine ,if possible, if any foreclosures were avoided as a result of this program.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Elderly Tax Deferral - Admin

### Project Information

Control Number \*

AA.88.1

Funding Amount

Initiative Name

Elderly Tax Deferral - Admin

Project Name

Elderly Tax Deferral - Admin

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.37-Economic Impact Assistance: Other

### Project Overview

Project Description

This position and related All Other funding is necessary to support the Maine Elderly Tax Deferral Program authorized in PL21, c.483, Part AA (Business Case AA.87). The Maine Elderly Tax Deferral Program allows qualifying individuals to defer payment of the property taxes on their homestead (their principal residence) until their death, or until they move or sell the residence. To be eligible for the program, the individual must be either 65 years of age or older, or be unable to be employed as a result of disability. In addition, the individual must have annual income of less than \$40,000, and liquid assets of less than \$50,000 (\$75,000 if the application is jointly filed).

Under the program, the individual must apply and provide documentation of their eligibility. The State then places a lien on the property, and reimburses the municipality for the amount of property taxes on the individual's residence each year until the individual dies, moves, or sells the residence. At the time of sale or death, the individual or their estate is required to pay back to the State the amount of property taxes that were paid on their behalf plus interest.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2022. Following a review conducted in Fall 2024, it was determined that the funds allocated to this project would not be obligated within the required timeframe. Following the authority granted under Chapter 643, Part D, the project was cancelled. The funds were subsequently swept and reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives.

Partners

Municipalities will be involved in reviewing and providing feedback on the draft forms Maine Revenue Services prepares.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/state-property-tax-deferral-program>



## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of households receiving household assistance \*

See: "If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results"

As part of the application process, Maine Revenue Services will be gathering data on the demographics of program participants, as well as the location of participants. This will be reviewed annually after the closure of each year's application cycle. Location data will allow us to determine how effectively the program is being implemented across the different areas of the State and allow us to potentially better target certain geographic areas for promotion. Income and other demographic data from the applications will also allow us to ensure the program is benefitting the intended groups of people. We also intend to review existing data sources on an ongoing basis to monitor foreclosures and property tax abatements to determine any effects from the program. \*

.See: "If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results"

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

This position was funded to support AA.87.1. The position was posted for with no hires or expenditures. Following a review in Fall of 2024, it was determined that obligation activities would not be completed by the required December 31, 2024 obligation deadline. Utilizing the authority pursuant to Public Law 2023, Chapter 643, Part D -the unobligated funds were subsequently reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives. No further activity will be reported for this control number.

## Farm & Food Sustainability

### Project Information

Control Number \*

B.4.1

Funding Amount

\$20,000,000

Initiative Name

Farm & Food Sustainability

Project Name

Farm & Food Sustainability

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

This program establishes one contract grant manager position through June 10, 2023 and provides one-time funding to support the state's farms and food processors to ensure the sustainability of farms and farm families, increase the supply of local food to meet state food consumption goals, and enhance the state's agricultural exports while reducing the state's reliance on food imports. The program will provide critical funding for Maine farms and food processors pursuing infrastructure upgrades that will mitigate the negative effects of COVID-19, increase capacity, enhance supply chain resilience, and drive growth within the Maine agricultural and food economy while providing more locally-produced foods to Mainers. This funding will help agricultural businesses to acquire the equipment and assets necessary to grow capacity in a manner that meets the markedly increased demand for Maine-grown and produced products as well as the new operational requirements resulting from pandemic conditions. Funding will be administered through a competitive process that awards grants to eligible projects that align with the goals of the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, specifically, supporting the growth and sustainability of farms and farm families, increasing the supply of Maine-grown and produced food to meet state food procurement, consumption, and food security goals, and enhancing Maine's agricultural exports while reducing the state's reliance on food imports.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 04/25/2022.

Partners

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry intends to partner with Coastal Enterprises, Inc. (CEI) for grant program administration. In addition to CEI, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry has also been working with other state agencies, including Department of Economic and Community Development, to inform program design and timing. Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry's stakeholder engagement work regularly involves collaboration with farms, businesses, industry groups, financial institutions, service providers, and other key organizations active within the agriculture and food sectors.

## Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/agricultural-infrastructure-investment-program>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

64

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

Estimated 200+ individuals received technical support. This grant program was highly subscribed, having received over 800 applications. Hundreds of applicants received hands-on technical support and assistance through DACF and our third-party grant administrator. Other community organizations, such as SCORE, provided free application support for 40 agricultural businesses. An unanticipated benefit of AIIP technical support may have been increased awareness of other TA resources in Maine, including SCORE's business plan development offerings. Feedback from AIIP applicants (including those who did not ultimately receive funding) indicated that preparing an AIIP application, including the project budget, was a helpful exercise that could inform future business decision-making. In addition to technical support related to the application process, many awardees intend to use AIIP grant funds to cover the cost of Technical Assistance expenses, such as engineering plan development.

The types of farms and businesses that received funding \*

Awards were approved for 64 farms and food processors. The awards ranged from \$41,669 to \$500,000, with an average of \$301,217, and awards were distributed across all sixteen Maine counties. The 64 awards reflect the spectrum of Maine farms and food businesses of various scales and sizes, production methods, and product categories, including dairy, grain, vegetable, fruit, meat, and poultry.

The types of expenses/investments that awardees made (e.g., equipment purchases, facility reconfiguration, technical assistance). \*

AIIP grant funding has been used to support a variety of infrastructure needs, including capital improvements related to harvesting, processing, storage, manufacturing, packaging, and handling. DACF is performing ongoing analysis to capture the breakdown of specific types of expenses and other data related to program impact.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Update for June 2025: DACF staff continue to perform monitoring, reporting, and due diligence activities as part of ongoing stewardship of this grant program. Our Contracts & Grants Manager is managing awardee engagement and compliance with our regular reporting process, which requires budget updates and impact metrics on a recurring basis. We also regularly conduct awardee site visits to observe project progress and document the various uses of funds (e.g., through photographing equipment and other capital upgrades). Such activities are critical to our ongoing stewardship of federal funds, and they help us understand the impacts of these investments over time.

In addition, a Scope of Work was completed that analyzed the broader grant applicant pool in order to collect insights surrounding any remaining capital needs that could be appropriately and effectively supported through future public funds, should they arise.

## Forest Product Recovery

### Project Information

Control Number \*

B.5.1

Funding Amount

\$24,500,000

Initiative Name

Forest Product Recovery

Project Name

Forest Product Recovery

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

The goal of the Forest Product Recovery Grant Program is to stabilize and aid in the recovery of Maine's \$8.5 billion forest economy that was severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with pandemic-related market shifts as well as supply chain and workforce disruptions that still exist today. This program's investments in Maine's Forest Products sector will provide two key benefits to support the sector. The first benefit of the program is the injection of much needed capital, in the form of grants, to parts of the industry that faced and continue to face market disruptions, supply chain and workforce challenges because of the COVID-19 pandemic and related public health response. The second benefit is investments in the form of grants in Maine businesses to aid transitions to address new market demands that are a direct result of the COVID – 19 pandemic and related health response, sustainable products, and provide long term stability across the industry.

With the addition of \$4.5 million to this program, the State will continue to support the Forest Industry with pandemic recovery by providing grants to meet the needs listed above as well as providing funds to help businesses secure capital investments that were delayed or canceled due to the effects of the pandemic.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in November 2021 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/28/2022.

Partners

In addition to deep industry and community engagement, Department of Economic and Community Development has engaged across the forest products sectors and economic development framework to structure this initiative:

- Maine Technology Institute
- Maine Forest Products Council
- Maine Development Foundation
- Maine Professional Logging Contractors

- Forest Opportunity Road Map
- Maine's Seven Economic Development Districts
- Maine Department of Environmental Protection/Department of Agriculture Conservation and Forestry

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/forestry-recovery-initiative>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

245

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

Initiative round 1: 711 per ECO Impact Survey for FRI-1 only, as ECO Impact Survey for FRI-2 has yet to be completed.

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

Initiative round 1: 336 per Eco Impact Survey for FRI-1 only, as ECO Impact Survey for FRI-2 has yet to be completed.

Application/award volume per month (during open application period)

Average 39 awards per application period between April 2022 and Dec 2022.

Application/award by region (during open application period)

Total = 270; Androscoggin 5, Aroostook 124, Cumberland 16, Franklin 6, Hancock 4, Kennebec 9, Knox 3, Lincoln 1, Oxford 13, Penobscot 35, Piscataquis 11, Somerset 19, Waldo 9, Washington 2, York 5, Outside Maine 8 (Note: organization is outside of Maine, but the grant funds are to be used within the State)

Application/award by business size (during open application period)

<10 FTE= 218, 11-50 FTE=45, 51-100=18, >100= 13  
<10 PTE= 80, <11 PTE=3

Technical Assistance contacts/month (during open application period)

9 total Zoom sessions with 43 participants  
97 inbound and outbound customer service calls providing TA to applicants  
2,269 page visits to MTI FAQ

Compliance with semi-annual reporting requirements (after each semi-annual reporting period)

Round 1: 133 (62%)

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Round 1 (FRI-1) survey issued May 2023; Round 2 (FRI-2) survey expected spring 2026. Data presented represents combination of FRI-1 and FRI-2 data (as of 6/30/2025). There was no additional application data for this reporting period.

## Seafood Processors & Dealer - Upgrades

### Project Information

Control Number \*

B.6.1

Funding Amount

\$9,812,937.22

Initiative Name

Seafood Processors & Dealer - Upgrades

Project Name

Seafood Processors & Dealer - Upgrades

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

### Project Overview

Project Description

This project will provide one-time funding for a competitive grant program for Maine licensed seafood processors and dealers to 1) upgrade or replace aging or failing infrastructure or other capital expenditures or make investments that the business has otherwise been unable to do prior to, or absent this funding due to the negative economic impacts of the pandemic, or 2) reengineer and retool facilities in response to product changes or safety protocols necessary as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

FAQ 2.10 allows for assistance to address negative economic impacts to impacted industries other than travel, tourism and hospitality that have suffered comparable losses to that sector. Maine's ex-vessel revenues averaged \$654M annually from 2015-2019, and dropped to \$517M in 2020, a loss of 21% across the sector, but because the price of lobster remained high throughout 2020, this does not reflect the much deeper revenue losses in other sectors, including groundfish harvesters and wholesalers, who saw their markets completely dry up and prices drop over 60%, and processors, who had to spend significant resources to re-engineer facilities in response to the pandemic to protect worker safety or overhaul their product handling and packaging to target new markets. While there are always fluctuations in the market for seafood, the dramatic drop in landings (pounds and value) coincident with the start of the pandemic is clearly evidenced in DMR's landings data.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022. SLFRF program expenditures are completed as of 6/30/2025.

Partners

Department of Marine Resources has been in contact with the Maine Technology Institute and with Coastal Enterprises Inc. (CEI) to explore potential grant management support from these entities. We are working in partnership with Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry who is conducting a similar grant program with MJRP funds.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/maine-seafood-dealer-and-processor-covid-19-response-and-resilience-grant-program>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

75 - This is the original number of Seafood Dealer and Processor Program awards out of a total of 107 awards that were partially- or fully-funded by ARPA. Of the 75 ARPA-funded awards, one business returned a portion due to increasing supply and labor costs, and another returned the full award due to the business closing. At the close of FY2023, there are 74 active awards that are partially- or fully-funded by ARPA. Source Information: Notice of awards issued to recipients on June 29, 2022.

FY2024 - No updates

FY2025 - No updates

Geographic range of project awards. This information will be collected through and upon the time of the application, and will be able to be disaggregated by community and recipient demographics. This will be assessed based on the number of businesses awarded funds in a particular coastal county, and will assess equity in project access and results. \*

Using the mailing addresses for check issuance, with an exception for one Cumberland County business with headquarters out-of-state, in which case the physical address was used, awardees are distributed into the following counties: Cumberland (16), Hancock (14), Knox (9), Lincoln (12), Sagadahoc (3), Washington (11) and York (10). There are two important qualifiers in interpreting this data. 1) These data do not represent the entire distribution of 2022 Seafood Dealer and Processor Program awards, which were administered through three sources of covid relief funding. Maine Department of Marine Resources (MEDMR) issued several awards from solely NOAA or USDA funding. Geographic distribution of those awards are not reported on here because they are not ARPA-funded. 2) Eligible businesses are not distributed evenly among coastal counties.

FY2024 - No updates

FY2025- No updates

Negative economic impacts. This information will be collected through and upon the time of the application, and will be able to be disaggregated by community and recipient demographics. Applicants will have to provide information about the economic impacts their business has suffered due to covid as part of the application process. \*

MEDMR solicited applications for the Seafood Dealer and Processor program in the spring of 2022 in collaboration with Maine Technology Institute. The application included a section titled "Negative economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic" which asked applicants to provide a narrative of impacts and to select from a list of allowable damages: 1) reduced revenues; 2) reduced access to credit; 3) reduced labor availability; 4) increased labor expenses; 5) increased fuel costs; 6) increased materials costs; 7) shipping delays; 8) other supply chain disruptions. Awards from the ARPA-funded portion ranged in terms of which impacts were enumerated. In many cases MEDMR funded only a percentage of an applicant's request; therefore, the impacts that were ultimately addressed may differ from original applications. If necessary, MEDMR can quantify these impacts into the above categories in future annual reports once all projects are complete.

FY2024 - No updates

FY2025 - No updates



Response to negative economic impacts. This information will be collected through and upon the time of the application, and will be able to be disaggregated by community and recipient demographics. Applicants will have to justify why the requested funding will address the negative economic impacts their business has experienced due to the pandemic. \*

MEDMR solicited applications for the Seafood Dealer and Processor program in the spring of 2022 in collaboration with Maine Technology Institute. The application included a section titled "Pandemic Response Plan" which asked applicants to identify a funding amount, propose uses of funds if awarded, and identify how the proposal would strengthen the applicant's business post-pandemic. In this section, applicants categorized their proposals into categories: 1) reimbursement for pandemic-related costs; 2) changes made in the marketing or distribution of the product to comply with COVID protocols; 3) additional medical and/or testing equipment for employees; 4) investments in new processing equipment or labor-saving devices; 5) additional hires; 6) enhanced compensation, benefits or training for existing employees; 7) build inventory to mitigate future supply disruptions; or 8) "other" to be expounded in the narrative. Awards from the ARPA-funded portion ranged in terms of which response categories were identified. In many cases MEDMR funded only a percentage of an applicant's request; therefore, the actions that were ultimately funded may differ in scope from original applications. If necessary, MEDMR can quantify responses into the above categories in future annual reports once all projects are complete.

FY2024 - No updates

FY2025 - No updates

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Free Well Water Testing for Low Income

### Project Information

Control Number \*

BB.89.1

Funding Amount

\$102,968

Initiative Name

Free Well Water Testing for Low Income

Project Name

Free Well Water Testing for Low Income

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.16-Water and Sewer: Private Wells

### Project Overview

Project Description

Many low-income families in Maine live in rural areas where their source of drinking water is a private residential well. To ensure that the family is not at risk from contaminants that may be present in drinking water such as arsenic, it is necessary to test the well water and, if warranted, install treatment or make other modifications to the well and/or plumbing to ensure the availability of safe drinking water in the home. This initiative seeks to provide free well water testing to low-income families, to remove one of the barriers to obtaining the information necessary to determine if the water is safe and take the necessary steps to protect families from consuming unsafe drinking water, thus presenting a clear benefit to public health. Other state funds are available to assist low-income families with the cost of treatment of contaminated water, but they must first test.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in March 2023 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/24/2022.

Partners

The Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory will be responsible for receiving the requests for free arsenic water testing that are submitted in response to the mailing. They will either perform the test and provide the results or if necessary due to work loads, have the water sample analyzed by a contracted laboratory.

The Maine Center for Disease Control Environmental and Occupational Health Program will be responsible for designing the targeted mailing instrument, linking various Department of Health and Human Services databases to generate a mailing list, performing the targeted mailings, tracking response rates, piloting a social media campaign, designing a education materials for WIC, training WIC, transferring requests for kits to HETL, and providing referrals for treatment systems..

Maine Center for Disease Control Women Infant and Children Program will be responsible for conducting health education with WIC participants, offering free test kits, managing data about participants interest in project, and following up with participants about testing barriers.

The Office MaineCare will be responsible for providing address and email databases of clients who receive MaineCare benefits, including offer for free test kits as applicable, and providing guidance on best-practices to reach this audience.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/free-well-water-testing-low-income-mainers>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals from low-income families that have testing their well water for arsenic \*

411

Number of offers of free water testing sent to low-income households. This will be based on mailed offers and computed annually. \*

1882

Number of requests of free water test kits in response to offers. This will be based on returned requests for test kits and computed annually. \*

1515

Number of water kits returned for arsenic testing. This will be based on counts of returned test kits received by the laboratory. \*

407

Number of returned water test kits that have elevated levels of arsenic and are referred to a state program for assistance to mitigate water exposure through grants for treatment systems. \*

45

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

Premium Relief

Project Information

Control Number \*

C.7.1

Funding Amount

\$39,000,000

Initiative Name

Premium Relief

Project Name

Premium Relief

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Project Overview

Project Description

Public Law 2021, chapter 483, part C establishes and allocates \$39 million for The Small Business Health Insurance Premium Support Program within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance, as a temporary program to provide payments to small group health insurance carriers in the State to reduce insurance premium costs for small businesses and their employees. The program will reimburse small group health insurance carriers for actual premium credits made monthly by the carriers to small businesses and will ensure the payments result in a reduction of small group health insurance premiums of \$50 per employee per month with an additional reduction for family coverage. The initial premium credits for each subscribing employee will be based on the table below.

| Premium Credit Identifier | Premium Credit Rate |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Employee                  | \$50                |
| Two Adults                | \$100               |
| Employee plus Child       | \$80                |
| Two Adults Plus Child     | \$130               |

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in November 2021 and program activities are fully complete as of 02/09/2024.

Partners

The Bureau of Insurance will be partnering with all insurance carriers in Maine offering fully-insured small group plans in Maine. The insurers participating are:

- Aetna
- Anthem
- CHO (Community Health Options)

1

- Harvard Pilgrim
- United Healthcare

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/small-business-health-insurance-premium-relief-program>

## Key Performance Indicators

Insurance carriers will be required to report monthly to the Bureau of Insurance. The program will have monthly totals of numbers of small businesses who receive the premium credits as well as the number of employees who are receiving a portion of the credits. It is not anticipated that the program will have specific demographic information for individual subscribers other than adults and dependents.

Based on reporting information from the carriers, there are approximately 5,500 qualifying small groups in Maine. This represents more than 30,000 employees and close to 50,000 total covered lives. \*

|                                   | Average Per Month |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Covered Lives                     | 45,654            |
| Total Number of Small Groups      | 5,690             |
| Total Employees Receiving Credits | 28,926            |

The information source for the data is monthly reporting from insurance carriers.

Performance indicators through the program will include monthly and total numbers for the number of small employers who participate in the program, the amounts of premium credits received, and the numbers of employees who participate in the program and the amount of premium credits that they receive. \*

|                       | Total From Invoices |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Total Premium Credits | \$42,673,130        |

The total noted above is for the periods covering November, 2021 through July, 2023 as reported by the insurance carriers.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Project has completed and figures are final, other than any adjustments that may be necessary due to audits of the program.

## Family Caregiver Grants Pilot

### Project Information

Control Number \*

CC.90.1

Funding Amount

\$4,251,324.14

Initiative Name

Family Caregiver Grants Pilot

Project Name

Family Caregiver Grants Pilot

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.3-Household Assistance: Cash Transfers

### Project Overview

Project Description

The department, in cooperation with area agencies on aging, shall establish the Family Caregiver Grant Pilot Program to increase the number of families served by the Respite Care Fund, alleviate costs associated with providing in-home care of an adult, provide a family caregiver grant to increase economic security for family caregivers and examine the needs and preferences of the families served by the Respite Care Fund and the pilot program.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in December 2021 and program activities are ongoing as of 10/01/2022.

Partners

Stakeholders: Aroostook Agency on Aging, Eastern Area Agency on Aging, Spectrum Generations, Senior Plus, Southern Agency on Aging, Alzheimer's Association of Maine, MaineHealth, VA Togus, AARP Maine, SAGE Maine, Legal Services for Elderly, Home Care and Hospice Alliance of Maine, Maine Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, Community Support Service, Aroostook Band of Micmacs, Title VI FDirector Pleasant Point Passamaquoddy, Penobscot Indian Nation, MCOA, Maine Health Care Association, Adoptive and Foster Families of Maine

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/respice-me-family-caregiver-grants-pilot-program>

### Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$0

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe evaluation design as noted in **Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance** and Reporting Guidance pg. 38 \*

As Respite for ME is implemented, several data points will inform the program process outcomes: dates of application, eligibility determination, and receipt of services; and the demographic information and number of service recipients. Program impact will be measured through analyzing self-reported changes in caregiver burden/stress/wellbeing, caregiver desire to institutionalize their family member, and caregiver desire and ability to remain in the workforce as impacted by their caregiving responsibilities. Reassessments of caregivers will be conducted 90 days after the caregiver receives services funded by the pilot.

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of households receiving household assistance \*

872

An unduplicated count of individuals receiving respite care, assistive technology, home modification and family caregiver grants under section 3; \*

Respite Care = 450  
Assistive Technology = 413  
Chore Services = 355  
Home Modifications & Minor Repairs = 207  
Self-Care = 278  
Self-Care Items = 111

The amount of funds that were expended for respite care, assistive technology, home modification and family caregiver grants; \*

Total = \$3,377,101  
  
Respite Care = \$1,270,286  
Assistive Technology = \$637,611  
Chore Services = \$451,212  
Home Modifications & Minor Repairs = \$404,180  
Self-Care = \$296,544  
Self-Care Items = \$89,077

The demographics of eligible family caregivers receiving services under the pilot program, including, but not limited to, age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, income and county of residence; \*

To help understand who chose to enroll in the Respite for ME Grants program, this section presents caregiver characteristics based on the 841 caregivers who were enrolled in the program at some point between 10/1/22 and 7/31/24. See Final Report for methodology.

#### AGE

Up to 30 = 3 (<0%)  
31-40 = 25 (3%)  
41-50 = 80 (10%)  
51-60 = 181 (22%)  
61-70 = 274 (33%)  
71-80 = 199 (24%)  
81-90 = 77 (9%)

#### RACE

White = 825 (98%)  
Black or African American = 7 (1%)  
Asian or Asian American = 4 (<0%)  
Native American = 4 (<0%)  
Other/Unknown = (<0%)

#### ETHNICITY

Non-Hispanic or Latino = 826 (98%)  
Hispanic or Latino = 8 (1%)  
Unknown = 7 (<0%)

#### GENDER IDENTITY

Women = 638 (76%)  
Men = 201 (24%)

#### SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Straight or Heterosexual = 811 (96%)  
Gay or Lesbian = 14 (2%)  
Unknown = 14 (2%)

#### INCOME

Under \$25k = 157 (20%)  
\$25k-\$49.9K = 439 (56%)  
Above \$50k = 188 (24%)

#### EDUCATION

Less than HS diploma = 24 (3%)  
HS diploma/GED = 200 (25%)  
Some College/Assoc/Tech = 255 (32%)  
Bachelors = 152 (19%)  
Graduate or Above = 128 (16%)  
Unknown = 40 (5%)

#### HEALTH STATUS

Very Poor = 8 (1%)  
Poor = 42 (5%)  
Fair = 210 (25%)  
Good = 445 (53%)



Very Good = 135 (16%)

#### EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Forty-two percent of caregivers were retired, and 41% were working at some level.

#### COUNTY

Androscoggin = 33 (4%)  
Aroostook = 104 (12%)  
Cumberland = 144 (17%)  
Franklin = 14 (2%)  
Hancock = 30 (4%)  
Kennebec = 136 (16%)  
Knox = 26 (3%)  
Lincoln = 29 (3%)  
Oxford = 20 (2%)  
Penobscot = 82 (10%)  
Piscataquis = 2 (<0%)  
Sagadahoc = 12 (1%)  
Somerset = 35 (4%)  
Waldo = 29 (3%)  
Washington = 9 (1%)  
York = 136 (16%)

See Appendix C of the Final Evaluation Report for more Detailed Demographics at:  
[https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/sites/maine.gov.dhhs/files/inline-files/R4ME%20Final%20Evaluation%20Report\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/sites/maine.gov.dhhs/files/inline-files/R4ME%20Final%20Evaluation%20Report_FINAL.pdf)

The number of eligible family caregivers on waiting lists for services under the pilot program and the demographics of those family caregivers, including, but not limited to, age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, income and county of residence; \*

Six out of seven waitlisted caregivers during the entire pilot program were from the Aroostook AAA. Four of these were on the waitlist from mid-November 2023 through January 24, 2024. Of all waitlisted caregivers, 71% were female, 29% male. All identified as non-Hispanic and White. All waitlist participants made less than \$50,000 in income. The average age was 60. The average time on the waitlist was 57 days. Five of the seven waitlist participants were removed from the waitlist when the Respite for ME Grants funds became available. Two participants voluntarily removed themselves from the waitlist. The waitlist was cleared by August 2, 2024.

The time between application and eligibility determination by the department or its contracted designee; \*

In Year 1, it took an average of 12 days after the application to the program was received to confirm eligibility. This dropped to 11 days in Year 2. Participants were required to submit the completed application form and the Attestation or Proof of Hardship form to their AAA before the AAA could send the eligibility confirmation letter and complete the enrollment process.

The time between application for and receipt of services provided under the pilot program; \*

Once caregivers were enrolled, they completed the TCARE® assessment with their AAA Family Caregiver Specialist to develop a person-centered plan of care. In Year 1, caregivers received Respite for ME Grants services on average 32 days after the TCARE® assessment. This dropped to 21 days in Year 2. Although most caregivers who used services were able to do so within one month of enrollment, others accessed services two months or more after they enrolled. Caregivers may not have been able to find the services they needed, or they may have been saving their access to the funds for a future purchase later in the year.

An assessment of the extent to which services provided under the pilot program kept individuals cared for by eligible family caregivers out of institutional care or delayed transfer to an institutional level of care; and \*

When asked about their intent to place their care recipient in a facility, the proportion of caregivers saying “yes” increased for Cohort 2 (those enrolled in Year 2 only) and Cohort 4 (those enrolled in Year 1, had a follow-up before 7/1/23, and were re-enrolled in Year 2 on or after 10/1/23) (see Final Evaluation Report for methodology). The proportion of caregivers in Cohort 2 rose from 8% to 13% ( $p=.025$ ). Caregivers in Cohort 4 experienced no significant change in the proportion intending to place their care receiver in a facility during their first year of participation. However, when they re-enrolled in the second year, the initial proportion had increased to 10%, which then rose to 19% at the second-year follow-up ( $p=.013$ ). Across both years of participation, the proportion of caregivers intending to place their care receiver in a facility rose from 7% in Year 1 to 19% at their Year 2 follow-up assessment ( $p=.011$ ). The advancing age and frailty of the care receiver could explain this increase. Due to the short duration of the pilot and lack of a control group, we cannot determine if participating in the Respite for ME Grants program averted or delayed any facility placements.

Any recommendations for changes related to the adequacy of the Respite Care Fund and the scope of services provided and recommendations for continuing the pilot program. \*

Maine DHHS introduced LD 709, “Act to Establish the Respite for ME Program,” to amend the state-funded Respite Care Fund established by 22 MRSA §7308 to incorporate lessons learned from the Respite for ME Pilot Program. This bill was enacted and will become law 90 days following the adjournment of the current legislative session. Link: <https://legislature.maine.gov/billtracker/#Paper/709?legislature=132>

A separate funding bill, LD 815, “An Act to Provide Funding for Respite Care and Supplemental Services Provided by the Family Caregiver Support Program,” has been introduced to maintain this pilot program’s funding levels for respite care and supplemental services statewide. Link: <https://legislature.maine.gov/billtracker/#Paper/815?legislature=132>

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The program evaluation was conducted by the University of Southern Maine. A full copy of the Final Evaluation Report that provides much more context can be found at: [https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/sites/maine.gov.dhhs/files/inline-files/R4ME%20Final%20Evaluation%20Report\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/sites/maine.gov.dhhs/files/inline-files/R4ME%20Final%20Evaluation%20Report_FINAL.pdf)

## Administration of Family Caregiver Grants Pilot

### Project Information

Control Number \*

CC.91.1

Funding Amount

\$450,000

Initiative Name

Administration of Family Caregiver Grants Pilot

Project Name

Administration of Family Caregiver Grants Pilot

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.3-Household Assistance: Cash Transfers

### Project Overview

Project Description

The department, in cooperation with area agencies on aging, shall establish the Family Caregiver Grant Pilot Program to increase the number of families served by the Respite Care Fund, alleviate costs associated with providing in-home care of an adult, provide a family caregiver grant to increase economic security for family caregivers and examine the needs and preferences of the families served by the Respite Care Fund and the pilot program.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in December 2021 and program activities are ongoing as of 10/01/2022.

Partners

Aroostook Agency on Aging, Eastern Area Agency on Aging, Spectrum Generation, Seniors Plus, Southern Maine Agency on Aging

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/respite-me-family-caregiver-grants-pilot-program>

### Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*



Yes



No



Not Applicable

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$0

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe evaluation design as noted in **Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance** and Reporting Guidance pg. 38 \*

As Respite for ME is implemented, several data points will inform the program process outcomes: dates of application, eligibility determination, and receipt of services; and the demographic information and number of service recipients. Program impact will be measured through analyzing self-reported changes in caregiver burden/stress/wellbeing, caregiver desire to institutionalize their family member, and caregiver desire and ability to remain in the workforce as impacted by their caregiving responsibilities. Reassessments of caregivers will be conducted 90 days after the caregiver receives services funded by the pilot.

## Key Performance Indicators

An unduplicated count of individuals receiving respite care, assistive technology, home modification and family caregiver grants under section 3; \*

please refer to CC.90.1

The amount of funds that were expended for respite care, assistive technology, home modification and family caregiver grants; \*

please refer to CC.90.1

The demographics of eligible family caregivers receiving services under the pilot program, including, but not limited to, age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, income and county of residence; \*

please refer to CC.90.1

The number of eligible family caregivers on waiting lists for services under the pilot program and the demographics of those family caregivers, including, but not limited to, age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, income and county of residence; \*

please refer to CC.90.1

The time between application and eligibility determination by the department or its contracted designee; \*

please refer to CC.90.1

The time between application for and receipt of services provided under the pilot program; \*

please refer to CC.90.1

An assessment of the extent to which services provided under the pilot program kept individuals cared for by eligible family caregivers out of institutional care or delayed transfer to an institutional level of care; and \*

please refer to CC.90.1

Any recommendations for changes related to the adequacy of the Respite Care Fund and the scope of services provided and recommendations for continuing the pilot program. \*

please refer to CC.90.1

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

References to CC.90.1 are provided as it is part of one overall initiative

Number of households receiving household assistance \*

please refer to CC.90.1

## Evaluate Family Caregiver Grants Pilot

### Project Information

Control Number \*

CC.92.1

Funding Amount

\$150,000

Initiative Name

Evaluate Family Caregiver Grants Pilot

Project Name

Evaluate Family Caregiver Grants Pilot

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.3-Household Assistance: Cash Transfers

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Department of Health and Human Services, in cooperation with area agencies on aging, is establishing the Family Caregiver Grant Pilot Program. This program will increase the number of families served by the Respite Care Fund, alleviate costs associated with providing in-home care of an adult, provide a family caregiver grant to increase economic security for family caregivers and examine the needs and preferences of the families served by the Respite Care Fund and the pilot program. This initiative provides one-time funding to the Respite Care Fund to contract with a 3rd party for an evaluation of the pilot program

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in December 2021 and program activities are ongoing as of 10/01/2022.

Partners

N/A

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/respite-me-family-caregiver-grants-pilot-program>

### Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$0

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe evaluation design as noted in **Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance** and Reporting Guidance pg. 38 \*

As Respite for ME is implemented, several data points will inform the program process outcomes: dates of application, eligibility determination, and receipt of services; and the demographic information and number of service recipients. Program impact will be measured through analyzing self-reported changes in caregiver burden/stress/wellbeing, caregiver desire to institutionalize their family member, and caregiver desire and ability to remain in the workforce as impacted by their caregiving responsibilities. Reassessments of caregivers will be conducted 90 days after the caregiver receives services funded by the pilot.

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of households receiving household assistance \*

please refer to CC.90.1

An unduplicated count of individuals receiving respite care, assistive technology, home modification and family caregiver grants under section 3; \*

please refer to CC.90.1

The amount of funds that were expended for respite care, assistive technology, home modification and family caregiver grants; \*

please refer to CC.90.1

The demographics of eligible family caregivers receiving services under the pilot program, including, but not limited to, age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, income and county of residence; \*

please refer to CC.90.1

The number of eligible family caregivers on waiting lists for services under the pilot program and the demographics of those family caregivers, including, but not limited to, age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, income and county of residence; \*

please refer to CC.90.1

The time between application and eligibility determination by the department or its contracted designee; \*

please refer to CC.90.1

The time between application for and receipt of services provided under the pilot program; \*

please refer to CC.90.1

An assessment of the extent to which services provided under the pilot program kept individuals cared for by eligible family caregivers out of institutional care or delayed transfer to an institutional level of care; and \*

please refer to CC.90.1

Any recommendations for changes related to the adequacy of the Respite Care Fund and the scope of services provided and recommendations for continuing the pilot program. \*

please refer to CC.90.1

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Reference to CC.90.1 is provided as it is part of one overall initiative.



## Unemployment Compensation

### Project Information

Control Number \*

D.8.1

Funding Amount

\$28,517,356

Initiative Name

Unemployment Compensation

Project Name

Unemployment Compensation

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.28-Contributions to UI Trust Funds

### Project Overview

Project Description

To help replenish the unemployment trust fund as a result of increased unemployment due to COVID 19.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in October 2021 and program activities are fully complete as of 02/03/2022.

Partners

Department of Administrative and Financial Services helps to ensure that the transfer of funds takes place.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/replenish-maine-unemployment-trust-fund>

### Key Performance Indicators

Employer tax implications of UI trust fund & solvency of fund \*

The \$80 million transfer into Maine's unemployment trust fund offset a portion of the unprecedented benefit payments made from the state's trust fund and a portion of the lost revenue during the COVID-19 pandemic. These funds prevented an unemployment tax increase of approximately 56% in calendar year 2022. Without the infusion of ARPA funds, Maine employers would have had to contribute the additional \$80 million at time when they were already negatively affected by the pandemic. The impact compounds, as restoring the trust fund to a healthy fund balance would impact tax rates in multiple years.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Reporting is for Business Case D.8.2 as well

## Unemployment Compensation (Revenue replacement)

### Project Information

Control Number \*

D.8.2

Funding Amount

\$51,482,644

Initiative Name

Unemployment Compensation

Project Name

Unemployment Compensation (Revenue replacement)

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

To help replenish the unemployment trust fund as a result of increased unemployment due to COVID 19.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in October 2021 and program activities are fully complete as of 02/03/2022.

Partners

Department of Administrative and Financial Services helps to ensure that the transfer of funds takes place.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/replenish-maine-unemployment-trust-fund>

### Key Performance Indicators

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results

Reporting is for Business Case D.8.1 as well

## Employer tax implications of UI trust fund & solvency of fund

The \$80 million transfer into Maine's unemployment trust fund offset a portion of the unprecedented benefit payments made from the state's trust fund and a portion of the lost revenue during the COVID-19 pandemic. These funds prevented an unemployment tax increase of approximately 56% in calendar year 2022. Without the infusion of ARPA funds, Maine employers would have had to contribute the additional \$80 million at time when they were already negatively affected by the pandemic. The impact compounds, as restoring the trust fund to a healthy fund balance would impact tax rates in multiple years.

## New Business Grants

### Project Information

Control Number \*

E.9.1

Funding Amount

\$6,000,000

Initiative Name

New Business Grants

Project Name

New Business Grants

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan's elements to provide immediate economic recovery recognize that it remains crucial to support Maine's employers to get through this difficult time. Maine's businesses, founders, owners and employees, no matter how resilient, persistent, and creative, have had a difficult 18 months and will continue to do so with customer patterns, supply chain disruptions, and workforce challenges continuing into the near future. This has been particularly true for some of our early stage businesses and entrepreneurs who have slipped through the cracks of the public relief programs that were based on financial records unavailable to early stage business owners. Maine has at least 14,000 new businesses that were started or purchased in 2020 and 10,598 to date in 2021 (per Secretary of State business registration data).

This program will offer grants to early stage companies and entrepreneurs who have not be able to take full advantage of other economic recovery programs or have had additional difficulties as the pandemic has continued to progress.

The benefits to these early stage companies and entrepreneurs will be immediate in terms of meeting needs for survival and delayed growth opportunities. It will also give these companies the additional runway they need to meet the growth projections whose assumptions were waylaid by the pandemic and its lingering economic and market effects.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in November 2021 and program activities are ongoing as of 01/20/2023.

Partners

We have worked with multiple partner organizations and networks in the structuring of this initiative. Key partners include the Maine Accelerates Growth network, the SBA Service Provider Network , Main Street Maine and the Maine Downtown Center, and the Economic Development Districts (multiple orgs). We have also worked directly with the 15 identified "spokes" in our MAINE (Maine Access and Inclusion Network for Entrepreneurs) Hub and Spoke initiative submitted to the SBA for funding consideration. These spokes represent different under-represented identities and communities in Maine.

Economic Development Districts:

Northern Maine Development Corporation

Greater Portland Council of Governments  
Eastern Maine Development Corporation  
Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments  
Mid Coast Economic Development District  
Kennebec Valley Council of Governments  
Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission

In addition to the EDDs listed in Step one, we are exploring contracting with Maine Technology Institute, a key Department of Economic and Community Development partner, to help manage the grant process. This partnership could provide key synergies and let this program serve as a “dry run” for some of the elements of the grant program Maine Technology Institute will be managing in later rounds of ARPA funding.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/new-business-recovery-grants>

## Key Performance Indicators

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The Economic Recovery Hub Initiatives consist of business cases E.9, E.10, F.12, and F.13. There may be some overlap between the metrics provided. Metrics for these business cases should be viewed as a measure of the health of the overarching Economic Recovery Hub Initiative.

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

290--Midcoast: 22; Southern Maine: 43; Eastern Maine: 56; Central Maine: 29; Greater Portland: 43; Northern Maine: 97

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

519--MCOG: 25; SMPDC: 61; EMDC: 175; CMGC 33; GPCOG 110; NMDC: 115

Above metrics cutting across under-represented demographics – For each of the above categories – we will review the available data around percentages of minority, women, or DBE and report on how well we have reached these demographics

MCOG: 11  
SMPDC: 42 TA/24 EA and 11 of these businesses/orgs received both types of support for a total of 55 businesses/orgs  
EMDC: EA - 56 total/38 women owned, 15 BIPOC owned (8 women and BIPOC owned), 4 Veteran owned and for TA - 153 total/ 99 women-owned, 58 BIPOC owned (32 Women and BIPOC Owned), 12 Veteran owned  
CMGC: 13 EA/ 16 TA  
GPCOG: 32 of 43 (74%) went to grantees identifying as BIPOC  
NMDC: 58

## New Business Tech Assistance

### Project Information

Control Number \*

E.10.1

Funding Amount

\$2,000,000

Initiative Name

New Business Tech Assistance

Project Name

New Business Tech Assistance

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.30-Technical Assistance, Counseling, or Business Planning

### Project Overview

Project Description

Maine has at least 14,000 new businesses that were started or purchased in 2020 and 10,598 through October 2021. The New Business Recovery Technical Assistance program will offer business counseling services to these new businesses, along with entrepreneurs who recently acquired Maine businesses, so that they may more readily access New Business Recovery Grants and other pandemic recovery resources. By delivering this counseling through local small business assistance programs and community organizations, the Department of Economic and Community Development will also strengthen the capacity of Maine's entrepreneurial support providers. The project design is based on the research and feedback received during the pandemic and our initial recovery efforts. This support will be focused on Maine businesses that started after January 1, 2020 and have fewer than 250 employees. Small business startups have been impacted by the pandemic in many ways; inability to raise funds, access to capital, a change in planned customer channels, increased cost to do business, workforce challenges. The technical assistance provider will document the individual business loss reason due to COVID in one of the approved categories listed above.

This funding will be deployed in coordination with other funding opportunities in a competitive process to ensure a footprint across all of Maine's Economic Summary/Regional Areas.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in July 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 01/20/2023.

Partners

We have worked with multiple partner organizations and networks in the structuring of this initiative. Key partners include the Maine Accelerates Growth network, the SBA Service Provider Network, Main Street Maine and the Maine Downtown Center, and the Economic Development Districts (multiple orgs). We have also worked directly with the 15 identified "spokes" in our MAINE (Maine Access and Inclusion Network for Entrepreneurs) Hub and Spoke initiative submitted to the SBA for funding consideration. These spokes represent different under-represented identities and communities in Maine.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/new-business-recovery-technical-assistance>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

During the Maine Economic Recovery Grant rounds, DECD tracked the demographics of the applicants and recipients of funds and found that the deliberate outreach to and network building with companies founded by or serving BIPOC communities allowed DECD's grants to exceed the equivalent population percentages.

In addition, the "Small Businesses of Color Recovery Guide" published in 2020 by the Federal Reserve Banks of Kansas City and Atlanta, recommends grants as a key part of the recovery for small businesses of color. This guide is heavily informed by Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta and Kansas City outreach and a long form questionnaire that gathered responses from 20 small business support providers from around the nation who work with small business owners of color. This guide strongly recommends grants as an option for recovery noting: "Many businesses had somewhat limited revenue and have little capacity to take on debt. They don't need to come out of the crisis with debt..."

This guide also emphasizes the importance of general business education and supports as a crucial companion to capital. Precisely the combination envisioned with E.9.1 and E.10.1 as complementary initiatives. DECD will use the existing evidence base for the interventions for project E.10.1 and E.9.1.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$2,000,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

207 businesses have received economic aid as part of the technical assistance offered by the regional Economic Development Hubs -- Midcoast: 0; Southern Maine: 43; Eastern Maine 56; Central Maine 25; Androscoggin Valley: 29; Greater Portland: 47; Northern Maine: 7.

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

Regional economic hubs that have been launched have reported a total of 885 businesses or communities receiving technical assistance related to new business ventures. Individual reported figures are: Midcoast: 90; Southern Maine: 61; Eastern Maine: 175; Central Maine: 135; Androscoggin Valley: 106; Greater Portland: 138; Northern Maine: 180.



If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The Economic Recovery Hub Initiatives consist of business cases E.9, E.10, F.12, and F.13. There may be some overlap between the metrics provided. Metrics for these business cases should be viewed as a measure of the health of the overarching Economic Recovery Hub Initiative.

## Wharf Renovation, Improve Marine Research & Jobs

### Project Information

Control Number \*

EE.94.1

Funding Amount

\$2,000,000

Initiative Name

Wharf Renovation, Improve Marine Research & Jobs

Project Name

Wharf Renovation, Improve Marine Research & Jobs

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

The seafood supply chain was brought to a halt regionally, nationally, and internationally by COVID-19. To recover swiftly in Maine, fishing and fish-processing businesses need access to harbors with modernized seafood infrastructure to quickly offload and deliver wild and farmed seafood products to market. These funds will help complete the renovation of a wharf and bulkhead at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute to provide additional commercial fishing vessel berthing that support fishing, aquaculture, and seafood supply-chain jobs.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in September 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 09/20/2023.

Partners

N/A

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/renovate-wrights-wharf-and-bulkhead-improve-access-seafood-businesses>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

16

Output Measure: Actual Project Cost vs. Budgeted Project Cost (based on data provided by construction partner monthly and reviewed by GMRI management and consulting engineer)

\$2,000,000 out of \$2,000,000. 4/3/25 GEI invoice and 4/17/25 Wyman & Simpson invoice approved by GEI Engineers.

Output Measure: Actual Project Completion vs. Schedule (based on data provided by construction partner monthly and reviewed by GMRI management and consulting engineer)

94% complete vs. schedule. June 16, 2025, project progress meeting with Wyman & Simpson, construction firm.

Outcome Measure: Number of Fishing Vessels Served (based on data collected by GMRI on actual number of vessels served annually for five years following completion of construction);

0, project not complete.

Outcome Measure: Racial and Economic Attributes of Employees Working on Vessels Berthed and Seafood Processing Facilities Constructed (based on employment data secured from vessel and seafood processing facility owners).

0, project not complete.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Construction will be tracked weekly with 1. bi-weekly progress meetings for GMRI with the construction firm (Wyman & Simpson) and engineers (GEI), 2. written reports of completed work from Wyman & Simpson, 3. a bi-weekly schedule of upcoming work. The final project report regarding project actual cost vs. budget, actual timeline vs. projected timeline, and demographics of construction personnel will draw from GMRI's accounting database vs. submitted ARPA budget, actual timeline from GMRI project management software vs. projected project timeline from Wyman & Simpson, and personnel demographics supplied by Wyman & Simpson. Annual data will be collected by GMRI through vessel leases and interviews with vessel tenants.

## Social Services Program Specialists

### Project Information

Control Number \*

EE.96.1

Funding Amount

\$586,461.61

Initiative Name

Social Services Program Specialists

Project Name

Social Services Program Specialists

Sub-Expenditure Category

3.1-Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers

### Project Overview

Project Description

This initiative establishes three limited period positions for the Division of Contract Management to support the additional volume of procurement documents (RFPs, contracts, amendments, etc) processed by the division. The major milestones include: 1) creation of the positions, 2) filling the positions and 3) ongoing monitoring of procurement processing performance metrics to ensure the resources are being utilized to best support the efficiency of the workload. Additionally, the Department/Division will provide reporting with respect to the number of Division FTE's responding to COVID-19 supporting under this authority. This will be summarized between RFP (Request for Proposal) work and Contract related work (new contracts, amendments, invoices, etc).

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in May 2022 and Program expenditures are fully completed as of 12/31/2024.

Partners

N/A

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/improve-contract-management-and-equity-data>

### Key Performance Indicators

#### Division processing metrics \*

The Division of Contract Management (DCM) monitored key metrics to ensure work flowed through the team smoothly and monitored for backlogs. Trend reports included the following: invoices in process by stage, invoice processing time by age, count of contract documents in process by age, and contract document processing time by stage.

The Division monitors back log of contracts and invoices for processing. The Division will also monitor turnaround time for these contract, RFPs and invoices. \*

Trend reports indicate a stabilization of volume and processing times for contracts, RFPs and invoices.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The three limited period positions have been essential to assisting DCM in stabilizing the processing throughput for the different areas within the division. All positions were created, filled, and actively performing work. These positions have helped by providing additional capacity for the work as well as helping to improve and document division processes. This includes the additional volume of RFPs, contracts, and invoices due to the influx of funding and secondary grants to support the response to COVID-19 and recovery.

## Grants for Homeless Shelters

### Project Information

Control Number \*

EE.98.1

Funding Amount

\$13,358,654.83

Initiative Name

Grants for Homeless Shelters

Project Name

Grants for Homeless Shelters

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.16-Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons

### Project Overview

Project Description

This will provide one-time flexible funding to existing homeless shelters that participate in the Emergency Shelter and Housing Assistance Program (ESHAP) through MaineHousing. The funding is intended to provide for any operations, building maintenance or capital improvement expenses they will need to cover in the next two years.

The funding would be distributed in a one-time up-front payment to shelter providers based on the ESHAP Shelter Operations Share formula established through the Maine Homeless Solutions Rule (November 2019). Funds will be disbursed such that each emergency shelter will receive a percentage equal to its Bed Capacity divided by a number equal to the total Bed Capacity available statewide for the calendar year. Shelters meeting the criteria for 'low barrier' shelter and those serving homeless youth will receive a weighting of 1.25% for each bed, as agreed upon by the Maine Shelter Network.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2022 and program activities are fully complete as of 07/31/2026.

Partners

MaineHousing worked with the Maine Shelter Network (MSN), which is comprised of shelter directors of all shelters participating in the MaineHousing Emergency Shelter and Housing Assistance Program. The MSN provided the recommendation to disburse this funding through the Homeless Solutions Rule funding formula after consideration of a host of options. The Governor's Office also provided positive input on the recommendation.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/grants-homeless-shelters>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

Emergency Shelters are part of a best practice continuum of interventions to address homelessness, from homelessness diversion through to placement in permanent housing. Best practice for emergency shelter is twenty-four hour service that meets basic needs for shelter, food and hygiene, along with a range of services that lead to permanent housing stability. Housing Navigation and Stability services offered by all shelters participating in MaineHousing's Emergency Shelter and Housing Assistance Program are based on the Housing First approach. The Center for Evidence Based Solutions to Homelessness recognizes the Housing First philosophy, which prioritizes quickly providing permanent housing to individuals and families experiencing homelessness, and doing so with minimum preconditions or barriers, as an evidenced-based approach. This approach offers supportive services to households following lease up. Research has shown that Housing First programs increase housing stability for clients served, are cost effective compared to traditional services that impose sobriety prerequisites to housing and increase client utilization of other supportive services. There is a significant body of research and evidence that documents the positive impacts of housing stability—and the negative impacts of housing instability—on families and individuals.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$13,358,654.83

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

Funds were awarded to 36 shelters run by 23 agencies. The additional reallocated funds received for this project in 2025 are awarded to 39 shelters run by 24 agencies.

Number of shelters operating 24/7 \*

39 shelters operating 24/7

Number of individuals/families served \*

Individuals: 7517  
Person in Families: 2652

Household composition, including age, gender and race/ethnicity of family members. \*

|                                               |       |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------|
| Age                                           | Total |
| Under 5                                       | 521   |
| 5 - 12                                        | 615   |
| 13 - 17                                       | 474   |
| 18 - 24                                       | 1105  |
| 25 - 34                                       | 2076  |
| 35 - 44                                       | 2389  |
| 45 - 54                                       | 1534  |
| 55 - 61                                       | 1013  |
| 62 +                                          | 436   |
| Race                                          | Total |
| White                                         | 6415  |
| Black, African American, or African           | 2714  |
| Asian or Asian American                       | 53    |
| American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous | 127   |
| Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander           | 22    |
| Multiple Races                                | 664   |
| Ethnicity                                     | Total |
| Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)               | 9778  |
| Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)                       | 391   |

Household income. \*

|                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Cash Income - Ranges | Income at Start |
| No Income            | 5169            |
| \$1 - \$150          | 22              |
| \$151 - \$250        | 25              |
| \$251 - \$500        | 128             |
| \$501 - \$1000       | 1226            |
| \$1001 - \$1500      | 598             |
| \$1501 - \$2000      | 497             |
| \$2001+              | 734             |

- Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation) \*

|     |
|-----|
| N/A |
|-----|

- Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed \*

|     |
|-----|
| N/A |
|-----|



If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Data for this report is collected through our Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and through the comparable database that our Victim Service Providers utilize. For this system, clients can refuse to answer or report that they do not know the answer. Because of this, totals in response categories (i.e. race, gender) may not always add up to total individuals/persons in families served. Due to the cumulative nature of this report, some areas did not see large increases from the last report, as it is taking longer for guests to be housed from shelter in the current market. Shelter beds are still full, but often occupied by the same guests for longer periods of time than we experienced pre-covid.

The total number of clients served represents clients served by shelters that received this funding during the time report time frame but because shelters receive multiple funding sources, these clients were not supported in totality by this funding alone. Many funding sources are braided together to support shelter operations, maintenance, and capital improvements, in turn benefitting this count of clients, so we have reported on the total shelter population served at shelters that received State ARPA funds.

## Counsel Fees to Support Cases Caused by COVID-19

### Project Information

Control Number \*

EE.99.1

Funding Amount

\$4,000,000

Initiative Name

MCILS Funding for Case Backlog

Project Name

Counsel Fees to Support Cases Caused by COVID-19

Sub-Expenditure Category

3.5-Public Sector Capacity: Administrative Needs

### Project Overview

Project Description

Limitations on the Courts' ability to address pending criminal cases under pandemic conditions resulted in a large increase in the number of pending cases. At the same time, the prevailing conditions caused a decrease in the number of counsel available to serve the clients in those cases. This project allocates additional funding to assigned counsel to support the defense of those cases.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in October 2021 and program activities are fully complete as of 06/08/2023.

Partners

N/A

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/expand-legal-services-low-income-mainers>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of consumers of indigent legal services receiving services: MCILS collects and tracks data on the number of consumers of indigent legal services receiving services in the ordinary course. MCILS will in addition track which of those consumers are served through money made available through this initiative. \*

During the period between May 10, 2022 and February 26, 2023, there were 12,151 individual cases in which consumers of indigent legal services received representation from Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services (MCILS) rostered counsel in adult criminal matters.

Output measures will include clients served; cases staffed; and hours worked, all as funded by this initiative. \*

This initiative funded \$4 million dollars' worth of counsel fee payments made by MCILS to private assigned counsel who are rostered to take court assigned adult criminal cases. This funding allowed assigned counsel to serve 12,151 clients, totaling 59,139 hours' worth of work accomplished in these matters.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

During this period from May 2022 to February 2023, the Judicial Branch was facing an extraordinary large backlog of criminal matters due to the court closures during the pandemic.

## Career Center Consultants

### Project Information

Control Number \*

EE.100.1

Funding Amount

\$2,552,346

Initiative Name

Career Center Consultants

Project Name

Career Center Consultants

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

The ARPA resources will expand capacity to provide intensive services to unemployed and underemployed job seekers—with a specific emphasis on communities that experienced disproportionate effects of COVID-19—including BIPOC communities, those with lower educational attainment, justice-involved, immigrant communities, and more. Job seekers will get help overcoming skill deficiencies, accessing supports to overcome barriers such as childcare and transportation, and an opportunity to receive continued follow-up support and guidance as they find suitable employment and start in new jobs.

The initiative is also important to business who are experiencing a shortage of workers. Many lost workers due to factors named above and others are experiencing a surge in business and are increasing staffing levels based on increased business in their sector. This initiative will dovetail efforts to fill openings with efforts to guide and prepare individuals for those in-demand jobs. It will provide direct connection and referral for individuals who have required qualifications, and will help individuals without needed skills access education and training resources to bridge the skills gap.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in December 2021 and SLFRF program expenditures completed as of 09/30/2024 ongoing program activities will be reported as appropriate.

Partners

While no other state agencies or external organizations are immediately involved in the planning efforts of this initiative, we envision collaborating closely with different partners to implement this work, including:

- Community-based organizations who have existing relationships with individuals who may need career counselling assistance and/or connection to other workforce supports
- Local service providers who may offer additional services to support job search, training, and/or employment-related needs.
- Employer/business community

Other outreach worker initiatives Department of Education or Department of Health and Human Services to ensure a coordinated support approach among similar priority communities

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/career-counseling-mainers-seeking-work>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

In a June 2021 report prepared for the U.S. Department of Labor by Mathematica and Social Policy Research associates, it is stated that “job seekers assigned to receive intensive services—assistance through one-on-one counseling and workshops—achieved higher employment and earnings than those with access only to self-service resources.” It reported that “the intensive services group had earnings that were approximately \$3,300 higher across 36 months than the self-services group.” The goal of this initiative is to reach populations who have been underserved and help them understand their existing strengths, how to overcome skill deficits and other challenges, gain confidence in their skills and employability, and connect to good employment, and/or education/training opportunities and supports. We believe that with these individualized intensive services, these individuals will find quality employment faster than if they hadn't received the services. The funds under this initiative will be spent on activities that will help us learn the direct public benefit on employment and wages for the individuals and populations served.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$2,552,346

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

• Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

n/a

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Outcomes metrics such as employment lag behind participation metrics

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

0--to reduce duplication, all employer services are recorded in business case P.50

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

3537

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

1470 customers who have exited the program 6 months ago are employed in Maine--with 561 newly employed (first time receiving wages) in Maine

• Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

303

• Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

Not captured at this time

Analysis of demographics of customers receiving services. Demographic information on individuals served by the CareerCenter Counselors will be collected via MJL and will be reviewed quarterly to monitor which communities are accessing services, and within those communities which populations, including a disaggregation by race and ethnicity. Age range, veteran status, socioeconomic status, disability, and ethnicity/race will be tracked & disaggregated. Wages: In addition, we will track median earnings of initiative participants to determine success at matching individuals with quality jobs. This data will be gathered from unemployment insurance wage records as reported by employers. The wage record information is recoded in the Maine JobLink through a system interface and will be included in quarterly reports. Satisfaction of jobseekers and employers: After customers are served, we will seek to understand their level of satisfaction with the service provided and outcome achieved. This will be captured in a variety of ways—online through surveys via email & chat, over the phone and in-person. \*

Age: 10% 16-24 yr old, 25% 55+

Disability: 413 participants with disability

Substance use: 346 participants in recovery

## Restoration of Shoreside Infrastructure in Castine

### Project Information

Control Number \*

EE.101.1

Funding Amount

\$2,000,000

Initiative Name

Restoration of Shoreside Infrastructure in Castine

Project Name

Restoration of Shoreside Infrastructure in Castine

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

Students at Maine Maritime Academy, a STEM-focused public college located in Castine, participate in on-ship education and training to receive their U.S. Coast Guard licenses. With this investment, the Academy will upgrade facilities needed to service a replacement training ship so it may continue to offer cutting-edge at-sea training for students and adapt to the changing needs of the maritime industry.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are fully complete as of 02/06/2024.

Partners

State agencies and external partners will include the Department of Transportation, Department of Environmental Protection, Town of Castine, as well as drinking water, wastewater treatment, electric, energy and communication providers and local, state and federal regulatory agencies.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/upgrade-waterfront-facilities-maine-maritime-academy>

### Key Performance Indicators

Completion of the infrastructure improvements. \*

The pier and waterfront renovation is anticipated to be complete by 8/31/2026.

Completion of design & engineering documents. \*

Design and engineering documents are 100% complete.

Acquisition of required permits. \*

This is 100% complete.

Secure funding for construction. \*

MMA has secured funding from both MARAD and other sources to fund the necessary renovations for infrastructure needed to secure the new training ship to be delivered to the Academy.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A



## Improve Infrastructure - Emergency Alert System

### Project Information

Control Number \*

EE.102.1

Funding Amount

\$10,000,000

Initiative Name

Improve Infrastructure - Emergency Alert System

Project Name

Improve Infrastructure - Emergency Alert System

Sub-Expenditure Category

3.4-Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

### Project Overview

Project Description

Maine Public's broadcast network functions as Maine's primary distributor of Emergency Alert System notices during emergencies. This investment will enable Maine Public to replace transmitters, studio components, and other equipment that have reached the end of their useful lifespans so that the system can maintain its ability to reach every home and vehicle in Maine during times of crisis.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in July 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 07/01/2023.

Partners

Maine CDC - Dr. Nirav D. Shah, Dr. Shah's team has worked with Maine Public during the Covid crisis to produce and disseminate daily, bi-weekly, and special broadcasts throughout the pandemic.

Maine Emergency Management Agency – We partner with Maine Emergency Management Agency regarding the Maine State EAS plan, the Skyscraper datacasting system, and any public safety messages the Governor's office or Maine Emergency Management Agency needs to be transmitted across the State.

Maine Department of Education - During the pandemic, Maine Public and the Dept. of Education partnered with "The Learning Space".

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/improve-infrastructure-emergency-alert-system>

## Key Performance Indicators

Equipment Implementation. Track each equipment upgrade as they are implemented (monitored by our CTO, every 6 months). \*

The construction of the new television transmitters and antennas and the upgrade to the microwave backbone are complete.  
We have completed upgrading television encoders to new technology.  
Back-up generators for our two most extensive broadcast facilities are complete.

Use of Maine Vendors. Track use of Maine vendors for the project (% share of spending) (monitored by our Controller, every 6 months) \*

We have purchased \$1,223,000 of made in Maine Dielectric antennas.  
We have paid \$393,000 in electrical upgrades done by local electricians.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

We are on track with time and budget. Our last major outstanding item is the delivery of the production truck, which is now scheduled for the first week of October. All the infrastructure upgrades we have implemented have hardened our ability to distribute public alerting messages and prepared our network for upcoming technology changes to allow for advanced alerts to the public. This project allowed us to replace some hardware in place since the early 60s.

The delivery of the production truck has been delayed until August of 2025. Once we receive delivery of the truck, our project will be complete.

# Reducing Disparities Through Community Engagement

## Project Information

Control Number \*

EE.103.1

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000

Initiative Name

Healthcare Strategy - Reduce Disparity

Project Name

Reducing Disparities Through Community Engagement

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.37-Economic Impact Assistance: Other

## Project Overview

Project Description

Provides one-time funds to support the development of a strategy and one-time investments in public health infrastructure to reduce disparities in outcomes for residents of the State in racial, Indigenous, and tribal communities, and residents who may belong to the aforementioned groups and have low incomes, belong to the LGBTQ+ community, are disabled, or have other facets of their identities that have historically created heightened disparities and negative outcomes due to discrimination, lack of resources, and unequal rights and treatment. Funds will aid in the creation of: the dee Clarke Justice Policy Fellowship, which is designed for members of racial, Indigenous, and tribal communities to increase engagement in policy creation to mitigate harm and disparities, and the Health Equity Impact Analysis Program, which aim to build equity into state and legislative-level decision making from bill to implementation, as well as internal policies and practices. Funding will aid in continuing critical truth and reconciliation work that centers on community engagement and seeks to facilitate healing and create solutions for ongoing disparities exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health crisis. Additionally, it will support the growth of a multi-stakeholder project known as Public Health Community Hubs, which supports self-determination of communities in building public health infrastructure and solutions.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in August 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/06/2023.

Partners

The University of Maine Cutler Institute (ongoing partner with Truth-Seeking Initiative) Scholar Strategy Network. Once the project team for developing HEIA Program is assembled, cross-Department collaboration is hoped for and anticipated with Office of Population Health Equity and other Department of Environmental Protectionartment DEI/DEI-adjacent leads.

Community Hubs Partners: The Bingham Program, Maine Public Health Association , Children's Oral Health Network of Maine, Healthy Communities of the Capitol Area , Helping Hands/Maine Highlands Investment Partnership, Maine Resilience Building Network, Public Health Reimagined.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/fellowship-program-reduce-health-inequities>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$0

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program (Internal record-keeping of who and how many individuals are selected for the fellowship program. The frequency it will be reviewed is every cycle of fellows (every 3 to 6 months). This will be reviewed by Commissioners, the executive director, community engagement director, and the fellowship manager. Demographics will be disaggregated. There will also be a self-evaluation by participants of the program. \*

The pilot phase of the fellowship program concluded in May 2025, with 4 fellows learning skills related to research, policy, and community engagement, and completing a self-designed project that each brought together dozens of community members to build stronger community connections. A strong group of community mentors was established and continues to provide ongoing mentoring.

Number of state departments engaged to evaluate equity in policy and practices, as the policies or practices pertain to improving, or impacting, community conditions/social determinants of health for historically under-resourced and marginalized communities: All. \*

From Sep '24 - Jun 25, over 200 state employees across agencies were provided with training by Wabanaki REACH "Interacting with Wabanaki-Maine history", which connects the historic experience of Wabanaki people with current status. The vast majority of participants reported that this impacted how they think about and approach their work as it relates to and impacts Wabanaki Nations.

Health Equity Impact Analysis Program (demonstration/pilot phase), product deliverable metrics: 1) Evaluate at least five statutes related to community conditions/social determinants of health in implementation/rule making phase for equity implications; 2) One policy or practice by state department for equity implications and impacts; 3) 10% of bills introduced related to public health and/or community conditions/social determinants of health in the first regular session. Project team and project staff will collect data and evaluate process with support from PC permanent staff and contracted evaluator. \*

From Sep 2024 - Jun 2025, 20 testimonies were provided to the legislature to provide information and context about the equity implications of policy proposals.  
Two agencies received specialist input from staff on equity impacts and implications: one through a Department of Health and Human Services working group on prevention of commercial child sexual exploitation, and one through a Governor's Office working group on ending hunger.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

n/a

## Business Diversity

### Project Information

Control Number \*

F.11.1

Funding Amount

\$1,407,864.93

Initiative Name

Business Diversity

Project Name

Business Diversity

Sub-Expenditure Category

3.4-Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

### Project Overview

Project Description

With funding from the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, the Division of Procurement Services at the Department of Administrative and Financial Services will develop new systems and processes to encourage a more diverse mix of businesses and organizations to participate in State and Federally funded grants and contracts. These efforts will include an internal and an external focus, cultivating a strong DEI framework by establishing policy, process, technology, and the organization needed to create and maintain a sustainable DEI program.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in November 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 06/01/2023.

Partners

State of Maine Office of Procurement Services has engaged with Center for Women and Enterprise (CWE), an agency that is currently collaborating with and supporting other New England States to develop sustainable DEI plans. Additionally, there is the opportunity to capitalize on other MJRP projects with DEI focus on training and technical assistance. These initiatives may provide a pool of BIPOC and other vendors available to be onboarded into the State's vendor system.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/underrepresented-entrepreneurs-training-state-procurement-navigation-programs>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

Due to program implementation status, data is not yet available. The Office of State Procurement Services (OSPS) continues to deliver technical assistance to all vendors as needed. OSPS is in the preliminary stages of developing a "Maine Accessible Procurement" (MAP) portal with B2G Now that could catalog and analyze vendors, new vendor contracts, and target technical assistance. The MAP Coordinator has conducted market research on existing technical assistance programs, e.g. the Maine APEX Accelerator, the Maine Small Business Development Centers, and the Veterans Business Outreach Center of New England. The MAP program coordinator regularly attends internal and interagency meetings to identify opportunities for collaboration. Additionally, the Senior Manager of Competitive Bidding attended the APEX Accelerator Expo with the Dept. of Economic and Community Development to discuss questions and concerns regarding the statutory competitive process one-on-one with Maine small businesses.

Number of new vendor requests from small businesses that are owned and operated by BIPOC individuals, women, veterans, those identifying as LGBT, and disabled veterans ( including service disabled) \*

Due to program implementation status, data is not yet available. Pre-implementation continues on the Maine Accessible Procurement (MAP) portal. The MAP program coordinator continues to provide general customer service to vendors and to conduct informal qualitative research on vendor utilization of existing outside certifications (e.g. with the federal SBA database).

Number of new vendor approvals from small businesses that are owned and operated by BIPOC individuals, women, veterans, those identifying as LGBT, and disabled veterans ( including service disabled) \*

Due to program implementation status, data is not yet available. OSPS is in the preliminary stages of developing a "Maine Accessible Procurement" (MAP) portal with B2G Now that could catalog and analyze vendors and new vendor contracts. OSPS is considering current systems like CGI Advantage to determine whether their pre-built data fields in the Vendor Self-Service (VSS) system can be made available to all vendors.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

OSPS contracted with Keen Independent Research LLC in November 2024 to conduct a vendor utilization study on historic trends in State spending and barriers to entry for prospective vendors. This work has been temporarily paused due to revisions of the deliverables. OSPS is working with Keen to process an amendment to adjust the research scope.

OSPS has completed an assessment of the preliminary B2G module and is considering a potential migration to an adjacent module that will offer better facilitation of our self-reporting strategy.

Number of new vendor contracts awarded to small businesses that are owned and operated by BIPOC individuals, women, veterans, those identifying as LGBT, and disabled veterans ( including service disabled) \*

Due to program implementation status, data is not yet available. OSPS is in the preliminary stages of developing a "Maine Accessible Procurement" (MAP) portal with B2G Now that could catalog and analyze vendors and new vendor contracts. OSPS has conducted internal analysis of existing vendors and identified 1,483 small businesses in Maine as reported in the federal SBA database, including 11 8(a) certified socially or economically disadvantaged businesses, 27 businesses in economically disadvantaged geographic areas ("HUBZones"), 47 women-owned businesses, 22 veteran-owned businesses, and 55 service-disabled veteran-owned businesses.

## Technical Assistance Diversity

### Project Information

Control Number \*

F.12.1

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000

Initiative Name

Technical Assistance Diversity

Project Name

Technical Assistance Diversity

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.30-Technical Assistance, Counseling, or Business Planning

### Project Overview

Project Description

This support is intended to improve the acute disparities in economic recovery for small businesses (500 or less employees) owned by Maine's racial, ethnic and linguistic minorities. These business owners did not proportionally accessed the recovery funds available to all business owners since the beginning of the pandemic. They lacked the meaningful connections to financial institutions and technical assistance providers that could have guided them to various opportunities and options for funding and urgent support.

This opportunity aims to strengthen the technical assistance and similar customized offerings, such as training, and other resources in order to:

- alleviate barriers to access financial resources;
- increase business acumen and access to critical networks; and
- improve financial management and access critical long term supports
- increase financial literacy and readiness

In addition, the funding shall improve the overall ecosystem of TA providers to ensure the unique needs of this cohort of businesses are met.

(DECD will encourage this opportunity and the general TA Business Case work symbiotically to maximize efforts, expertise and address regional collective gaps impacting the ability of businesses to recover post-pandemic)

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in July 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 01/20/2023.

Partners



We have worked with multiple partner organizations and networks in the structuring of this initiative. Key partners include the Maine Accelerates Growth network , the SBA Service Provider Network , Main Street Maine and the Maine Downtown Center , and the Economic Development Districts (multiple orgs). We have also worked directly with the 15 identified “spokes” in our MAINE (Maine Access and Inclusion Network for Entrepreneurs) Hub and Spoke initiative submitted to the SBA for funding consideration. These spokes represent different under-represented identities and communities in Maine.

We have also connected with Division of Purchasing, MJRP, Maine Dept. of Labor and Department of Health and Human Services leaders to ensure direct connections between this program and other DEI focused efforts. We see a strong connection between all the DEI focused ARPA supported efforts.

We have had initial discussions with the leaders of the Permanent Commission but have not found their focus to be on economic development and recovery at this moment in time. We seek continued relationship and input from the Commission, given its make up of leaders from multiple under-served communities.

We are engaged with Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to incorporate certification and licensure as a key piece in this effort to ensure experts in the financial sector (accountants, bookkeepers and others) with non U.S. degrees can operate in Maine in order to support business owners who share similar cultural attributes and socio economic understandings.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/underrepresented-entrepreneurs-training-state-procurement-navigation-programs>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

131

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

354

Number of new businesses started \*

49

All outcome indicators would be broken down by race, ethnicity and primary language.

Sample too small to report.

Number of businesses that apply for economic recovery funds as a result of engaging with a TA provider

151

Number of business that as a result of engaging with a TA provider or book keeper report improved financial stability

35

Number of TA providers that report an increase % in clients/business owners enrolled who self identify as racially, ethnically or linguistically diverse

4

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The Economic Recovery Hub Initiative operates across multiple business cases including E.9, E.10, F.12, and F.13. As these programs were recently launched and staffed, we are expecting to see increased metrics across all KPIs in FY24. Additionally, the prior year project inventory noted information regarding a program evaluation. Please note the evaluation that was previously reported is for overall program management and accountability, and is not a program evaluation for federal reporting purposes.

## Entrepreneurial Training

### Project Information

Control Number \*

F.13.1

Funding Amount

\$500,000

Initiative Name

Entrepreneurial Training

Project Name

Entrepreneurial Training

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

### Project Overview

Project Description

With these funds, the Department of Economic and Community Development is establishing the Underrepresented Entrepreneurs Training program. The Department will provide competitive grant funding to technical assistance service providers to aid small business owners and entrepreneurs from BIPOC communities and other underrepresented backgrounds who experienced pandemic-related business challenges. To be eligible for technical assistance, small businesses must be able to document losses due to the pandemic, such as loss of revenue, workforce challenges, inability to access capital, increased costs, the need to significantly change work processes due to the pandemic, or other needs. This support will enhance Maine's business diversity, create new investment opportunities, and connect these business owners to additional financing options.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in July 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 01/20/2023.

Partners

We have worked with multiple partner organizations and networks in the structuring of this initiative. Key partners include the Maine Accelerates Growth network, the SBA Service Provider Network, Main Street Maine and the Maine Downtown Center, and the Economic Development Districts (multiple orgs). We have also worked directly with the 15 identified "spokes" in our MAINE (Maine Access and Inclusion Network for Entrepreneurs) Hub and Spoke initiative submitted to the SBA for funding consideration. These spokes represent different under-represented identities and communities in Maine.

We have also connected with Division of Purchasing, MJRP, Maine Dept. of Labor and Department of Health and Human Services leaders to ensure direct connections between this program and other DEI focused efforts. We see a strong connection between all the DEI focused ARPA supported efforts.

We have had initial discussions with the leaders of the Permanent Commission but have not found their focus to be on economic development and recovery at this moment in time. We seek continued relationship and input from the Commission, given its make up of leaders from multiple under-served communities.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/underrepresented-entrepreneurs-training-state-procurement-navigation-programs>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

344--distribution across launched Economic Recovery Hubs is: Central Maine Growth Council (CMGC) = 23; Northern Maine Development Commission (NMDC) = 175; Midcoast Council of Governments (MCOG) = 8; Eastern Maine Development Corporation (EMDC) = 77; Southern Maine Planning & Development Commission (SMPDC) = 61.

Number of underrepresented businesses supported - service providers will submit quarterly reports to DECD on the number of businesses supported \*

168--distribution across launched Economic Recovery Hubs is: Central Maine Growth Council (CMGC) = 10; Northern Maine Development Commission (NMDC): 109; Midcoast Council of Governments (MCOG) = 0; Eastern Maine Development Corporation (EMDC) = 42; Southern Maine Planning & Development Commission (SMPDC) = 7.

Amount of revenue generated from the businesses supported - financials will be evaluated at the start of support and throughout to show trends \*

CMGC has realized \$168,911 in revenue reported by businesses receiving support. As more hubs begin conducting surveys of supported businesses, this data is expected to be reported by other hubs in the next FY.

Success rate of businesses receiving support versus other BIPOC start ups nationally \*

CMGC has reported a 100% success rate and EMDC has reported 54.55% success rate for supported BIPOC start-ups. As more hubs begin conducting surveys of supported businesses, this data is expected to be reported by other hubs in the next FY.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

To date, DECD has launched seven economic recovery hubs across the state. To ensure progress is being made, DECD will be collecting performance measures not less than semiannually and will be addressing them during regular meetings and engagements with participants.

# Nursing Education Loan Repayment

## Project Information

Control Number \*

FF.104.1

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000

Initiative Name

Nursing Education Loan Repayment

Project Name

Nursing Education Loan Repayment

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

## Project Overview

Project Description

The Nursing Education Loan Repayment Program will repay over a three year return service commitment the student loans of selected participants to support rebuilding Maine's nursing workforce as an industry negatively impacted by COVID-19. The Nursing Education Loan Repayment Program will attract and retain nursing educators by repaying outstanding student loans of selected participants who commit to living and working in Maine for at least three years. Recipients will be selected through an application process established by the Finance Authority of Maine to ensure eligibility criteria as outlined in statute has been met. Selected recipients will be notified of the award amount for which they are eligible, a total amount of up to \$20,000 for participants with a master's degree and up to \$40,000 for participants with a doctoral degree. Student loan debt reduction payments are made on an annual basis directly to the student loan servicers of the program recipients up to a maximum aggregate award amount not to exceed \$20,000 for participants with a master's degree and up to \$40,000 for participants with a doctoral degree. In order for a payment to be made, recipients must verify, annually, that they have maintained, in the preceding 12-month period prior to a payment being made to their student loan servicer, residency in the state of Maine and full-time employment as a nurse educator at a Maine institution of higher education.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 05/17/2022.

Partners

Northern Light Health, and State Representative Michele Meyer: sponsor of legislation and a registered nurse.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/tuition-support-health-care-professions>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of faculty job openings for nursing educators, faculty retention rates for nursing educators, number of students enrolled at institutions with loan repayment recipients and number of nursing graduates attributed to faculty who participate in the student loan repayment program. \*

The first loan repayment recipients were selected in Fall 2022, first repayment disbursements occurred December 2023 and the majority of second repayment disbursements occurred December 2024. The second group of recipients were selected in Spring 2023, their first repayment disbursement occurred July 2024, and second repayment disbursements will occur July 2025. The third group of recipients were selected in Fall 2023, their first repayment disbursement occurred December 2024, and second repayment disbursement will occur December 2025. Surveys of Maine-based nursing schools were included as part of all employment certification forms. We asked for number of job openings and faculty retention rates to measure the initial impact student loan repayment has had thus far. The survey also asked for these figures from 2022 and 2023 as a baseline measurement to compare to this same data for 2024, 2025 and 2026. This same survey will be used to collect nursing student enrollment and nursing student graduate rates from May 2023 through May 2026. Maine has 15 schools with nursing programs, 181 nursing program faculty, 35 program recipients retained. Nine schools provided number of graduates attributed to the nursing faculty: 1,478

Output measurements: Number of program applicants, number of program recipients, number of higher education institutions where recipients work, dollars disbursed annually over the three-year return service commitment, number of recipients retained for each year of their return service commitment. The data will be collected in the normal course of program administration by the Education Program Officer at FAME. The data will be evaluated by FAME's Education Programs Manager and Director of Education. \*

'Program applicants: 50

Program Recipients: 41 awarded

Number of Recipients Retained: 35

Number of Institutions of Higher Education with Recipients: 12

Data is collected by program participants, all of whom are required to complete an annual survey and employment certification as a pre-condition of loan repayments being sent to their student loan servicer.

Source: Program applications/FAME data, annual program participant survey, annual employer certifications for program participants.

Output measurement: Equity in access will be measured by regional distribution of higher education institutions where loan repayment recipients work. The data will be collected by the FAME Education Program Officer and evaluated by FAME's Education Programs Manager and Director of Education. \*

The program has a 86% retention rate. Initially, 41 applicants were selected and 35 remain in the program across 12 of the 15 programs broken down as follows:

Beal University - 4 recipients

Central Maine Community College - 5 recipients

Eastern Maine Community College - 6 recipients, 3 retained (1 left faculty to return to nursing)

Husson University - 3 recipients

Kennebec Valley Community College - 3 recipients, 2 retained

Maine College of Health Professions - 0 recipients

Northern Maine Community College - 2 recipients

Purdue Global - 0 recipients [REMOVED FROM REPORT - ONLINE ONLY; ADMIN OUT OF STATE]

St Joseph's Collge - 0 recipients

Southern Maine Community College - 3 recipients

University of Maine - 2 recipients

University of Maine Augusta - 5 recipients, 4 retained

University of Maine Fort Kent - 1 recipient

University of New England - 4 recipients, 3 retained

University of Southern Maine - 3 recipients

York County Community Collge - 0 recipients

Source: Program applications/FAME data

Outcome measurement: For the length of the return service commitment (three years), annually collect qualitative survey data from program participants assessing the impact that receipt of annual student loan repayments has had on their persistence through the return service period as well as their future plans (after the three-year return service period) to live and work in Maine. The data will be collected by the FAME Education Program Officer and evaluated by FAME's Education Programs Manager and Director of Education. \*

As part of the "State Residency & Employment Certification Form", program participants are asked to rank how receipt of the award impacts their intent to live in Maine and continue to work in the health care profession:

Significant Impact: 18 (fall 2022 cohort); 3 (spring 2023 cohort); 3 (fall 2023 cohort)

Moderate Impact: 4 (fall 2022 cohort); 5 (spring 2023 cohort); 1 (fall 2023 cohort)

Little Impact: 1 (fall 2023 cohort)

No Impact: 1 (fall 2023 cohort)

Field left blank: 0

Outcome measurement: Upon completion of the return service (at the end of year three) determine an on-going commitment to live and work in Maine by program participants. The data will be collected by the FAME Education Program Officer and evaluated by FAME's Education Programs Manager and Director of Education. \*

Program participants will be required to submit a final employment certification and complete a final survey capturing the data described as a pre-condition of their third and final loan repayment being sent to their student loan servicer.

Fall 2022 application cohort: 31 applicants; 7 ineligible; 24 selected; 22 retained; YTD distributions to this cohort = \$411,434; anticipated 3 year total \$617,151

Spring 2023 application cohort: 10 applicants; 1 ineligible; 9 selected; 8 retained; YTD distributions to this cohort = \$55,199; anticipated 3 year total \$165,597

Fall 2023 application cohort: 9 applicants; 1 ineligible; 8 selected; 5 retained; YTD distributions to this cohort = \$36,747; anticipated 3 year total \$110,241

Number of recipients retained for each year of their return service commitment: 85% to date, 3 declined due to a change in career plans, 3 failed to submit required documentation.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Recipient and employment impact data is being collected from program participants and their employers via pertinent survey questions as part of the annual loan repayment disbursement request. This information is aggregated and reported in the Key Performance Indicator questions previously answered. The data is collected from Maine's higher education institutions offering programs leading to a degree in nursing.



## Research & Investment in Technology - MTI

### Project Information

Control Number \*

G.14.1

Funding Amount

\$33,012,195.25

Initiative Name

Research & Investment in Technology

Project Name

Research & Investment in Technology - MTI

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Pandemic Recovery for an Innovative Maine Economy Fund (PRIME) program will deploy grant funds to support and leverage private investments in research, development, and innovation in Maine's seven targeted technology sectors: Biotechnology, Composites & Advanced Materials, Environmental Technologies, Forest Products & Agriculture, Information Technology, Marine Technology & Aquaculture, and Precision Manufacturing. These grant funds, which must be matched by the recipient, will be awarded to Maine small businesses with demonstrated negative impacts from the COVID pandemic through a competitive process administered by the Maine Technology Institute to increase revenues, create and preserve jobs, and grow market share.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 04/14/2022.

Partners

Department of Economic and Community Development through Maine Technology Institute works closely with many partner organizations in the state to promote innovation and business start-ups in the seven targeted technology sectors. These organizations participated in the listening sessions and provided feedback on plan design. They also offered their full cooperation in promoting the Fund to their respective clients. Key current partners include:

The Maine Center for Entrepreneurs, SCORE, Maine Venture Fund, CEI, FAME, Maine Venture Fund and several regional economic development organizations.

In addition, Maine Technology Institute views the PRIME Fund as an opportunity to cultivate new partnerships that will allow Maine Technology Institute to increase its ability to positively support and impact Black or Indigenous entrepreneurs, other entrepreneurs of color, and entrepreneurs located in the more rural parts of the state. Maine Technology Institute has identified the following organizations and point people: Black Owned Maine, Immigrant Welcome Center, Prosperity Maine and the Maine Chambers of Commerce.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/pandemic-recovery-innovative-maine-economy-prime-fund>

Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

222

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

1,667

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

488

Number of small businesses served- This data will be collected and reported at the time of the award \*

222

The number of PRIME awardees that are new to MTI - This data will measure the effectiveness of new outreach programs that will be used in this program to increase the number of BIPOC and other underserved entrepreneurs in the state. \*

33

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Research & Investment in Technology Part 2

### Project Information

Control Number \*

G.14.2

Funding Amount

\$6,634,413.75

Initiative Name

Research & Investment in Technology

Project Name

Research & Investment in Technology Part 2

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Pandemic Recovery for an Innovative Maine Economy Fund (PRIME) program will deploy grant funds to support and leverage private investments in research, development, and innovation in Maine's seven targeted technology sectors: Biotechnology, Composites & Advanced Materials, Environmental Technologies, Forest Products & Agriculture, Information Technology, Marine Technology & Aquaculture, and Precision Manufacturing. These grant funds, which must be matched by the recipient, will be awarded to Maine small businesses and ecosystem partners that support business development activity in companies with demonstrated negative impacts from the COVID pandemic through a competitive process administered by the Maine Technology Institute to increase revenues, create and preserve jobs, and grow market share. This application is combined with G.14.1 though funds administered and awarded in this program (G.14.2) are specific to ecosystem partners vs. direct grants and loans to individual businesses (G.14.1)

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 04/14/2022.

Partners

Department of Economic and Community Development through Maine Technology Institute works closely with many partner organizations in the state to promote innovation and business start-ups in the seven targeted technology sectors. These organizations participated in the listening sessions and provided feedback on plan design. They also offered their full cooperation in promoting the Fund to their respective clients. Key current partners include: The Maine Center for Entrepreneurs, SCORE, Maine Venture Fund, CEI, FAME, Maine Venture Fund and several regional economic development organizations.

In addition, Maine Technology Institute views the PRIME Fund as an opportunity to cultivate new partnerships that will allow Maine Technology Institute to increase its ability to positively support and impact Black or Indigenous entrepreneurs, other entrepreneurs of color, and entrepreneurs located in the more rural parts of the state. Maine Technology Institute has identified the following organizations and point people: Black Owned Maine, Immigrant Welcome Center, Prosperity Maine and the Maine Chambers of Commerce.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/pandemic-recovery-innovative-maine-economy-prime-fund>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

16

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

0

Number of ecosystem partners receiving funding \*

16

Number of applications to MTI for funding originating out of programs managed by the ecosystem partner \*

358

Funding effectiveness metric of total funds awarded to an ecosystem partner/number of active businesses served in a year \*

Range from \$1700/company served to \$114k/company served with an average of \$35k/company served for the companies that reported.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

MTI is using this data to develop a new competitive funding mechanism and will focus on this capital efficiency.

## License Modernization

### Project Information

Control Number \*

G.15.1

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000

Initiative Name

License Modernization

Project Name

License Modernization

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is seeking to procure a modern, internet-based Enterprise Licensing System (ELS) and implementation services via the State of Maine Maine Jobs Recovery Program initiative Q.57.1.

This project will modernize licensing processes by using contracted services to assist in the implementation of the Enterprise Licensing System (ELS). This will allow for the project to be implemented without impact to the regulated community.

The implementation of a modern, internet-based ELS will provide new tools such as a self-service portal and automatic application validation that will enable remote application completion and reduced manual work. This will remove the need for human interaction and speed up the processing times which will allow for a safer, more efficient economic recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in March 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 04/19/2022.

Partners

Contracted Partner Berry Dunn MacNeil Parker LLC has been intrinsically involved with the planning stages of the initiative that these contracted services will assist with.

Key licensing customers (frequently engaged consultants, small and large businesses doing many infrastructure projects) are the primary external stakeholders in this initiative. The primary contact method will be via internet survey tools videoconferencing, and follow-up communications if necessary (email).

Maine IT has been engaged in the implementation of this initiative because of the requirements to comply with State of Maine IT security, accessibility and architecture policies and because of the extensive integration with existing information systems. Some of these existing information systems are at the Department of Environmental Protection, and some support business at other State of Maine agencies (e.g. AdvantageME at the Department of Administrative and Financial Services).

## Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/increase-licensing-efficiency>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses that obtain a license through the new ELS \*

The project is being actively configured, and the first program, Land Licensing, technically went live in January, but functionally wasn't fully available until March. We anticipate that reporting and survey data to support this indicator will be available soon.

How many licenses have been transitioned to the ELS online portal, enhancing economic, social and environmental equity. \*

The project is being actively configured, and the first program, Land Licensing, technically went live in January, but functionally wasn't fully available until March. This program brought 12 license types into production in the new ELS.

Number of licenses that have been transitioned to the new ELS. \*

The project is being actively configured, and the first program, Land Licensing, technically went live in January, but functionally wasn't fully available until March. This program brought 12 license types into production in the new ELS.

Number of critical business requirements met by ELS vendor. \*

The project is being actively configured, and the first program, Land Licensing, technically went live in January, but functionally wasn't fully available until March. We anticipate that reporting and survey data to support this indicator will be available soon.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Statements of Work (SOWs) were published, and two service providers were selected: Berry Dunn MacNeil Parker LLC (dba BerryDunn) was selected to assist with change management, and Marcey McHatten was selected to assist with project management.

Both providers are actively assisting with the implementation of the new ELS. Both providers had their services brokered by Knowledge Services. The productivity and pace associated with this project have been directly and positively affected by these two service providers. The project is being actively configured, and the first program, Land Licensing, technically went live in January, but functionally wasn't fully available until March. This program brought 12 license types into production in the new ELS and has provided the Department a profound education in modern system implementation.

The vendor selected to provide and implement the licensing system (initiative Q.57.1) is Windsor Solutions from Portland, Oregon. The system, now named Maine Environmental Licensing System (MELS) is in the process of being configured. Business units at the department will have their workflows migrated into the new system consecutively using a multi-phase, multi-track approach over the next few years. The first license types to go live will be associated with the Bureau of Land Resources, and include Natural Resource Protection Act (NRPA) Permit By Rule (PBR), Maine Construction General Permit (MCGP), and a several other related permits. The NRPA PBR is the most frequently issued permit type at the Department, with several thousand being processed every year. MCGP projects are often large and / or of unique interest to the public. This project is progressing well and on time, with Departmental staff and Windsor staff collaborating to best match Windsor's tools with each business unit's needs.

## Contracted Services for Licensing

### Project Information

Control Number \*

G.16.1

Funding Amount

\$4,000,000

Initiative Name

Contracted Services for Licensing

Project Name

Contracted Services for Licensing

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Department will promote investments and innovation by contracting for administrative, technical, and paralegal services to provide more rapid environmental permitting. Many planned investments of COVID recovery funds, or the ripple effect of those investments, involve construction and operation of facilities that require environmental permitting, particularly land use, stormwater management, wastewater discharges and waste management. Reducing permitting delays and costs is critical for recovery from the negative economic effects of COVID on Maine businesses. These contracted services will be assisting licensing programs concurrently with and so may assist with an effort to migrate licensing workflows to a new system which will enhance equity and facilitate recovery from negative economic impacts that were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 04/25/2022.

Partners

Department of Economic and Community Development - Maine's Economic Development Strategy 2020-2029, Strategy F, Action F1. and Maine Economic Recovery Committee, November 2020 recommendations to "Modernize Areas of Maine's Business Regulatory Environment", p29-30

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/increase-licensing-efficiency>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of licenses which have had their provisioning facilitated. \*

276 (2022-2023)- + 301 (2023-2024) + TBD ASAP- Reporting to obtain the number of licenses which have been facilitated by MELS will be available soon.

How many licenses have been facilitated by the contracted services, enhancing economic, social and environmental equity. \*

276 (2022-2023)- + 301 (2023-2024) + TBD ASAP- Reporting to obtain the number of licenses which have been facilitated by MELS will be available soon.

Number of licenses whose transition to the new ELS has been facilitated by the contracted services. \*

12 license types were transitioned to MELS by Windsor Solutions.

Percentage by which customers' satisfaction with DEP's licensing has increased, as measured by a survey. \*

Survey development has been tied to MELS implementation. Initial values have been collected, but second survey, post Land go-live, will be the first opportunity to see positive results. Land went live recently (technically in January, functionally in March), and so we expect to have survey data soon.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Contracts for temporary licensers and contracts for University of Maine interns have provided the human resources who have facilitated the processing of DEP licenses so far.

Windsor Solutions is the contractor actively configuring the Department's new Enterprise Licensing System, and the Land Licensing System went live recently and so we anticipate we will have more empirical data soon.

The vendor selected to provide and implement the licensing system system (initiative Q.57.1) is Windsor Solutions from Portland, Oregon. The system, now named Maine Environmental Licensing System (MELS) is in the process of being configured. Business units at the department will have their workflows migrated into the new system consecutively using a multi-phase, multi-track approach over the next few years. The first license types to go live will be associated with the Bureau of Land Resources, and include Natural Resource Protection Act (NRPA) Permit By Rule (PBR), Maine Construction General Permit (MCGP), and a several other related permits. The NRPA PBR is the most frequently issued permit type at the Department, with several thousand being processed every year. MCGP projects are often large and / or of unique interest to the public. This project is progressing well and on time, with Departmental staff and Windsor staff collaborating to best match Windsor's tools with each business unit's needs.



## Civil Legal Services for COVID-19 Recovery

### Project Information

Control Number \*

GG.105.1

Funding Amount

\$591,008

Initiative Name

Civil Legal Services for COVID-19 Recovery

Project Name

Civil Legal Services for COVID-19 Recovery

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.18-Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance

### Project Overview

Project Description

With funding from the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, the Civil Legal Services for COVID-19 Recovery Program will allocate funding to six civil legal aid providers to sustain foreclosure prevention and community redevelopment projects that include legal assistance offered to Maine individuals and families unable to afford a lawyer to assist in recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in October 2022 and program activities are fully complete as of 12/31/2023.

Partners

The ARPA funds will be allocated to the Maine Judicial Branch (MJB) to be deposited by the MJB in the Maine Civil Legal Services Fund ("the Fund") established by 4 M.R.S.A. §18-A. The administrator of the Fund will disburse the funds to six civil legal aid organizations for use in calendar year 2022 and again for use in calendar year 2023 to sustain certain foreclosure prevention and community redevelopment projects undertaken by those organizations pursuant to grants awarded by the Maine Justice Foundation ("MJF") under its Bank of America Grant Program ("BOAGP"). No other agencies or organizations are partnering in this initiative.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/expand-legal-services-low-income-mainers>

### Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Volunteer Lawyers Project In the fall of 2022, we will launch a client survey to measure client satisfaction with our family law clinic. This survey will form the basis for ongoing evaluation of the various programs VLP offers. The survey will include demographic information of the survey participants, which will inform our assessment of progress reaching disadvantaged groups. In addition, VLP records and tracks all case outcomes by report of the volunteer attorney, so we will continue to collect data on the effectiveness of the services provided. Finally, we collect and use data about the numbers of people served through the various programs, including breakdowns by demographic and geographic factors, which will inform our assessment of effectiveness meeting the needs of indigent and low-income Mainers. \*

"In the 24-month period, VLP served 3,303 clients by providing legal information, advice, or representation. Of those, 1,579 received limited representation through the clinics, 1,435 received legal information, 131 had full representation with complete resolution of issues, and 48 had full representation without resolution. The level of service for the remaining cases (110) is not yet determined. In 2023, VLP referred more than 1300 people to other resources.

VLP served Mainers throughout the state during this time period, with 23% of our clients residing in the seven northern, more rural counties. 72% were female, and in terms of racial demographics, 5% identify as African American or Black, 3% as Hispanic, 3% as "Other," 2% as Native American, 1% as Asian or Pacific Islander, and the remaining 85% as white. All clients had income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level."

Pine Tree Legal Assistance Using case management software, Pine Tree tracks both the number of cases opened and closed within a given period and the extent to which the client's objectives were achieved. Specific case closing codes are used to track the results of closed cases and to distinguish between successful and unsuccessful outcomes. Pine Tree uses evaluation data both qualitatively and quantitatively to analyze all its services. By tracking the number of cases opened, time spent on each case and legal issue, Pine Tree can evaluate how well its programs are responding to the needs of the community. By tracking the level of service provided and the outcomes of each case, Pine Tree can evaluate the effectiveness of its programs. \*

The number of households receiving legal assistance: 150

During the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023, Pine Tree Legal Assistance opened 108 new foreclosure-related cases for homeowners and continued work on 42 cases that were opened prior to January 1, 2022. During the reporting period, Pine Tree Legal Assistance closed 127 cases. Of those cases, 77 were closed after providing legal advice, 22 were closed after providing legal advice and brief legal assistance, and 28 were closed after Pine Tree Legal Assistance provided representation in a court or administrative matter. All but one (96%) of the representation cases were resolved in favor of our client. Specific outcomes obtained include: 12 foreclosures were dismissed; 7 homeowners avoided debt related to foreclosure; and 7 homeowners obtained loan modifications.

"

- Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation) \*

0. This was not the focus of this project.

- Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed \*

0 This was not the focus of this project.

Legal Services for the Elderly LSE will track the number of individuals provided with legal representation, the number of hours of service provided, the date cases are opened, and the date cases are closed. LSE will also record outcome measures for each case handled from a pre-determined set of potential outcomes. Finally, LSE will assess if the overall situation of the homeowner was improved as a result of the representation. The gender, age, county of residence, sexual orientation, and race of those served will be recorded and an analysis of outcomes achieved broken down by those demographic groups will be conducted to determine if there is equity in the results achieved \*

The number of households receiving legal assistance: 152

During the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023, Legal Services for Maine Elders opened 133 new foreclosure-related cases for older homeowners and continued work on 19 cases that were opened prior to January 1, 2022. During the reporting period LSE closed 142 cases. Of those cases, 15 were closed after providing legal advice, 84 were closed after providing legal advice and brief legal assistance, and 43 were closed after LSE provided extended representation. Ten cases remained open. The situation was improved for 87% of the older homeowners who received legal services. The demographics of those helped were: 89 female, 63 male and all were 60 and older (with 49 who were 75 or older). Those served included residents from every county in Maine.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

Number of households receiving household assistance \*

302

Maine Equal Justice will track the number of systemic cases we advance to increase consumer rights and protections in Maine through impact litigation, legislation, and administrative advocacy. MEJ will report on outcomes for those cases as well as the estimated number of households impacted. MEJ will report on education and outreach efforts as well, including educational materials produced and coalition and outreach work with other organizations and stakeholders to disseminate and share this information broadly. \*

These ARPA funds allowed Maine Equal Justice to provide critically important legal services for low-income consumers during Maine's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. We were party to four cases of impact litigation, supported systemic policy changes, and represented the interest of consumers in two cases of administrative advocacy before the State's executive branch. Our consumer protection work included protecting victims of domestic violence from economic abuse, strengthening of the rules for evidence in credit card debt collection, increasing protection for homeowners during foreclosure proceedings, and protecting and maintaining a 2021 law that caps interest rate on loans made in Maine regardless of the lender's location. Specifically, Maine Equal Justice successfully supported the following consumer protections through legal advocacy, education, and outreach:

- Increased protections for consumers who purchase real property to use as a residence in rent-to-own situations (benefitting approximately 479 people in Maine);
- Elimination of application fees for rental housing and that put limits on the types of fees a landlord can charge tenants (benefitting approximately 136,290 people in Maine);
- Increased protections for homeowners who lost their home due to nonpayment of municipal real estate taxes by ensuring that any equity in the property is returned to the homeowner;
- Longer notice period for rent increases to tenants when the rent increase exceeds 10% over a 12-month period (benefitting approximately 175,496 people in Maine);
- Preventing landlords from retaliating against tenants who refused to pay illegal rent increases (benefitting approximately 52,648 people in Maine);
- Requiring judges to announce the presence of available legal resources for tenants in eviction cases (benefitting approximately 18,000 people in Maine per year); and
- Establishing a procedure by which mobile home park tenants can purchase the mobile home park when it is being sold (benefitting approximately 143,320 people in Maine).

MEJ defended homeowner protections in the foreclosure process. We continued our involvement in litigation to enforce Maine's Economic Abuse Statute and filed an amicus brief in a lawsuit challenging the effect of judgment entered in a foreclosure case.

Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic The Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic will collect data on how many people we assist, which of our Clinics provide the assistance, the type of case, how many hours we spend on each case, the outcome, the date each case is opened and closed, each client's age, gender identification, financial circumstances, race and ethnicity. We will also request and evaluate feedback from all people we assist. This information will be reviewed by both the Managing Attorney and the Clinical Director. \*

1. How many individuals benefited from ARPA funds used for community redevelopment legal assistance between 1/1/2022 and 12/31/2023? 111
2. Within this gross number how many of those served were:
  - a. Elderly (60+) 8
  - b. 29-59 years old? 95
  - c. Young adults (18 - 28 years old)? 8
  - d. Children (< 18 years old living in a household impacted)? 45
  - e. Veterans (homeowner or living in a household impacted)? 8
  - f. Gender Identification
    - Male? 61
    - Female? 50
  - g. Race / Ethnicity Demographics:
    - White ? 91
    - Black or African American? 6
    - Native American ? 7
    - Other? 7
  - h. Financial circumstances of the clients represented?
    - 100% of the individuals served by ARPA funds represented by the Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic's Prisoner Assistance Clinic were incarcerated, indigent clients.
3. How many total cases did we assist individuals with from ARPA funds used for community redevelopment legal assistance between 1/1/2022 - 12/31/23? 136
  - a. Which types of cases did we assist our clients with?
    - Family law (including divorce, parental rights & responsibilities, protection from abuse, child support) 74
    - Civil (including bankruptcy, taxes, collections, small claims, appeal) 22
    - Probate 20
    - Prisoners' rights 8
    - Other (Post-conviction criminal cases, Housing (Landlord/tenant cases), Income Maintenance, Immigration, Education, Intake 12
4. How many non-profits benefited, if any? None - these were all individuals
5. How many small business clients benefited, if any? None - these were all individuals
6. How many hours were spent working with each client? As a clinical program, we did not track hours that were spent on these cases.

## Doctors of Maine's Future Scholarship Fund

### Project Information

Control Number \*

H.17.1

Funding Amount

\$2,000,000

Initiative Name

Doctors of Maine's Future Scholarship Fund

Project Name

Doctors of Maine's Future Scholarship Fund

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Doctors for Maine's Future (DFMF) Scholarship Program was enacted by the Maine Legislature in 2009 to provide up to a \$25,000 scholarship per student, annually, for eligible students who enter qualifying Maine-based medical school programs (University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine and Tufts University School of Medicine-Maine Medical Center Maine Track Program) for the purpose of increasing the number of physicians in this State who practice in primary care, under-served specialties or under-served areas of the State. For each scholarship funded by the state, a scholarship from philanthropic sources must be funded by the Maine-based medical school thereby effectively doubling the number of recipients for this scholarship. Recipients are selected by the medical schools using criteria set in Maine statute.

The infusion of federal funds into this program, coupled with FAME's ongoing commitment to annually allocate \$400,000 from our state appropriation, will allow FAME to bring the total number of annual scholarships back to at least eight each year (four at each Maine medical school) and maintain that level five years longer than would have been possible without the federal funds. This funding is expected to assist 44 students total (22 funded through federal funds and state appropriations and 22 additional students funded by philanthropic funds from each medical school).

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 05/17/2022.

Partners

Tufts University School of Medicine-Maine Medical Center MaineTrack Program  
University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine

Link to Project Website

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals receiving financial assistance for education \*

14 recipients received \$25,000 each in FY23 for a total of \$350,000; 23 recipients received \$25,000 each in FY24 for a total of \$575,000; 24 recipients received \$25,000 each for a total of \$600,000 disbursed to the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Maine Medical Center Tufts University School of Medicine. In FY24, one intended recipient took a leave of absence to conduct research. Program allows for up to a one year leave of absence so the recipient is allowed to delay funding 1 year. Source: FAME records

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

No credentials have been earned yet. In FY23 four (4) medical students were funded for their second year of medical school and 10 students were funded in for their first year of medical school. In FY24 four (4) students were funded for their 3rd year of medical school, 9 students were funded for their 2nd year of medical school (1 took a Leave of Absence and returned in FY25) and 10 students were funded for their first year of medical school. In FY25, four (4) medical students were funded for their 4th year of medical school, 10 students were funded for their 3rd year of medical school, and 10 students were funded for their 2nd year of medical school . Data will be provided in the annual reporting required of the Maine-based medical schools where the scholarship recipients attended.

Number of scholarship recipients who stayed in Maine and/or who returned to Maine to practice medicine as well as the percentage who practice in Family/Internal Medicine counted as a percent of all past scholarship recipients. \*

Practice location post residency can be reported in February of 2030 or 2031 after the Maine-based medical schools provide annual reports where scholarship recipients are practicing.

Program attrition will be monitored annually \*

As of June 30, 2025, all recipients received funding; the one scholarship recipient previously reported by the Maine-based medical school as being on a leave of absence returned to full time enrollment in FY25.

Those in residency training outside of Maine will be monitored annually \*

The earliest this measurement can be reported will be February of 2026 after the Maine-based medical schools provide annual reports to FAME detailing where scholarship recipients are completing their residency training programs.

Those in residency training in specialties other than Family/Internal Medicine will be monitored annually \*

Practice location during residency can be reported in February of 2026 after the Maine-based medical schools provide annual reports where scholarship recipients are doing their residency training.

Practice location of employed physicians in Maine will be monitored for geographic distribution (rural versus urban) annually \*

Practice location post residency can be reported in February of 2030 or 2031 after the Maine-based medical schools provide annual reports where scholarship recipients are practicing.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Reporting as described in the Program Evaluation for Federal Reporting already exists at FAME and medical students, medical residents, and practicing physicians who received MJRP dollars are included in the annual agency report. Additionally, recipients of MJRP funds are reported on as a cohort. Currently, there are 24 scholarship recipients and all are currently enrolled in medical school.



# Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment

## Project Information

Control Number \*

H.18.1

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000

Initiative Name

Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment

Project Name

Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

## Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Pilot Program will support rebuilding Maine's healthcare industry workforce, which has been negatively impacted by COVID-19. The program will attract and retain healthcare professionals to Maine by repaying outstanding student loans of selected participants who commit to living and working in Maine for at least three years. FAME will pay up to \$25,000 per year and, in aggregate over three years, the lesser of \$75,000 and 50% of the recipient's outstanding student loan balance. FAME will create an administrative process to review applications from candidates for eligibility, notify selected candidates of the award amount for which they are eligible and, ultimately, enter into agreements for return service between it and the selected healthcare providers. Student loan debt reduction payments will be made on an annual basis directly to the student loan servicers of the program recipients up to a maximum annual payment of the lesser of one-third of the recipient's total award and \$25,000 and, in aggregate over three years, the lesser of \$75,000 and 50% of the recipient's outstanding student loan balance. In order for a payment to be made, recipients must verify, annually, that they have maintained, in the preceding 12-month period prior to a payment being made to their student loan servicer, residency in the state of Maine and full-time employment as a healthcare provider at a Maine-based organization.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 05/17/2022.

Partners

Department of Health and Human Services Deputy Commissioner collaborated with FAME on the creation of the pilot program, provided feedback on draft program rules, and helped to advise FAME regarding prioritization of high-demand health care occupations needed in Maine.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/tuition-support-health-care-professions>

## Key Performance Indicators

Measure number of program recipients who were originally selected to receive student loan repayment and monitor annually from their program anniversary date their continuation in the program. Aggregate across all recipients a program retention rate and more specifically calculate the number of program recipients who completed the full three-year return service commitment as healthcare professionals in Maine. \*

We received 1021 applications in the 2022 fall application cycle. The first loan repayment recipients (total 18) were selected Fall 2022 and received their first loan repayment disbursement in January 2024. Recipients are required to submit an annual employment certification and complete a survey as a pre-condition of loan repayments being sent to their servicer. Of the 18 people selected in the business case cycle 15 remain in the program: 2 people received 1 distribution and no other's due to employment changes; the 3rd person received 0 distributions due to position elimination. We've realized an 84% program retention rate.

Output measurements: Number of program applicants, number of program recipients, occupation of loan repayment program recipients, location of healthcare organizations where loan repayment recipients work, dollars disbursed annually over the three-year return service commitment, and number of recipients retained for each year of their return service commitment. The data will be collected in the normal course of program administration by the Education Program Officer at FAME. The data will be evaluated by FAME's Education Programs Manager and Director of Education. \*

Number of applicants: 1021

Number of recipients: 18

Number retained: 15 (17 received initial distributions, but 2 became ineligible after the first distribution, 1 never received a distribution; 15 received 2 distributions)

Occupations: Behavioral Health (3), Dentist (1), Occupational Therapist (2), Pharmacist (5), Physical Therapist (1), Physician (1), Physician Assistant (1), Registered Nurse (4) [2 nurses & 1 doctor not retained in program]

County Health Care Org Locations: Aroostook (5), Franklin (1), Hancock (2), Lincoln (1), Penobscot (1), Piscataquis (1), Somerset (2), Waldo (2)

First distribution: 301,198

Projected 3 year total = \$858,253

The first loan repayment recipients were selected in Fall 2022 and first repayment disbursements occurred in January 2024; second repayment disbursements occurred after employment certification is completed in December 2024. Program participants are required to submit an annual employment certification that includes a survey capturing the data described as a pre-condition of loan repayments being sent to their student loan servicer.

Source: Program applications/FAME data, annual program participant survey and annual employment certifications.

Outcome measurement: Measure job openings in a specific healthcare occupation in similar Maine-based organizations and compare between organizations with loan repayment recipients and those without loan repayment program recipients. The data will be collected by the FAME Education Program Officer and evaluated by FAME's Education Programs Manager and Director of Education. \*

According to the Maine Health Occupations Report issued September 15, 2022 [<https://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/publications/pdf/2022MEHealthOccupationsReport.pdf>] indicated there were an estimated 74,860 people working in payroll-covered healthcare occupations in Maine in 2021. Much of the data in this report came from OEWS. For May 2023, OEWS lists 87,470 Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations plus Healthcare Support Occupations. Loan repayment recipients were selected in rural and or critical access locations hit hardest by the pandemic. Seventeen of the eighteen program recipients who were originally selected to receive student loan repayment received their first distribution. One recipient did not receive their first distribution due to not submitting required employment certification. Fifteen received second distributions; two people changed jobs and became ineligible for their second distribution. Third and final distributions should occur December 2025.

Outcome measurement: For the length of the return service commitment (three years), annually collect qualitative survey data from program participants assessing the impact that receipt of annual student loan repayments has had on their persistence through the return service period as well as their future plans (after the three-year return service period) to live and work in Maine. The data will be collected by the FAME Education Program Officer and evaluated by FAME's Education Programs Manager and Director of Education. \*

Program participants are required to submit an annual employment certification and complete a survey capturing the data described as a pre-condition of loan repayments being sent to their student loan servicer. As part of the "State Residency & Employment Certification Form", program participants were asked to rank how receipt of the award impacts their intent to live in Maine and continue to work in the health care profession:

Significant Impact: 11

Moderate Impact: 2

Little Impact: 1

No Impact: 1

Field left blank: 0

Outcome measurement: Upon completion of the return service (at the end of year three) determine an on-going commitment to live and work in Maine by loan repayment program participants. The data will be collected by the FAME Education Program Officer and evaluated by FAME's Education Programs Manager and Director of Education. \*

Program participants will be required to submit a final employment certification and complete a final survey capturing the data described as a pre-condition of their third and final loan repayment being sent to their student loan servicer.

18 selected; 15 retained

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Annual program reporting is collected from program participants and is required prior to disbursements being made on their student loans. This information is prepared in an annual and aggregated report reflecting the data as described in Program Evaluation for Federal Reporting. Application turnout can be used to measure demand for such a program within Maine's Healthcare system and a tool to maintain current workforce levels. Program participant losses are not attributed to recipients moving out of state. They've left for nonqualifying employment (faculty/part-time/non-underserved area).

## Curriculum Design Services

### Project Information

Control Number \*

H.19.1

Funding Amount

\$300,000

Initiative Name

Curriculum Design Services

Project Name

Curriculum Design Services

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

The statute funds a full time Curriculum and Instructional Design Specialist to support enhancements and redesign of mandated trainings, alignment of credentials across all department providers types, and crosswalk all short-term certifications. This position will work with approved training programs and education providers to build stackable credentials, and update training delivery to be accessible through both in-person and/or distance learning models. This limited period position will help to propel curriculum redesign, create policies, and strengthen training programs required to meet certification requirements across DHHS providers.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in May 2022 and SLFRF program expenditures completed as of 9/30/2024.

Partners

The curriculum designer will work closely with the Division of Licensing to ensure curricula align with regulation standards. External partners will include the "All Learning Counts" initiative with the University of Maine System, the Community College System, Adult Education and the State Workforce Board.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/health-care-clinical-opportunities-credentials>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

As noted in the business case, this is a Limited Period Position designed to improve existing curricula to align with national best practices and CMS regulations. It will not impact the amount of learners attaining a credential. The currently identified performance indicator is being reviewed and may be amended for next annual reporting cycle to better reflect the intent of the project.

2024: Not tracking number of workers, this project is to improve existing training by updating curricula. This position impacts learners' ability to access training and credentials. The new CRMA Recertification course will offer an online option for recertification training for 12,000 existing CRMAs without overburdening system capacity. The revision of the CRMA initial certification course will impact approximately 300 new CRMAs each month. CNA exam revision impacts approximately 10,000 CNAs across the state. The new ADCA curriculum creates a pipeline for Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselors.

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

A new curriculum for recertifying existing Certified Residential Medication Aides was developed for online delivery. The curriculum for training new CRMAs was revised significantly to accommodate the needs of adult learners and was redesigned for instructor-led face-to-face or hybrid delivery. Recertification can now be delivered fully on-line. Contract negotiations for exam proctoring are currently underway. CNA exams were revised and piloted, and are now in a post-pilot revision phase. A crosswalk was created to show learning objective commonalities across approximately ten credentials. Collaboration on Direct Support Workers and Mental Health Rehab Tech-CSP curricula was provided, and curricula for a new ADCA program and a program providing diabetes education to behavioral health workers are underway. A behavioral health Intentional Peer Support Specialist Training is in development for web-based delivery through the Learning Management System.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The curriculum designer is working on updating mandatory training curricula for front line care workers including: Certified Nurse Aide (CNA), Certified Residential Medication Aide (CRMA), Mental Health Resource Technician-Crisis Service Provider (MHRT-CSP), Alcohol and Drug Counseling Aid (ADCA), Personal Support Specialist and Direct Support Worker. All projects are currently on track with an expected completion by December 2026.

CNA exam updates have gone out to the field. Delays in procuring a Learning Management System have impacted the curricula development timeline. CRMA is on track for an April 2026 launch, although contracting took longer than expected, and there is potential that the launch date could be delayed as a result of this. Training content is moving ahead for CRMA and MHRT-CSP. ADCA training and Intentional Peer Support Specialist Training are also on track for web-based delivery via the LMS.

## Preceptors and Clinical Sites

### Project Information

Control Number \*

H.20.1

Funding Amount

\$1,599,604

Initiative Name

Preceptors and Clinical Sites

Project Name

Preceptors and Clinical Sites

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

Provides one-time funding to increase the critical health care workforce by providing incentives to providers to serve as clinical preceptors; funds to clinical sites to support costs of hosting health care students who require clinical hours and related oversight; and funding to rural health care providers to expand rural Graduate Medical Education (GME) experiences.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in July 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 01/01/2023.

Partners

Phase 1: Financial Incentives for Clinical Rotations & Preceptors:

- Maine Hospital Association
- MaineHealth
- Northern Light Health
- Central Maine Health Care
- MaineGeneral Health
- Alliance for Addiction and Mental Health Services

Phase 2: Development of Rural Graduate Medical Education (GME) Programs:

- University of New England
- Maine Area Health Education Center (AHEC)
- Maine CDC Office of Rural Health
- Maine Residency Training Programs:
  - o Central Maine Medical Center
  - o Eastern Maine Medical Center
  - o Maine Medical Center
  - o Maine Dartmouth Family Medicine Program/ MaineGeneral Health

Added Partners for this initiative:

- University of Maine System
- University of New England
- Maine Community College System
- St Joseph's College
- Husson University
- Maine Primary Care Association

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/health-care-clinical-opportunities-credentials>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

The department issued an RFA and the following awardees were selected as lead entities:

Expansion of Rural Clinical Preceptorships: University of Maine & St. Joseph's College of Maine

Rural Graduate Medical Education (GME) Programs: MaineHealth

The lead entities are each coordinating multiple clinical sites and GME rotation locations. Contracts were recently awarded and the full list of clinical site partners is currently in development. Additional metrics will be added at the next reporting cycle.

6/30/2024 Update: 48 total community organizations receiving economic assistance: 3 primary awardees and 45 supported organizations

St. Joseph's College: 5

UMaine School of Social Work: 7

MaineHealth MERGE GME: 33

2025 update:

34 Rural Graduate Medical Education Training sites have hosted rural rotations

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

4 clinical learners have been impacted as of the current reporting cycle. Additional learners will be added for the 2023-24 academic year.

6/30/24 UPDATE: Total clinical learners impacted: 81

St. Joseph's: 26

UMaine School of Social Work: 9

MaineHealth MERGE GME: 46

As of 7/10/25, 92 students completed rural rotations, field experience or clinical training as a result of this funding. Additional data will be added at the end of the academic year.

Number of new RURAL SITES created to host health care learners for clinical preceptorships or rotations \*

23 Total

7 rural GME sites: 2 at Western Maine Primary Care in Norway Maine - Family Medicine and Addiction Medicine; 4 at FCHN in Farmington Maine - Behavioral Health, Internal Medicine, Family Medicine and Emergency Medicine; 1 at Bridgeton Hospital in Bridgeton Maine - Rural Hospitalist Medicine.

9 rural Nurse Practitioner clinical sites: MaineGeneral in Waterville - Pulmonology; Pen Bay Pediatrics in Rockland - Pediatrics; St. Andrews Urgent Care in Boothbay - Urgent Care; Maine Medical Partners in Rockland - Primary Care; Live Life Family Practice in South Paris - Family Practice; Franklin Community Health Network in Farmington - Family Practice and Specialty Practice; Lincoln Medical Partners in Damariscotta - Pediatrics and Family Medical Practice.

7 sites to host MSW students: Pleasant Point Health Center, Blue Hill Hospital, Maine Coast Hospital, AR Gould Hospital, Inland Hospital, C.A Dean, Sebecook Valley

2024 Update: 45 Clinical preceptorships or rotations

Number of new CLINICAL PRECEPTORS in rural sites who have agreed to host health care learners for clinical preceptorships or rotations \*

45 cumulative

Number of TRAINING CONTACT HOURS at each clinical site or rotation to ensure a robust clinical experience for learners. \*

2024 update. Each clinical placement or rural rotation is unique and has different contact hour requirements depending on licensure and program. Contact hours vary: 80 for a 2 week rotation, 200 for a 12 week field placement and/or clinical experience.

2025 update: As of 7/10/25, there were 5,820 clinical contact hours completed across Hospitalist, Psychiatry, OB/GYN, Anesthesiology, Carceral, Family, Cardiology, Pediatrics, Addiction, Direct Primary Care, Farmworker Health and Hospice Care.

DIVERSITY: We will look at the program's success in engaging clinical preceptors and learners from diverse backgrounds: \*

Data not yet available.

2024 update:

At the request of our academic partners, due to the small sample size, this data will be reported at the end of the project to protect any sensitive PII.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Contracts were recently signed. Due to the reporting cycle, much of the data is not yet available.

2025 Update

Academic partners requested and were granted no cost contract extensions to better align with the timelines of their related health degree programs. Additional student cohorts will be recruited and matched with clinical site placements through calendar year 2025. All funds have been obligated, and will be expended by 12/31/26.





## HC Tuition Remission

### Project Information

Control Number \*

H.21.1

Funding Amount

\$1,185,316.76

Initiative Name

HC Tuition Remission

Project Name

HC Tuition Remission

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

NOTE: This business case is submitted for H.21 & H.23. H.21 provides funding for 3LPP CareerCenter Consultant and 1 LPP Employment and Training Specialist- 3 to assist in establishment, program referrals, and coordination of tuition remission process/payment processing, and enrollment process for tuition remission. Includes system to track enrollments, process payments, and gather required information to evaluate outcomes including match with existing employer wage records, surveys, etc. Additionally, H.23 provides funding invests in training and stackable credential attainment for incumbent frontline healthcare workers. To retain this critical workforce and reduce turnover, establish a tuition remission program for healthcare workers to attain credentials and move into the next rung on their career pathway (such as CNA to LPN, BHP to OT). This program will target incumbent healthcare workers—including LTC, hospital, behavioral health and dental with a primary focus on DHHS Medicare/Medicaid providers. The focus will be on entry-level workers attaining credentials though additional info on credential, provider & sectoral needs will be further fleshed out after employer training needs survey are captured (currently in the field) later this month. Current focus on paying for the training though additional needs may emerge around bridge/foundational skills education for pre-reqs, test readiness, ELL and/or credential evaluation to support workers from priority communities

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 12/01/2021.

Partners

Department of Health and Human Services: Co-lead on planning & implementing initiative

Department of Labor: Co-lead on planning & implementing initiative

In addition, there are key partners to collaborate with on planning & implementation:

Maine Community College System: Given healthcare focus of Maine Community College System quality centers' training, we must stay closely aligned with their efforts and understand how these two can complement each other vs. create competing or overlapping initiatives

Maine Dept of Education: Relatedly, it will be important to stay closely connected to adult ed & CTE offerings to ensure this program is offered as a suite of services to those with the highest need and not duplicative

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/health-care-training-me-training-current-health-care-workers>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$0

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals receiving financial assistance for education \*

0- This initiative provides for staffing for tuition remission--H.23 training & stackable credentials is the funding for the program

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

0- This initiative provides for staffing for tuition remission--H.23 training & stackable credentials is the funding for the program

Demographics of training participants AND employers: Quarterly/monthly number of qualifying eligible healthcare providers registered by size (large, medium, small) by county AND participant demographics may include –age, gender, race, ethnicity, geographic area. This will be captured for each employer upon applying for funds and for each worker participant via employer data sharing, tracked in Maine JobLink, an existing data management system used for Federal grant reporting

\*

0- This initiative provides for staffing for tuition remission--H.23 training & stackable credentials is the funding for the program

Retention of trained workers: For workers who receive employer-sponsored training, we will attempt to track retention with that employer over the coming years to demonstrate the ROI of investing in worker training. We will capture this by quarterly wage data and track in MJL \*

0- This initiative provides for staffing for tuition remission--H.23 training & stackable credentials is the funding for the program

Training completion rates Quarterly/monthly number of employees registered, started and completed training supported by ARPA funds \*

0- This initiative provides for staffing for tuition remission--H.23 training & stackable credentials is the funding for the program

Average wage among and/or career change among trained participants: Quarterly/monthly number received a wage increase post training-question is if or whether we can consistently collect and attribute this sponsored training to the wage increase. Information source is direct reporting from sponsoring employers and wage data. Quarterly/monthly number advanced to new career/job title post training completion/during ARPA performance period \*

0- This initiative provides for staffing for tuition remission--H.23 training & stackable credentials is the funding for the program

• Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

0- This initiative provides for staffing for tuition remission--H.23 training & stackable credentials is the funding for the program

• Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

0- This initiative provides for staffing for tuition remission--H.23 training & stackable credentials is the funding for the program

• Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

0- This initiative provides for staffing for tuition remission--H.23 training & stackable credentials is the funding for the program

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

This initiative provides for staffing for tuition remission--H.23 training & stackable credentials is the funding for the program. To reduce duplication and over-counting, all performance metrics are reported under H.23. Note: A prior annual report indicated a program evaluation to be completed. After further review the department has determined that as this initiative is for staffing, this project will not be part of any planned program evaluations for federal reporting.

## Healthcare Career Navigators

### Project Information

Control Number \*

H.22.1

Funding Amount

\$600,000

Initiative Name

Healthcare Career Navigators

Project Name

Healthcare Career Navigators

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

Navigators will contribute significantly to filling the crisis-level health care workforce shortages, using deep expertise in health care occupations, training, education, and employers to provide residents with the information and referrals needed to launch or advance in a health care career, including in stackable credentials, prior learning credits, and apprenticeships. Navigators will work with incumbent healthcare workers as well as those interested in healthcare professions—with a specific focus on helping to navigate the complex ecosystem & supporting foreign-trained health care workers to successfully be recertified and/or move to a related health care occupation. Navigators will be networked throughout the workforce system, building partnerships with community-based organizations representing priority communities of New Mainers as well as healthcare employers to keep a pulse on industry workforce needs.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in March 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 03/08/2022.

Partners

Department of Health and Human Services: Co-lead on planning & implementing initiative  
Department of Labor: Co-lead on planning & implementing initiative

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/health-care-career-navigators>

### Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

Sector workforce strategies are known nationally as a best practice to support industry in identifying and sourcing a qualified workforce. The Aspen Institute promotes navigators as one element of a successful sector strategy; the National Fund for Workforce Solutions has dozens of sector-focused partnerships that have resulted in thousands of individuals entering sector-specific training and occupations; and recent data from a random control evaluation of Project Quest's sector approach in Texas shows impressive statistically significant earnings gains for workers over 11 years. Workforce development council in Michigan has also experienced success with industry-specific navigators—citing increased placement and retention rates among jobseekers and increased coordination among employers to develop relevant trainings and career pathways. Currently the career centers do not have specialists by industry, and with the acute shortage of health care workers establishing two navigators deeply versed in health care occupations and with connections to employers will help to interest and connect residents to immediate opportunities in health care as well as to training and education leading to occupational health care credentials.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$600,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

707

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

To prevent double counting across programs, metrics pertaining to training enrollment and completion are not reported here as navigators make referrals to training but do not provide the training

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

368 customers have been connected to employment

Number of health care employers receiving referrals from Navigators for job applicants. Data will be tracked by the Navigators and entered into MJL (?) and reviewed quarterly by the DOL/DHHS management team.

\*

220 employers received referrals or support from Navigator

Analysis of demographics of customers receiving services. Demographic information on individuals coached and/or referred by the Navigator will be collected via MJL and will be reviewed quarterly by the DOL/DHHS management team to monitor which communities are accessing services, and within those communities which populations, including a disaggregation by race and ethnicity. \*

By age: 16-34 yr old (30%), 55+ (24%)  
Disability: 115 individuals with a disability  
Education: 218 individuals with no education beyond HS, 189 with some college/license/certification, 223 with postsecondary  
Substance use: 41 individuals in recovery

Satisfaction of health care employers with Navigators. An annual survey of employers receiving referrals from the health care navigator will give a measure of customer satisfaction from the industry. Survey results will be reviewed annually by a joint DOL/DHHS management team to monitor progress and recalibrate strategies. \*

Of the seven employers who completed the survey, 100% said navigator services were either somewhat helpful or helpful in their recruitment efforts

• Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

169

• Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

Not tracked; referrals made to other programs

• Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

0--not applicable

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

To prevent double counting across programs, metrics pertaining to training completion are not reported here as navigators make referrals to training but do not provide the training

## Training and Stackable Credentials

### Project Information

Control Number \*

H.23.1

Funding Amount

\$7,225,000

Initiative Name

Training and Stackable Credentials

Project Name

Training and Stackable Credentials

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

NOTE: H.21 and H.23 have same business case as H.21 provides program staff for tuition remission and H.23 provides program funding.

This funding invests in training and stackable credential attainment for incumbent frontline healthcare workers. To retain this critical workforce and reduce turnover, establish a tuition remission program for direct service healthcare workers to attain credentials and move into the next rung on their career pathway (such as CNA to LPN, BHP to OT). This program will target incumbent healthcare workers in clinical settings—including long term care, hospital, behavioral health and dental sectors with a primary focus on DHHS Medicare/Medicaid providers. The focus will be on entry-level workers attaining next-level credentials though additional information on exact credential, provider & sectoral needs will be further fleshed out after employer training needs survey are captured (currently in the field) later this month. Current focus on paying for the training needs though additional needs may emerge around bridge/foundational skills education for pre-reqs, test readiness, English Language Learning and/or credential evaluation to support workers from priority communities (New Mainers, those with lower educational attainment, who may be interested but face additional barriers and need additional support to pursue next-level credential attainment. .

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 12/01/2021.

Partners

Department of Health and Human Services: Co-lead on planning & implementing initiative

Department of Labor: Co-lead on planning & implementing initiative

In addition, there are key partners to collaborate with on planning & implementation:

Given healthcare focus of Maine Community College System quality centers' training, we must stay closely aligned with their efforts and understand how these two can complement each other vs. create competing or overlapping initiatives



Maine Dept of Education: Relatedly, it will be important to stay closely connected to adult ed & CTE offerings to ensure this program is offered as a suite of services to those with the highest need and not duplicative

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/health-care-training-me-training-current-health-care-workers>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

The national organization that supports workforce development-focused collaboratives, the National Fund for Workforce Solutions, promotes the investment in frontline healthcare worker training due to its demonstrable effects on:

Worker retention: Beginning in 1999, Genesis pioneered the role of Geriatric Nursing Assistant Specialist, creating a career step-up for Certified Nursing Assistants. More recently, Genesis created a career map of clinical and non-clinical positions, including Restorative Nursing Aide and Certified Restorative Aide.

Since 1999, Genesis has increased the availability of direct care workers by training more than 4,000 CNAs. Since the start of its CNA training program in 1999, Genesis had a 98% reduction in use of staffing agencies. Furthermore, Genesis HealthCare maintained an 81% retention rate for its 2013 program participants.

Worker satisfaction: NY's Urban Health plan recognized gains in employee engagement after investing in worker training—with enhanced perceptions of worker's connection to organizational mission, recognizing opportunities for advancement within the organization, among others

Quality of care: Other models demonstrate that an increased investment in worker training lowers cost of care by preventing errors, increasing efficiency and increasing patient satisfaction with care received.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$7,225,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe evaluation design as noted in **Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance** and Reporting Guidance pg. 38 \*

Tuition remission: A program evaluation will be conducted to understand the employment and wage outcomes of tuition remission participants. The evaluation will examine the employment rates and wages prior to enrollment and after program completion. The evaluation will also consider industry retention within the health care and social assistance sector among program completers. Outcomes will be disaggregated by demographic group and industry subsector where sample sizes are sufficient large enough—though likely to include gender, age and geographic region. The full evaluation will begin after program close—starting in December 2024.

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals receiving financial assistance for education \*

1594

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

1118

Demographics of training participants AND employers: Quarterly/monthly number of qualifying eligible healthcare providers registered by size (large, medium, small) by county AND participant demographics may include –age, gender, race, ethnicity, geographic area. This will be captured for each employer upon applying for funds and for each worker participant via employer data sharing, tracked in Maine JobLink, an existing data management system used for Federal grant reporting

\*

Education: 70% with no postsecondary degree, 15% Bachelors Degree, 11% Associates Degree, 4% Masters Degree  
Age: 13% 16-24 yr old, 11% 55+

Retention of trained workers: For workers who receive employer-sponsored training, we will attempt to track retention with that employer over the coming years to demonstrate the ROI of investing in worker training. We will capture this by quarterly wage data and track in MJL \*

This will be tracked in longer-term employment outcomes

Training completion rates Quarterly/monthly number of employees registered, started and completed training supported by ARPA funds \*

Of all trainees, 12% are still in progress, 70% have completed, and 15% did not complete

Average wage among and/or career change among trained participants: Quarterly number received a wage increase post training-question is if or whether we can consistently collect and attribute this sponsored training to the wage increase. Information source is direct reporting from sponsoring employers and wage data. Quarterly number advanced to new career/job title post training completion/during ARPA performance period (Note: We may be limited by what information is reported and captured in quarterly wage records) \*

Of the 904 trainees that finished their training at least two quarters ago, 88% are employed and 62% (433) have experienced a wage gain. The average starting wage for participants 1 year prior to the program was \$42,647 and increased to nearly \$52,000 two years after program completion.

• Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

1594

• Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

1118

• Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

0 - not applicable

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Healthcare Career Pathways

### Project Information

Control Number \*

H.24.1

Funding Amount

\$2,700,000

Initiative Name

Healthcare Career Pathways

Project Name

Healthcare Career Pathways

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Apprenticeship Program is leveraging ARPA and additional federal grant funds to accomplish the following three goals: 1: Expand high-quality pre & apprenticeships; 2: Increase number of under-represented workers in apprenticeship; 3: Develop an integrated & effective statewide apprenticeship system. A core strategy of apprenticeship expansion will be partnering with Maine's businesses and industry associations, unions, education and training providers, and community-based organizations to develop new pre-apprenticeship and expand existing apprenticeship programs. This initiative will specifically focus on addressing current workforce challenges within the healthcare sector via apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship opportunities.

Justification for allowable use: Maine ended 2019 with employment of 113,164 in Maine's Health Care and Social Assistance industry. Following the onset of the pandemic, employment in the industry dropped by 11.75% to 99,866 in April 2020 (source: Maine Center for Workforce Research and Information, Monthly Industry Employment).

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/23/2022.

Partners

Dept Of Education, Career and Technical Education Director; connection to CTE center programming statewide.  
Maine Community College System( Maine Community College System) – Deputy Director of Workforce Development, primary Maine Community College System Quality Center contact for Dept. of Labor working toward recognizing opportunities for Maine Community College System and Dept of Labor to leverage and braid resources  
Department of Economic and Community Development – Economic Development Coordination, identifying synergy possibilities between Department of Economic and Community Development efforts and Dept of Labor efforts related to Career Exploration

Department of Health and Human Services Healthcare Workforce Program , recognizing opportunities for Department of Health and Human Services and Dept of Labor to leverage and braid resources within the health care sector.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/maine-apprenticeship-program-expansion>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

4

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

298

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

33

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

12

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

Of the 128 individuals who exited the program at least 6 months ago, 91 are employed

Analysis of demographics & geographic info of apprentices and pre-apprentices. Demographic information on individuals served will be collected via MJL and will be reviewed quarterly to monitor which communities are accessing services, and within those communities which populations, including a disaggregation by race and ethnicity. Age range, veteran status, socioeconomic status, disability, substate region, and ethnicity/race will be tracked & disaggregated. \*

Age: 16-34: 48%, 55+: 6%

Disability: 17% self-disclosed

Wages: In addition, we will track wage growth (starting & ending wage) for registered apprenticeship participants \*

Median wage growth for completers: \$40,172 one year before program, \$48,583 one year post program

Program persistence & completion: To understand the effectiveness of program's and introduce additional supports where needed, MAP tracks apprenticeship program persistence and completion rates \*

Of 298 participants, 66% are in progress, 11% completed and 20% exited without completing

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The number of orgs receiving economic assistance was incorrectly stated last year. We reported on the number of businesses receiving technical assistance, which was 17, instead of the number of businesses receiving economic assistance, which is 4

## Campaign to Promote Direct Care Careers

### Project Information

Control Number \*

H.25.1

Funding Amount

\$499,979.72

Initiative Name

Campaign to Promote Direct Care Careers

Project Name

Campaign to Promote Direct Care Careers

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

With direct care shortages threatening the closure of long-term care and other healthcare facilities today due the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more essential than ever that Maine invests in rebuilding, retaining and advancing direct care workers. A targeted recruitment effort designed to bolster the recruitment of workers into direct care entry-level employment with the promise for career, job skill and sustainable wage advancement will promote the value /importance of the profession as well as interest in the field. The project provides one-time funds to contract with a media consulting firm to design and implement a statewide multimedia campaign that encourages Maine residents, particularly those most affected by COVID-19, to consider direct care worker jobs as a career choice.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 12/08/2021.

Partners

Department of Health and Human Services: Part of advisory committee to provide input into campaign development  
Department of Economic and Community Development: Part of advisory committee to provide input into campaign development;  
Dept. of Labor: Part of advisory committee to provide input into campaign development.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/health-care-recruitment-campaigns>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

To prevent double counting across programs, metrics pertaining to training enrollment and completion are not reported here as the campaign made referrals to training but did not provide the training

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

129 individuals connected with healthcare navigators due to the marketing campaign

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

To prevent double counting across programs, metrics pertaining to training enrollment and completion are not reported here as the campaign made referrals to training but did not provide the training

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

16 customers who originated from Caring For ME campaign self-reported they connected to employment, while an additional 13 were referred to employment, and 52 were connected to training opportunities or supportive services. This is a subset of individuals that connected with healthcare navigators due to the marketing campaign

Analysis of demographics of individuals reach and affected through campaign. To ensure we reach the intended target audiences, we will capture select demographics of individuals upon translating from an impression to a conversion (registering for course, applying for job, etc.) We will also work with our marketing partner to capture this info based on social media/web activity or ad placement among communities to understand who is being reach effectively

\*

Facebook Ads impressions: 61% by Men, 38% by women, 47% by 55+, 20% by 18-34 yr olds  
Of 3,000 visitors to MaineJobLink: 75% women, 25% men

Satisfaction of health care employers with direct care campaign. In addition to job placements from jobseekers, we will seek to capture effects of the marketing campaign on healthcare employers to understand if it resulted in newly acquired talent. We will collect this via employer outreach at various points throughout the campaign, asking employers to report on the number of new hires or new connections made due to marketing campaign \*

52 employers connected to the CareerCenter through the marketing campaign and were provided one-on-one technical assistance to support recruitment efforts

Outreach effectiveness: In addition to tracking ultimate outcomes, our marketing partner will regularly report on the reach and effectiveness of the campaign with standard measures for a public service/outreach campaign that we should expect the marketing firm to document are Conversion rate (number of known customers who connected/became customers), social media engagements, and advertising performance. \*

43,000 website visitors, 3,900 clicks on job postings, 11.8 million impressions on campaign  
Additional Facebook ads promoted direct care job fair events reaching 23,000 Facebook customers and 267 calendars featuring direct care career and training opportunities were sent to guidance counselors at high schools throughout Maine



If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

n/a

## ARPA Statistician

### Project Information

Control Number \*

H.26.1

Funding Amount

\$300,000

Initiative Name

ARPA Statistician

Project Name

ARPA Statistician

Sub-Expenditure Category

3.4-Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

### Project Overview

Project Description

This initiative will provide funding to Maine's Department of Labor for one full-time staff person to support the tracking, analyzing, reporting and improving of workforce outcomes associated with key MDOL MJRP programs. This staff person will be deployed to support the outcomes-tracking and continuous improvement of newly developed and implemented MJRP workforce programs, both exclusively within MDOL, as well as provide support as needed to cross-agency workforce efforts.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/28/2023.

Partners

Preliminary conversations on data collection and outcomes tracking with Department of Health and Human Services partners

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/job-and-career-programs-learning-evaluation>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

0--resources are allocated to evaluate workforce programs; outcomes for which are reported in distinct programmatic business cases

Number of individuals receiving financial assistance for education \*

0--resources are allocated to evaluate workforce programs; outcomes for which are reported in distinct programmatic business cases

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

0--resources are allocated to evaluate workforce programs; outcomes for which are reported in distinct programmatic business cases

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

0--resources are allocated to evaluate workforce programs; outcomes for which are reported in distinct programmatic business cases

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

0--resources are allocated to evaluate workforce programs; outcomes for which are reported in distinct programmatic business cases

Analysis of demographics of customers receiving services. Demographic information on individuals enrolled in MJRP MDOL workforce programs will be collected via MJL and will be reviewed quarterly to monitor which communities are accessing services. Gender, age range, veteran status, socioeconomic status, disability, and ethnicity/race will be tracked & disaggregated. \*

0--resources are allocated to evaluate workforce programs; outcomes for which are reported in distinct programmatic business cases

Wage growth: We will capture the wage gains of individuals who participate in MDOL MJRP workforce programs, comparing their wage when they entered to the program to their ending wage when they've entered employment post-training. \*

0--resources are allocated to evaluate workforce programs; outcomes for which are reported in distinct programmatic business cases

Overall spending: An additional metric that will be tracked and regularly reported on is spending per program, remaining funds, and spending per program participant to understand the cost effectiveness of programs in achieving desired outcomes \*

0--resources are allocated to evaluate workforce programs; outcomes for which are reported in distinct programmatic business cases

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

This initiative is focused on evaluating program outcomes and developing program dashboards--it is not responsible in itself for directly service delivery to individuals or businesses but rather monitors and informs program improvement efforts. As this is a supporting staff vs direct service delivery role, we will be updating the metrics in the business case to more accurately reflect that work--to potentially include number of program dashboards created, number program evaluations completed, and number of meetings held with program teams focused on data analysis and program improvement.

# Housing Navigators

## Project Information

Control Number \*

HH.106.1

Funding Amount

\$1,500,000

Initiative Name

Housing Navigators

Project Name

Housing Navigators

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.18-Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance

## Project Overview

Project Description

The Housing Navigation Pilot Program will provide funding to public housing authorities and nonprofit organizations to employ a housing navigator. These navigators will engage landlords in areas of the state where the rental vacancy rate is very low and develop partnerships that encourage them to rent to families experiencing/at serious risk of homelessness and partner with the regional Homeless Response Service Hub, public housing authorities, community action agencies, and homeless liaisons in area schools to accept referrals of families experiencing/at significant risk of homelessness. They will provide support to families with rental assistance (including Housing Choice vouchers and Emergency Rental Assistance) to obtain units and continue that support during the first year of tenancy to assist them in remaining stably housed and will also offer assistance to families with homeless students that have been referred by area schools in obtaining rental assistance through MaineHousing's voucher programs. MaineHousing will fund at least nine organizations to employ at least one Housing Navigator for each Homeless Response Service Hub. At the end of the pilot period, funded organizations will report on final outcomes, lessons learned and best practices.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2022 and program activities are fully complete as of 04/30/2024.

Partners

MaineHousing sought input from stakeholders including Public Housing Authorities, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Education, Maine Equal Justice, Nonprofit Housing Service Providers and legislative and municipal leaders. Once the grantees have been awarded through the Request for Proposals process, MaineHousing will publish the list of grantees who will partner with MaineHousing on this initiative.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/housing-navigators-pilot-program>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

Housing First – it is an evidence-based approach to lower barriers as much as possible to get people into housing despite any challenges they might have so that they can work on those challenges once they are stably housed. The Center for Evidence Based Solutions to Homelessness recognizes the Housing First philosophy, which prioritizes quickly providing permanent housing to individuals and families experiencing homelessness, and doing so with minimum preconditions or barriers, as an evidenced-based approach.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$1,400,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

Number of families served \*

2455 - not all data points below will reflect this total number of families served due to inability to gather some of the data points.

Household composition, including age, gender and race/ethnicity of family members. \*

\*1006 - 1 person household; 501 - 2 person household; 304 - 3 person household; 165 - 4 person household; 105 - 5 person household; 44 - 6 person household; 18 - 7 person household; 11 - 8 person household; 2 - 9 person household (299 households - data not collected)

\*52 households age 11 to 20; 316 households age 21 to 30; 604 households age 31 to 40; 392 households age 41 to 50; 175 households age 51 to 60; 94 households age 61 to 70; 26 households age 71 to 80; 3 households age 81 to 90 (793 households - data not collected)

\*77 American Indian/Alaska households; 6 Asian households; 1244 Black/African American households; 3 Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander households; 525 White households (600 households - data not collected)

\*21 Hispanic or Latino households; 1846 Non Hispanic or Latino households; 588 prefer not to answer

Household income. \*

2211 households 0-30% AMI  
205 households 30-50% AMI  
34 households 50-80% AMI  
5 households 80% + AMI

Type of rental subsidy utilized. \*

9 households - BRAP  
1050 households - General Assistance  
161 households - Housing Choice Vouchers  
13 households - Shelter plus Care  
3 households - Stability Through Engagement Program (STEP)  
77 households - Subsidized housing

Location of housing units. \*

Statewide

Number of families leased \*

848

Length of time between intake and lease up \*

1 month - 203  
2 months - 64  
3 months - 14  
4 months - 8  
Data not collected - 559

Number of families remaining stably housed during the previous six month timeframe \*

Data not available at this time

• Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation) \*

63

• Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed \*

937

## Clean Energy Workforce Development

### Project Information

Control Number \*

I.27.1

Funding Amount

\$3,700,000

Initiative Name

Clean Energy Workforce Development

Project Name

Clean Energy Workforce Development

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

Provides one-time funding to establish the workforce development program of the clean energy partnership to fund programs that advance clean energy workforce development and training programs, including but not limited to internships, scholarships, apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs and a climate corps pilot initiative through AmeriCorps. This initiative will also support the development of an online platform for attracting workers, sharing training opportunities and highlighting job opportunities in this sector and support the Governor's Energy Office in developing programs in partnership with the Department of Labor, industry, education institutions and others focusing efforts on supporting workers and businesses most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and related economic impacts.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 04/05/2022.

Partners

The Clean Energy Partnership will be led by the Governor's Energy Office (GEO) and in partnership with the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future (GOPIF), Maine Department of Labor (Dept. of Labor) and Department of Economic and Community Development. Other partners include the Maine Community College System, the University system, Efficiency Maine Trust, Maine Housing and Community Action Programs, the private sector, labor unions, nonprofits, municipalities, state and local chambers of commerce, among many others.

In particular the GEO will work in close coordination with the Department of of Labor as they advance a number of closely related initiatives.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/clean-energy-partnership-workforce-initiative>

## Key Performance Indicators

### Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

A total of 69 businesses, subcontractors, and community organizations have received economic assistance as a result of the project. Data are self-reported by RFP grant awardees via an annual report submitted as part of project reporting requirements. As reported by RFP grant recipients, businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project are located in all 16 counties of the state.

### Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

A total of 4,975 individuals have received clean energy career development, education or job training assistance as a result of this project. 1,164 of the individualized served received an industry recognized credential or certificate as a result of the program. Among the individuals were 3,213 youth K-12 students. Among the adults served were 202 individuals who identified as females, 85 who identified as BIPOC, 75 who were economically disadvantaged, 47 who were 65+ years old, and 107 young adults (19-25). Among the individuals served, 253 are entering or re-entering the clean energy workforce. Data are self-reported by RFP grant awardees via an annual report submitted as part of project reporting requirements. As the demographic data are self-reported on a voluntary basis by subrecipients, the categorical breakdown is not equivalent to the total number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance as a result of the project.

### Number of small business served

The number of small businesses served, as subrecipients, will be tracked on an annual basis by the Clean Energy Partnership Program Manager. This information will be able to be disaggregated by the organizations business mailing zip code. Recipient demographic data may be more difficult to track depending on the type of entity that is served. \*

69 businesses, subcontractors, and community organizations have received economic assistance as a result of the project. Data are self-reported by subrecipients via an annual report submitted as part of project reporting requirements. As reported by subrecipients, businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project are located in the following zip codes: 04010, 04032, 04037, 04039, 04043, 04073, 04074, 04079, 04092, 04096, 04101, 04102, 04103, 04105, 04106, 04107, 04108, 04112, 04210, 04217, 04234, 04239, 04252, 04268, 04276, 04281, 04289, 04294, 04330, 04342, 04352, 04353, 04358, 04401, 04429, 04468, 04469, 04473, 04475, 04530, 04547, 04572, 04605, 04645, 04660, 04668, 04730, 04743, 04769, 04841, 04843, 04847, 04849, 04854, 04901, 04915, 04917, 04927, 04937, 04938, 04941, 04943, 04950, 04976, 04981, 04984, 04989

### Amount (in US dollars) provided as grants to clean energy businesses

The amount (in US dollars) provided as grants to clean energy businesses will be tracked on an annual basis by the Clean Energy Partnership Program Manager. This information will be able to be disaggregated by the organizations business mailing zip code. Recipient demographic data may be more difficult to track depending on the type of entity that is served. \*

A total of \$2,900,000 has been awarded as a result of the workforce development RFP (202205077). A total of 9 subrecipients have been awarded funds from the project, including small businesses, nonprofits, educational institutions, industry associations, and labor unions.



Aid to Other Impacted Industries, as measured by total hours of engagement, including through publicly available Clean Energy Partnership Advisory Group meetings.

The amount of Aid to Other Impacted Industries, as measured by total hours of Advisory Group and industry engagement, will be tracked on an annual basis by the Clean Energy Partnership Program Manager. This information will be able to be disaggregated by the organizations business mailing zip code, when such information is available. Recipient demographic data will not be tracked due to the public nature of meetings. \*

Since 2022, the Clean Energy Partnership has convened 9 meetings of the Clean Energy Advisory Group. The Clean Energy Partnership consists of 19 members representing 18 State Agencies, businesses, and other organizations. These meetings were made available to the public and were attended by an average of 10 members of the public per convening. The GEO position in the I.28- Public Service Coordinator - Industry & Higher Ed conducted stakeholder engagement activities culminating in approximately 325 hours of meetings, technical assistance, and speaking engagements on behalf of the CEP. Additionally, the GEO maintains a list of interested parties who have opted to receive news and updates from the Clean Energy Partnership program. The Clean Energy Partnership's ""Interested Parties"" list consists of 1,064 of individuals as of June 30, 2025.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Data are self-reported by subrecipients in an annual report submitted as part of project reporting requirements. Subrecipients are required to report 7 mandatory project performance metrics, and select two of seven optional demographic metrics to report against for individuals receiving career development or job training assistance as a result of the project.

## Public Service Coordinator - Industry & Higher Ed

### Project Information

Control Number \*

I.28.1

Funding Amount

\$300,000

Initiative Name

Public Service Coordinator - Industry & Higher Ed

Project Name

Public Service Coordinator - Industry & Higher Ed

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

Establishes one limited-period Public Service Coordinator II position through June 10, 2023 to support the work of the Clean Energy Partnership, including clean energy workforce development, clean energy business and innovation support initiatives.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in May 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 04/05/2022.

Partners

This limited period position will manage the various efforts of the Clean Energy Partnership. This includes maintaining positive relationships and coordination among partners.

The Clean Energy Partnership will be led by the Governor's Energy Office (GEO) and in partnership with the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future (GOPIF), Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Labor (Dept. of Labor) and Department of Economic and Community Development.

Other partners include the Maine Community College System, the University system, Efficiency Maine Trust, Maine Housing and Community Action Programs, the private sector, labor unions, nonprofits, municipalities, state and local chambers of commerce, among many others. In particular the GEO will work in close coordination with the Department of Labor as they advance a number of closely related initiatives.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/clean-energy-partnership-workforce-initiative>

## Key Performance Indicators

Equity in Program Access – This will be measured by identifying the counties in which the businesses/organizations that receive funding are located. The program will work to diversify the reach of this program across the state, and to include a diversity of workforce training participants. Additionally participant demographics will be collected as a grant reporting requirement for the training RFP grant recipients. Both the county and demographics data will be analyzed by the GEO, GOPIF and Clean Energy Partnership, with efforts led by the GEO position in the I.28- Public Service Coordinator - Industry & Higher Ed. \*

Equity in Program Access is tracked for Business Cases i.27.1 and i.27.9, but are not applicable to Business Case i.28.1.

Number of Individuals & Businesses Utilizing the Online Database - The GEO will work to track the success of the online database in connecting individuals to education, training, and career opportunities in the sector. One metric to track is the number of training and educational opportunities that are posted on the site, as well as the number of job opportunities. While challenging, the GEO can utilize qualitative analysis to try to understand the number of specific connections that were pursued as a result of engagement on the site. \*

The GEO has launched the Maine Clean Energy Jobs Network, a new online directory that connects jobseekers to Maine-based clean energy employers and training opportunities. The Network was officially launched in May 2024. As of June 30, 2025, 220 jobseekers and 75 businesses have created accounts on the MCEJN, and 776 jobs have been posted. A total of 45,660 users have visited the site.

Number of Entities Engaged in Clean Energy Partnership – As has been stated previously, the strength of the Clean Energy Partnership lies in the coordinated engagement of industry, support organizations, training and educational institutions, and state government. The more stakeholders that are engaged in the design and implementation of workforce programs, the more likely it is that the programs are successful and will meet the needs of Maine workers. This can be measured by the GEO through the work of the Advisory Group of the Partnership. \*

Since 2022, the Clean Energy Partnership has convened 9 meetings of the Clean Energy Advisory Group. The Clean Energy Partnership consists of 19 members representing 18 State Agencies, businesses, and other organizations. These meetings were made available to the public and were attended by an average of 10 members of the public per convening. The GEO position in the I.28- Public Service Coordinator - Industry & Higher Ed conducted stakeholder engagement activities culminating in approximately 325 hours of meetings, technical assistance, and speaking engagements on behalf of the CEP. Additionally, the GEO maintains a list of interested parties who have opted to receive news and updates from the Clean Energy Partnership program. The Clean Energy Partnership's ""Interested Parties"" list consists of 1,064 of individuals as of June 30, 2025.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Clean Energy Innovation

### Project Information

Control Number \*

I.29.1

Funding Amount

\$2,500,000

Initiative Name

Clean Energy Innovation

Project Name

Clean Energy Innovation

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

Provides one-time funding to establish the clean energy innovation program of the clean energy partnership to fund programs that advance innovation in the clean energy sector. Provides assistance to clean energy and energy efficiency small businesses and startups, as defined by the US Small Business Administration, and in accordance with State Fiscal Recovery Fund guidance, and community-based organizations, business support service providers, and business incubator organizations that are directly supporting clean energy and energy efficiency small businesses and startups. Assistance through this project may be provided in the form of loans, grants, technical assistance, counseling, or other services to support business planning.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in May 2023 and program activities are ongoing as of 05/02/2023.

Partners

The CEP will be led by the Governor's Energy Office (GEO) and in partnership with the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future (GOPIF), Maine Dept. of Labor and Department of Economic and Community Development. Other partners may include Efficiency Maine Trust, Maine Technology Institute, CEI, Score, Maine Center for Entrepreneurs, E2Tech, the private sector, municipalities, nonprofits, state and local chambers of commerce, among others.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/clean-energy-partnership-innovation-initiative>

### Key Performance Indicators

#### Number of small business served

The number of small businesses served, as subrecipients, will be tracked on an annual basis by the Clean Energy Partnership Program Manager. This information will be able to be disaggregated by the organizations business mailing zip code. Recipient demographic data may be more difficult to track depending on the type of entity that is served. \*

A total of 75 small businesses have been served as a result of the project. Data are self-reported by subrecipients via an annual report submitted as part of project reporting requirements. As reported by subrecipients, businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project are located in the following zip codes: 04901, 04011, 04364, 04462, 04841, 04614, 03904, 04101, 04989, 04102, 04092, 04106, 04268, 04861, 04957, 04920, 04579, 04401, 04568, 04660, 04074, 04239, 04002, 04253, 04543, 04424, 04048, 04284, 04667, 04357, 04079, 06489, 04103, 04463, 02421, 03908, 03840, 80304, 01752, 93934, 02148, 02130, 04473, 04096, 02143, 60035, 04576, 02541, 04781, 04105, 04950, 04937, 04258, 04930, 04344, 04668, and 04903

#### Amount (in US dollars) provided as grants to clean energy businesses

The amount (in US dollars) provided as grants to clean energy businesses will be tracked on an annual basis by the Clean Energy Partnership Program Manager. This information will be able to be disaggregated by the organizations business mailing zip code. Recipient demographic data may be more difficult to track depending on the type of entity that is served. \*

A total of \$2,260,672.36 has been awarded as a result of RFP 202306126. A total of 3 subrecipients have been awarded funds from the project, including a nonprofit Community Development Financial Institution, a regional Economic Development Organization, and a University.

#### Aid to Other Impacted Industries, as measured by total hours of engagement, including through publicly available Clean Energy Partnership Advisory Group meetings.

The amount of Aid to Other Impacted Industries, as measured by total hours of Advisory Group and industry engagement, will be tracked on an annual basis by the Clean Energy Partnership Program Manager. This information will be able to be disaggregated by the organizations business mailing zip code, when such information is available. Recipient demographic data will not be tracked due to the public nature of meetings. \*

Since 2022, the Clean Energy Partnership has convened 9 meetings of the Clean Energy Advisory Group. The Clean Energy Partnership consists of 19 members representing 18 State Agencies, businesses, and other organizations. These meetings were made available to the public and were attended by an average of 10 members of the public per convening. The GEO position in the I.28- Public Service Coordinator - Industry & Higher Ed conducted stakeholder engagement activities culminating in approximately 325 hours of meetings, technical assistance, and speaking engagements on behalf of the CEP. Additionally, the GEO maintains a list of interested parties who have opted to receive news and updates from the Clean Energy Partnership program. The Clean Energy Partnership's "Interested Parties" list consists of 1,064 of individuals as of June 30, 2025.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The GEO has selected subrecipients to provide business assistance through advising, accelerator, and incubator programs. These include a nonprofit Community Development Financial Institution, a regional Economic Development Organization, and a University. The programs launched by these organizations (16) have delivered a combined 406 hours of curriculum, provided 603 hours of technical assistance, and assisted businesses with raising a combined \$10,665,500 in financing through grants and capital raises.

## Clean Energy Apprenticeships\_Resubmitting

### Project Information

Control Number \*

I.30.2

Funding Amount

\$1,500,000

Initiative Name

Clean Energy Apprenticeships

Project Name

Clean Energy Apprenticeships\_Resubmitting

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Apprenticeship Program is leveraging ARPA and additional federal grant funds to accomplish the following three goals: 1: Expand high-quality pre & apprenticeships; 2: Increase number of under-represented workers in apprenticeship; 3: Develop an integrated & effective statewide apprenticeship system. A core strategy of apprenticeship expansion will be partnering with Maine's businesses and industry associations, unions, education and training providers, and community-based organizations to develop new pre-apprenticeship and expand existing apprenticeship programs. This initiative will specifically focus on building high quality pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs for the clean energy sector.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/23/2022.

Partners

Governor's Energy Office Senior Policy Analyst, Workforce Development and Governor's Energy Office, Energy Policy Analyst. Connection to and leveraging of the work they are doing related to the Clean Energy Partnership Program and the Industry Partnership Initiative. Will provide connection to businesses.

Dept. of Education -Career and Technical Education Director , connection to CTE center programming statewide.

Department of Economic and Community Development, identifying synergy possibilities between Department of Economic and Community Development efforts and MDept. of Labor efforts

Department of Corrections, Vocational Trades staff, navigating the expansion of apprenticeship in DOC statewide

Maine Community College System, Department of Workforce Development, primary Maine Community College System contact for Dept. of Labor working toward recognizing opportunities for Maine Community College System and Dept. of Labor to leverage and braid resources

Link to Project Website

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

2 employers/organizations directly receiving MJRP funding to develop new or expand existing apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship programs

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

125

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

20

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

13

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

Of the 12 individuals who exited the program at least 6 months ago, 9 are employed

Analysis of demographics/geographic info of apprentices and pre-apprentices. Demographic information on individuals served will be collected via MJL and will be reviewed quarterly to monitor which communities are accessing services, and within those communities which populations, including a disaggregation by race and ethnicity. Age range, veteran status, geographic substate region, socioeconomic status, disability, and ethnicity/race will be tracked & disaggregated. \*

Age: 16-34: 39%, 55+: 8%  
8% self-disclosed having a disability

Wages: In addition, we will track wage growth (starting & ending wage) for registered apprenticeship participants \*

Median wage outcomes will be reported as sample size of completers increases

Program persistence & completion: To understand the effectiveness of program's and introduce additional supports where needed, MAP tracks apprenticeship program persistence and completion rates \*

Of participants, 85 (68%) are in progress, 20 (16%) completed and 20 (16%) exited without completing

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A



## Transition Active Duty Military to Civilian Life

### Project Information

Control Number \*

IL107.1

Funding Amount

\$199,953.12

Initiative Name

Transition Active Duty Military to Civilian Life

Project Name

Transition Active Duty Military to Civilian Life

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Department of Economic and Community Development, in collaboration with the Bureau of Veterans Services, will partner with military personnel assistance organizations to participate in a one-year pilot project aimed at providing employment opportunities in qualified industries in Maine that have been negatively impacted by the pandemic for military personnel transitioning from service.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in February 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 04/15/2022.

Partners

Department of Economic and Community Development – implementation lead  
Bureau of Veterans Services – key thought partner and collaborator on program design  
Live and Work in Maine – key thought partner in talent attraction  
Veterans Business Outreach Center of NE – key thought partner in supporting spouses and partners of transitioning military  
Department of Labor - identify businesses in industry sectors negatively impacted by the pandemic.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/military-veteran-career-transition-pilot-program>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

0. Following the launch of the program, it was determined that there was no way to confidently tie the number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided to the work performed.

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

147 per Boots2Roots tracking software.

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

50 per Boots2Roots tracking software.

This pilot project will require quarterly reporting on project deliverables and goals. Output measures will include the number of newly employed veterans, demographics and locations and the number of positions filled in negatively impacted industries. \*

With priority being on attracting workers to negatively impacted industries, 88% of those veterans who found work did so in negatively impacted industries. Positions filled include: Healthcare/Social Services- 9; Construction/Trades/Logistics- 17; Manufacturing- 11; Education- 3; Agriculture- 0; Information/IT/Cyber- 1; Clean Energy- 3. Additional jobs will be filled as Veterans who enrolled in the program during the period of performance make their transitions to living and working in Maine.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Boots2Roots increased year-over-year enrollment 93% (147 total enrollees) and the program's active candidate pool increased 110%. Additionally, the number of military service members, Veterans and Spouses finding work through Boots2Roots' Transition to Work Program increased 22% (50 total hires). Of those who found employment, 88% did so in Maine industries negatively impacted by the pandemic, and Boots2Roots' Teammates found work in 13 of Maine's counties. When family members are counted, Boots2Roots impacted over 150 new Mainers. The significant increase in enrollment portends continued program growth into 2024 and continued positive impact to Maine's workforce.

## Domestic Trade Outreach

### Project Information

Control Number \*

J.31.1

Funding Amount

\$91,050

Initiative Name

Domestic Trade Outreach

Project Name

Domestic Trade Outreach

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

With funding from the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development's Office of Business Development is developing a pilot program to help support Maine's small- to mid-sized businesses to grow sales across the United States. This portion of the funding will support marketing of Maine's goods and services to other markets within the United States.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022. SLFRF program expenditures and program activities are complete of 6/30/2024.

Partners

One of the recommendations in the Domestic Trade Baseline Study (completed in 2020) was to establish an informal Domestic Trade Advisory Board to ensure that the Office of Business Development's Domestic Trade Pilot Program is consistent with business needs. While the exact make-up of this Advisory Board has not yet been determined, it will likely include many of the key stakeholders who were engaged during the Domestic Trade Baseline Study. These stakeholders include (but are not limited to):

- Department of Environmental Protection
- Department of Agriculture Conservation & Forestry
- Department of Marine Resources
- Maine International Trade Center
- Maine Technology Institute
- Procurement Technical Assistance Centers
- Maine Made c/o Maine Department of Economic and Community Development
- Manufacturing Extension Partnership
- University of Maine

The Office of Business Development will also rely on other partner organizations to supply data to inform program design.

These organizations may include Focus Maine, CEI, Forest Industry Roadmap Maine, and trade associations (e.g., Maine Aquaculture Association, Manufacturers Association of Maine). These organizations may or may not play a role in the Advisory Board. The exact make-up of the Advisory Board will be at the discretion of the Commissioners of the Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Economic & Community Development, Marine Resources, and Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/domestic-trade-program>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses accessing DECD's domestic trade webpage \*

See: " If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results"

Number of businesses or domestic trade organizations receiving direct financial support, including businesses in economically disadvantaged areas of the state (economically distressed counties) and businesses owned by minorities \*

See: " If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results"

Number of businesses that reported an increase in domestic sales as a result of receiving assistance from Maine's domestic trade recovery grant program \*

See: " If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results"

Percentage of businesses reporting an increase in sales as compared with the total number of businesses receiving grants \*

See: " If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results"

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

J.31.1 is part of a larger Domestic Trade initiative that was comprised of four separate business cases/ control numbers: J.31, J.32, J.33, and J.34. The focus of J.31 was to support the marketing of Maine's goods and services to other markets within the USA. At last reporting cycle the Marketing Outreach Strategy RFP was posted. Following a review in Fall of 2024, it was determined that the awards and/or contracts would not be able to be fully executed by the required December 31, 2024 obligation deadline. Utilizing the authority pursuant to Public Law 2023, Chapter 643, Part D - remaining funds were subsequently reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives. No further activity will be reported for this control number.

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

See: " If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results"

Total sales by industry made to entities outside of the State (showing Maine, Maine's Rank among all states, US Average):

- (a) % change in past 1 and 5 years;
- (b) current years as % of total sales;
- (c) current years as % of gross state product; \*

See: " If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results"

Foreign Export Sales\* (showing Maine, Maine's Rank among other states, US Average):

- (a) % change in past 1 and 5 years;
- (b) current years as % of total sales;
- (c) current years as % of gross state product; \*

See: " If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results"

## Domestic Trade Pilot

### Project Information

Control Number \*

J.32.1

Funding Amount

\$401,620.19

Initiative Name

Domestic Trade Pilot

Project Name

Domestic Trade Pilot

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

With funding from the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development's Office of Business Development is developing a pilot program to help support Maine's small- to mid-sized businesses to grow sales across the United States. This portion of the funding will support development, management, and oversight of Domestic Trade Pilot Program

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in July 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 10/17/2022.

Partners

One of the recommendations in the Domestic Trade Baseline Study (completed in 2020) was to establish an informal Domestic Trade Advisory Board to ensure that the Office of Business Development's Domestic Trade Pilot Program is consistent with business needs. While the exact make-up of this Advisory Board has not yet been determined, it will likely include many of the key stakeholders who were engaged during the Domestic Trade Baseline Study. These stakeholders include (but are not limited to):

- Department of Environmental Protection
- Department of Agriculture Conservation & Forestry
- Department of Marine Resources
- Maine International Trade Center
- Maine Technology Institute
- Procurement Technical Assistance Centers
- Maine Made c/o Maine Department of Economic and Community Development
- Manufacturing Extension Partnership
- University of Maine

The Office of Business Development will also rely on other partner organizations to supply data to inform program design.

These organizations may include Focus Maine, CEI, Forest Industry Roadmap Maine, and trade associations (e.g., Maine Aquaculture Association, Manufacturers Association of Maine). These organizations may or may not play a role in the Advisory Board. The exact make-up of the Advisory Board will be at the discretion of the Commissioners of the Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Economic & Community Development, Marine Resources, and Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/domestic-trade-program>

## Key Performance Indicators

Total sales by industry made to entities outside of the State (showing Maine, Maine's Rank among all states, US Average):

- (a) % change in past 1 and 5 years;
- (b) current years as % of total sales;
- (c) current years as % of gross state product; \*

Metrics will be collected by the Domestic Trade Program Manager using exit surveys from businesses receiving technical assistance from the Domestic Trade Pilot Program. Exit surveys will be distributed no more than one year from when a business receives assistance from the program. A year is needed to gauge the effectiveness of the technical assistance and market data/analysis supplied to the businesses. Trade improvements do not happen quickly, but rather take time to yield quantifiable results via increased sales and increased market share.

Foreign Export Sales\* (showing Maine, Maine's Rank among other states, US Average):

- (a) % change in past 1 and 5 years;
- (b) current years as % of total sales;
- (c) current years as % of gross state product; \*

Metrics will be collected by the Domestic Trade Program Manager using exit surveys from businesses receiving technical assistance from the Domestic Trade Pilot Program. Exit surveys will be distributed no more than one year from when a business receives assistance from the program. A year is needed to gauge the effectiveness of the technical assistance and market data/analysis supplied to the businesses. Trade improvements do not happen quickly, but rather take time to yield quantifiable results via increased sales and increased market share.

Number of businesses accessing DECD's domestic trade webpage \*

To date (2024-2025), there have been 26,645 page views/site visits across all Domestic Trade pages by 13,779+ users.

Number of businesses or domestic trade organizations receiving direct financial support, including businesses in economically disadvantaged areas of the state (economically distressed counties) and businesses owned by minorities \*

94

Number of businesses that reported an increase in domestic sales as a result of receiving assistance from Maine's domestic trade recovery grant program \*

0, data will be gathered during exit interviews and surveys. None have been completed as of the time of reporting.

Percentage of businesses reporting an increase in sales as compared with the total number of businesses receiving grants \*

Metrics will be collected by the Domestic Trade Program Manager using exit surveys from businesses receiving technical assistance from the Domestic Trade Pilot Program. Exit surveys will be distributed no more than one year from when a business receives assistance from the program. A year is needed to gauge the effectiveness of the technical assistance and market data/analysis supplied to the businesses. Trade improvements do not happen quickly, but rather take time to yield quantifiable results via increased sales and increased market share.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Metrics will be collected by the Domestic Trade Program Manager using exit surveys from businesses receiving technical assistance from the Domestic Trade Pilot Program. Exit surveys will be distributed no more than one year from when a business receives assistance from the program. A year is needed to gauge the effectiveness of the technical assistance and market data/analysis supplied to the businesses. Trade improvements do not happen quickly, but rather take time to yield quantifiable results via increased sales and increased market share.



## State Trade Promotion

### Project Information

Control Number \*

J.33.1

Funding Amount

\$9,953,844

Initiative Name

State Trade Promotion

Project Name

State Trade Promotion

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

With funding from the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development's Office of Business Development is developing a pilot program to help support Maine's small- to mid-sized businesses to grow sales across the United States. This portion of the funding will provide direct support via grants to Maine-based organizations that are already engaged in assisting other Maine companies with domestic trade.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 07/15/2022.

Partners

One of the recommendations in the Domestic Trade Baseline Study (completed in 2020) was to establish an informal Domestic Trade Advisory Board to ensure that the Office of Business Development's Domestic Trade Pilot Program is consistent with business needs. While the exact make-up of this Advisory Board has not yet been determined, it will likely include many of the key stakeholders who were engaged during the Domestic Trade Baseline Study. These stakeholders include (but are not limited to):

- Department of Environmental Protection
- Department of Agriculture Conservation & Forestry
- Department of Marine Resources
- Maine International Trade Center
- Maine Technology Institute
- Procurement Technical Assistance Centers
- Maine Made c/o Maine Department of Economic and Community Development
- Manufacturing Extension Partnership
- University of Maine

The Office of Business Development will also rely on other partner organizations to supply data to inform program design. These organizations may include Focus Maine, CEI, Forest Industry Roadmap Maine, and trade associations (e.g., Maine

Aquaculture Association, Manufacturers Association of Maine). These organizations may or may not play a role in the Advisory Board. The exact make-up of the Advisory Board will be at the discretion of the Commissioners of the Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Economic & Community Development, Marine Resources, and Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/domestic-trade-program>

## Key Performance Indicators

Total sales by industry made to entities outside of the State (showing Maine, Maine's Rank among all states, US Average):

- (a) % change in past 1 and 5 years;
- (b) current years as % of total sales;
- (c) current years as % of gross state product; \*

This data will be collected as a part of the measures associated with Business Case J.34.1.

Foreign Export Sales\* (showing Maine, Maine's Rank among other states, US Average):

- (a) % change in past 1 and 5 years;
- (b) current years as % of total sales;
- (c) current years as % of gross state product; \*

This data will be collected as a part of the measures associated with Business Case J.34.1.

Number of businesses accessing DECD's domestic trade webpage \*

This data will be collected as a part of the measures associated with Business Case J.34.1.

Number of businesses or domestic trade organizations receiving direct financial support, including businesses in economically disadvantaged areas of the state (economically distressed counties) and businesses owned by minorities \*

To date, 325 individual businesses have received direct financial support for a total of 544 projects. Awards have been given to all of Maine's 16 counties. Sub-awardees track minority-ownership of businesses individually; the collective metrics of individual businesses will be aggregated later.

Number of businesses that reported an increase in domestic sales as a result of receiving assistance from Maine's domestic trade recovery grant program \*

27 --This includes businesses who received grants and technical assistance. Preliminary, anecdotal results are impressive, indicating that small, targeted investments can have significant impact for building capacity and increasing domestic sales. As grants close and information from the five sub awardees is aggregated, there will be firm numbers. Maine APEX Accelerator's technical assistance services are a key driver for securing public sector contracts, resulting in over \$95M since work began in earnest in 2023.

Percentage of businesses reporting an increase in sales as compared with the total number of businesses receiving grants \*

236 to date. This will be compiled as more projects close and report their results.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Please note, the Domestic Trade initiative consists of four separate business cases: J.31, J.32, J.33, and J.34.  
J.31.1 - Domestic Trade Outreach - This portion of the funding is to conduct a Domestic Trade Market Outreach Assessment and Strategy.  
J.32.1 - Domestic Trade Pilot - This portion of the funding is for the administration and execution of the overall Domestic Trade initiative.  
J.33.1 - This includes several components of domestic trade including specific initiatives with partner organizations such as Maine Made, MTI, and MITC. Program supports include technical assistance and direct grant funding.  
J.34.1 - This program focuses on securing market analytics to support the efforts and opportunities of small businesses and companies in the State.

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

1,046 businesses received Technical Assistance on business operations and strategies, including many through the APEX accelerator.

## Trade & Market Analysis

### Project Information

Control Number \*

J.34.1

Funding Amount

\$1,600,000

Initiative Name

Trade & Market Analysis

Project Name

Trade & Market Analysis

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

With funding from the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development's Office of Business Development is developing the Domestic Trade Pilot Program to help support Maine's small- to mid-sized businesses to grow sales across the United States. This portion of the funding will expand the availability of trade and market data and analysis to support the efficient and effective implementation of the program.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 09/22/2022.

Partners

One of the recommendations in the Domestic Trade Baseline Study (completed in 2020) was to establish an informal Domestic Trade Advisory Board to ensure that the Office of Business Development's Domestic Trade Pilot Program is consistent with business needs. While the exact make-up of this Advisory Board has not yet been determined, it will likely include many of the key stakeholders who were engaged during the Domestic Trade Baseline Study. These stakeholders include (but are not limited to):

- Department of Environmental Protection
- Department of Agriculture Conservation & Forestry
- Department of Marine Resources
- Maine International Trade Center
- Maine Technology Institute
- Procurement Technical Assistance Centers
- Maine Made c/o Maine Department of Economic and Community Development
- Manufacturing Extension Partnership
- University of Maine

The Office of Business Development will also rely on other partner organizations to supply data to inform program design. These organizations may include Focus Maine, CEI, Forest Industry Roadmap Maine, and trade associations (e.g., Maine

Aquaculture Association, Manufacturers Association of Maine). These organizations may or may not play a role in the Advisory Board. The exact make-up of the Advisory Board will be at the discretion of the Commissioners of the Department of Environmental Protection, Departments of Economic & Community Development, Marine Resources, and Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/domestic-trade-program>

## Key Performance Indicators

Total sales by industry made to entities outside of the State (showing Maine, Maine's Rank among all states, US Average):

- (a) % change in past 1 and 5 years;
- (b) current years as % of total sales;
- (c) current years as % of gross state product; \*

Industries saw a total of \$184.5 billion in sales in 2023 and \$102.7 billion was exported outside of the state. Compared to 2022, total sales saw an increase of 6.6%. Economy-wide, the state added nearly 26,759 jobs from 2018-2023, growing by 4%. This growth is on par with the national economy, which also grew by 4% during this time period. Combined domestic (outside of Maine) and foreign exports account for 55.7% of all sales in 2023: 54.1% to domestic out-of-state entities and 1.6% to foreign entities. In 2023, Maine's total sales exports (including foreign and domestic) totaled \$102.7 billion, compared to \$91.7 billion of total imports (including foreign and domestic). Combined, this equates to total net exported sales of \$11.0 billion. This net exported sales value represents 13% of Maine's GSP in 2023.

Foreign Export Sales\* (showing Maine, Maine's Rank among other states, US Average):

- (a) % change in past 1 and 5 years;
- (b) current years as % of total sales;
- (c) current years as % of gross state product; \*

Maine industries exported \$3.0 billion to foreign entities in 2023, representing a decline of 14% compared to 2022 but growth of 5% compared to 2018, five years prior. This compares to a -3% decline from 2022 and +21% growth from 2018-2023 for the United States. Of the \$102.7 billion of sales exported out of Maine in 2023, \$3.0 billion was exported to foreign entities, accounting for 1.6% of total sales. By this measure, Maine slightly lags the United States, which exported an average of 3.8% of total sales to foreign entities. Maine's gross state product was \$83.8 billion in 2023. The state's \$3.0 billion of foreign exports accounted for 3.5% of the state's GSP.

Number of businesses accessing DECD's domestic trade webpage \*

Google Analytics recorded 70,319 sessions by 50,930 users in the period between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023. The number of business users included in the total user number is not designated. In the period between January 1-June 30 2024, the Domestic Trade website had 14,355 visits by 7726 individual users. 75% of the views were to the DECD Domestic Trade grants page. Total Visits: 84,674 / Total Users: 58,656

To date (2024-2025), there have been 26,645 page views/site visits across all Domestic Trade pages by 13,779+ users.

Number of businesses or domestic trade organizations receiving direct financial support, including businesses in economically disadvantaged areas of the state (economically distressed counties) and businesses owned by minorities \*

0. The metrics listed in the individual business cases associated with the Domestic Trade Program (J.31.1, J.32.1, J.33.1, and J.34.1) were based on the KPIs for the entire Domestic Trade Program. Individual measures may not be applicable to all individual components. For this reason, metrics reported in the aforementioned Domestic Trade Program components should be viewed as a reflection of the progress made on the program as a whole.

Number of businesses that reported an increase in domestic sales as a result of receiving assistance from Maine's domestic trade recovery grant program \*

0. The metrics listed in the individual business cases associated with the Domestic Trade Program (J.31.1, J.32.1, J.33.1, and J.34.1) were based on the KPIs for the entire Domestic Trade Program. Individual measures may not be applicable to all individual components. For this reason, metrics reported in the aforementioned Domestic Trade Program components should be viewed as a reflection of the progress made on the program as a whole.

Percentage of businesses reporting an increase in sales as compared with the total number of businesses receiving grants \*

The metrics listed in the individual business cases associated with the Domestic Trade Program (J.31.1, J.32.1, J.33.1, and J.34.1) were based on the KPIs for the entire Domestic Trade Program. Individual measures may not be applicable to all individual components. For this reason, metrics reported in the aforementioned Domestic Trade Program components should be viewed as a reflection of the progress made on the program as a whole.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Metrics will be collected by the Domestic Trade Program Manager using exit surveys from businesses receiving technical assistance from the Domestic Trade Pilot Program. Exit surveys will be distributed no more than one year from when a business receives assistance from the program. A year is needed to gauge the effectiveness of the technical assistance and market data/analysis supplied to the businesses. Trade improvements do not happen quickly, but rather take time to yield quantifiable results via increased sales and increased market share.

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

104

## Talent & Workforce Attraction

### Project Information

Control Number \*

K.35.1

Funding Amount

\$1,358,339

Initiative Name

Talent & Workforce Attraction

Project Name

Talent & Workforce Attraction

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

This investment seeks to strategically attract out of state workers into Maine to fill critical positions in the State's key industries most impacted by the pandemic. This effort will compliment, expand and/or strengthen existing efforts in the State to meet a similar goal. It will have three main components: 1. Overarching and coordinated marketing workforce attraction strategy 2. Connecting these workers with coordinated and integrated employment opportunities, including any training, retraining or upskilling. 3. Supporting employers to successfully to attract, hire, onboard and retain these workers, as well as connecting them to relevant existing supports.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in September 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 06/01/2023.

Partners

Dept. of Labor and Department of Health and Human Services are the primary State Agency partners

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/welcome-home-talent-attraction-program>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

507 employers registered for the REACH Employer Summit with a total of 363 registered as attending the conference. Data was collected from active registrations and participation recorded using the Slido app which recorded attendance at each session and through a follow-on attendee survey.

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

88

Number of individuals receiving financial assistance for education \*

0, this portion of the program has not begun.

Number of employers engaged \*

778 employers engaged thus far.

Number of people engaged through workforce attraction marketing efforts \*

695K impressions online, via Media Audio Campaign

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A



## Talent & Workforce Attraction - 2 WCC

### Project Information

Control Number \*

K.35.2

Funding Amount

\$1,140,000

Initiative Name

Talent & Workforce Attraction

Project Name

Talent & Workforce Attraction - 2 WCC

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

With the addition of MJRP funds, the Boston Federal Reserve will be able to expand targeted support for workforce development in six low- and moderate-income communities working to recover from negative economic impacts of the pandemic.

The Boston Fed will be the subrecipient for the funding in this business case and will deploy the funds to six communities through awards to a mix of municipalities and community organizations following project development and assessment against the criteria below. The Federal Reserve will be responsible for administering all subawards, monitoring compliance, and facilitating reporting consistent with UST requirements.

Allowable projects for use of these funds include:

- Job training, credential development, pre-apprenticeships, on-the-job training, industry career pathway programs, or other training-based assistance or delivery improvement of these programs
- Initiatives focused on improving job opportunities, attracting and retaining workers, and growing workforce participation
- Subsidized employment programs, apprenticeships, grants to hire underserved workers, retention supports for newly employed workers, or other hiring, development, or retention programs or incentives
- Development or enhancement of local job and workforce training centers, partnerships, evaluation, infrastructure, or technical education facilities or equipment
- Wraparound supports that reduce barriers to employment
- Help for unemployed to start small businesses

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in March 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 03/01/2023.

Partners

Department of Economic and Community Development, Department of Health and Human Services and Dept. of Labor will be involved in the execution work of the communities.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/welcome-home-talent-attraction-program>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

The WCC has been implemented in several other states. The scale of the investment in order to achieve meaningful impact has been proven across New England. In addition, each community had to submit individual budgets to align their activities with their projected results.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$1,140,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe evaluation design as noted in **Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance** and Reporting Guidance pg. 38 \*

The Boston Federal Reserve Bank/BlueHub Financial will be conducting an evaluation this program as part of their overall review of the Working Communities Challenge. As such this evaluation will pull data from project across the State in an effort to demonstrate the success of the initiatives being conducted in historically disadvantaged communities. One goal of the Working Communities Challenge is to identify processes and efforts that can be replicated in other environments to support economic advances.

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

9

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

3

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

97

Number of Industries supported as a result of the project \*

0

The Boston Fed will share teams' progress toward the following performance indicators:

Workforce participation rates in participating communities – Department of Labor published reports , Wage growth in low income sectors in participating communities – Department of Labor wage data, Number of people in workforce – census data \*

Sagadahoc County: 82% workforce participation rate (1% decrease); Average Weekly Wages: \$705 average across measured sectors (2% increase); Workforce size: increase of 1,277 people, 20,220 total workforce in June 2025.

Maine Highlands: 71.6% workforce participation rate (2.9% increase); Average Weekly Wages: \$583 average across measured sectors (6.7% increase); Workforce size: Decline of 660 people, 6,615 total workforce in June 2025.

Washington County-Passamaquoddy Tribe: 70.5% workforce participation rate (2.8% increase); Average Weekly Wages: \$631 average across measured sectors (10% increase); Workforce size: Decrease of 749 people, 12,382 total workforce in June 2025.

Greater Bangor: 75.7% workforce participation rate (no change); Average Weekly Wages: \$571 average across measured sectors (2.5% increase); Workforce size: Increase of 6,797 people, 76,195 total workforce in June 2025.

Lewiston Auburn: 79.5% workforce participation rate (.1% increase); Average Weekly Wages: \$593 average across measured sectors (1.9% decrease); Workforce size: Increase of 2,224 people, 55,793 total workforce in June 2025.

Katahdin Region: 75.7% workforce participation rate (no change); Average Weekly Wages: \$515 average across measured sectors (5.7% increase); Workforce size: N/A

• Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

123

• Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

100

• Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

27

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Healthcare Workforce Recruitment

### Project Information

Control Number \*

K.36.1

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000

Initiative Name

Healthcare Workforce Recruitment

Project Name

Healthcare Workforce Recruitment

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

Provides one-time funding to support nursing home, federally qualified health center and hospital health care recruitment efforts to address critical health care workforce shortages to be spent as part of a collaborative public-private partnership with providers.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are fully complete as of 12/31/2023.

Partners

Collaboration with the following healthcare sector partners:  
- Maine Hospital Association, Maine Primary Care Association, Maine Healthcare Association.  
-Advisory committee to provide input into campaign development: Department of Economic and Community Development; Dept. of Labor; Department of Health and Human Services. Marketing: Live Work Maine

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/health-care-recruitment-campaigns>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

Our Marketing efforts can track web analytics to show how many candidates viewed health care jobs. We can also track how many candidates clicked the apply button. Once they are referred directly to the health care employer, we do not have the ability to track who was hired.

(Determining if this measure needs to be amended in the next reporting cycle. We can track the number of web site views and "apply" button clicks.)

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to

help reader interpret results \*

Please note, K 36.1 and K 36.2 are related strategies. We extended the Live and Work in Maine contract for CY 23.

This is a marketing and workforce attraction campaign aimed at increasing the healthcare workforce. We will work closely with the selected marketing vendors to capture website impressions as well as track the number of conversions—or the number of individuals who enter thru the established campaign microsite and ultimately register for a training, internship, credential or apply for a job. We will conduct follow up outreach as capacity allows with individuals captured through the campaign to collect this information, as well as work with employers and training provider partners to supplement it.

-Analysis of demographics or individuals reach and affected through campaign: To ensure we reach the intended target audiences, we will capture select demographics of individuals upon translating from an impression to a conversion (registering for course, applying for job, etc.) We will also work with our marketing vendors to capture this info based on social media/web activity or ad placement among communities to understand who is being reached effectively.

-Satisfaction of health care employers with direct care campaign: In addition to job placements from jobseekers, we will seek to capture effects of the marketing campaign on healthcare employers to understand if it resulted in newly acquired talent. We will collect this via employer outreach at various points throughout the campaign, asking employers to report on the number of new hires or new connections made due to marketing campaign. \*

For the first year of the health workforce attraction campaign, we contracted with Live and Work in Maine. They created a multi-pronged strategy which included material specific to younger workers, high school students and guidance counselors highlighting career paths in healthcare; marketing health sector jobs through radio, streaming, youtube and other platforms; highlighting tuition and training available; and highlighting the benefits of living in Maine while working in healthcare. <https://healthcare.liveandworkinmaine.com>

In Calendar Year 2022 we achieved the following results on the Live and Work in Maine job board:

Healthcare Jobs Posted: 46,209 (multiple health sector employers and multiple positions at each employer)

Views of Healthcare Jobs: 147,891 (website impressions)

Candidates applying to jobs: 2,601 (new connections made through attraction efforts, candidates applying directly on the Live and Work in Maine job board)

Employer partners have been pleased with the results. MaineHealth, one of the largest health systems and employers in the state, provided the following quote as feedback. "We have consistently observed meaningful results related to the impact of their job board, but have also benefited significantly from the quality talent leads generated through their tremendous work marketing the State of Maine. We consider the Live and Work in Maine team an invaluable partner and look forward to continuing to work closely with them on efforts to attract talent to the state's workforce."

-- Jamie Galanif, Manager, Talent Acquisition (MaineHealth)

2025 - no changes from prior year reporting. Please see K.36.2 for continued metrics.

## Healthcare Workforce Recruitment FY23

### Project Information

Control Number \*

K.36.2

Funding Amount

\$1,499,922

Initiative Name

Healthcare Workforce Recruitment

Project Name

Healthcare Workforce Recruitment FY23

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

Provides one-time funding to support nursing home, federally qualified health center and hospital health care recruitment efforts to address critical health care workforce shortages to be spent as part of a collaborative public-private partnership with providers. This project will include a marketing strategy, a healthcare related job board, and a website highlighting career pathways, healthcare related training programs and resources such as tuition remission and loan forgiveness for individuals working in the healthcare sector.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in February 2023 and program activities are ongoing as of 09/25/2023.

Partners

Collaboration with the following healthcare sector partners:  
- Maine Hospital Association, Maine Primary Care Association, Maine Healthcare Association.  
-Advisory committee to provide input into campaign development: Department of Economic and Community Development; Dept. of Labor; Department of Health and Human Services.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/health-care-recruitment-campaigns>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

Our marketing efforts can track web analytics to show how many candidates viewed health care jobs. We can also track how many candidates clicked the apply button. Once they are referred directly to the health care employer, we do not have the ability to track who was hired. (Determining if this measure needs to be amended in the next reporting cycle. We can track the number of web site views and "apply" button clicks.)



This is a marketing and workforce attraction campaign aimed at increasing the healthcare workforce. We will work closely with the selected marketing vendors to capture website impressions as well as track the number of conversions—or the number of individuals who enter thru the established campaign microsite and ultimately register for a training, internship, credential or apply for a job. We will conduct follow up outreach as capacity allows with individuals captured through the campaign to collect this information, as well as work with employers and training provider partners to supplement it.

-Analysis of demographics or individuals reach and affected through campaign: To ensure we reach the intended target audiences, we will capture select demographics of individuals upon translating from an impression to a conversion (registering for course, applying for job, etc.) We will also work with our marketing vendors to capture this info based on social media/web activity or ad placement among communities to understand who is being reached effectively.

-Satisfaction of health care employers with direct care campaign: In addition to job placements from jobseekers, we will seek to capture effects of the marketing campaign on healthcare employers to understand if it resulted in newly acquired talent. We will collect this via employer outreach at various points throughout the campaign, asking employers to report on the number of new hires or new connections made due to marketing campaign. \*

As noted in K.36.1, this is a continuation of an existing strategy. Based on successful outcomes, we extended the Live and Work in Maine contract through calendar year 2023. They will re-run the ads deemed most successful in 2022 to drive traffic to the job board with a planned summer/fall 2023 media push. The following metrics are reflective of numbers PRIOR to the fall 2023 media push. Updated metrics will be added for the next reporting cycle.

From January 1, 2023 through July 1, 2023, we achieved the following results on the Live and Work in Maine job board:

Healthcare Jobs Posted: 21,664 (multiple health sector employers and multiple positions at each employer)

Views of Healthcare Jobs: 59,235 (website impressions)

Candidates applying to jobs: 1,245 (new connections made through attraction efforts, candidates applying directly on the Live and Work in Maine job board)

In addition to the Live and Work in Maine job board, we are also making improvements to the website which highlights training opportunities in the health sector. <https://www.maine.gov/healthcaretrainingforme>

An RFP is currently in development to procure a master calendar tool which can pull health related training offerings from multiple training partners into one centralized calendar.

6/30/24 update:

The Live and Work in Maine Campaign <https://healthcare.liveandworkinmaine.com/> ran another round of paid advertising between August 2023 and December 2023. This included a radio campaign of 20 different stations with an estimate of 16 million listens; a digital campaign including streaming, social media and google. This resulted in 1.2M video views, with 55,692 click throughs, resulting in a 38% interaction rate.

As a result of this paid advertising, the Job Board saw a 176% increase in applicants. In addition, the Live and Work in Maine team mailed health career resources to 300 educators across the state for use in the classroom, and hosted 3 health career panels (one in person, 2 virtual attended by students at multiple districts). The website remains active and while ads are not currently running, MDOL reports continued referrals to their Health Career Navigators from the <https://healthcare.liveandworkinmaine.com/> website users. Recent examples include EMS and CNA candidates looking to upskill, and individuals looking to begin a healthcare career.

Update June 30, 2025

Improvements to the Healthcare Training for ME <https://www.maine.gov/healthcaretrainingforme/> website are underway. In partnership with MDOL, DECD, and DHHS, a contract was procured via a competitive bid process. Additional advertising will drive traffic to the updated Healthcare Training for ME platform once it is launched in early 2025.

The training calendar and career pathway tool are estimated to launch in October of 2025. A student attraction campaign is currently in development and will launch once the training calendar and career pathway tool is live. The Maine Careers with Purpose website is complete, and clinician recruitment is underway. We will have a final report of all metrics available at the end of the contract period.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

K.36.1 and k.36.2 are the same project that was broken out into 2 business cases over 2 years. They are part of a holistic strategy which also includes H.19.1 Curriculum Design Services, and H.20.1 Preceptors and Clinical Sites.

## Reimbursement of Board Expenses

### Project Information

Control Number \*

KK.108.1

Funding Amount

Initiative Name

Reimbursement of Board Expenses

Project Name

Reimbursement of Board Expenses

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

With funding from the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry is establishing the Maine Agriculture, Food, and Forest Products Investment Fund to help spur economic recovery through innovative investments in the sector. This portion of the funding will be used to reimburse incidental expenses by members of the Fund's board. Established under LD 1773, the Fund will have far-reaching and long-lasting impacts across the agriculture, food, and forestry sectors. This program will help stimulate near-term economic recovery among farms and businesses negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic by providing appropriately structured and scaled financial resources that encourage sustainable growth and resilience. The Advisory Board established under LD 1733 will perform a critical role related to governance and administration of the Investment Fund, thereby directly impacting the farms and small businesses that represent the prospective applicant pool for this particular resource. Funding for board reimbursement, as outlined in LD 1733, will enable participation of appropriately experienced and diverse Board Members.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in May 2022. Following a review conducted in Fall 2024, it was determined that the funds allocated to this project would not be obligated within the required timeframe. Following the authority granted under Chapter 643, Part D, the project was cancelled. The funds were subsequently swept and reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives.

Partners

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry is continuously collaborating with the Department of Economic and Community Development, per the language in LD 1733. Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry is also working closely with Coastal Enterprises, Inc. (CEI), which played an important role in developing the concept for the investment fund. The Department has already identified a contractor to conduct the assessment activities outlined in LD 1733 that will inform the design of the fund, including advisory board composition.

Link to Project Website

## Key Performance Indicators

### Number of Board Members recruited to participate \*

The Board has not yet been assembled. There is no data to report.

Update as of June 2024: The Board has not yet been assembled. There is no data to report. DACF requires dedicated staff capacity to coordinate and implement activities related to the administration of the Fund, including assembly of the Board.

### Number of Board Members that remain active \*

The Board has not yet been assembled. There is no data to report.

Update as of June 2024: The Board has not yet been assembled. There is no data to report. DACF requires dedicated staff capacity to coordinate and implement activities related to the administration of the Fund, including assembly of the Board.

### Number of Board Members from underrepresented communities \*

The Board has not yet been assembled. There is no data to report.

Update as of June 2024: The Board has not yet been assembled. There is no data to report. DACF requires dedicated staff capacity to coordinate and implement activities related to the administration of the Fund, including assembly of the Board.

### Reimbursement (total and by member) for the purposes of annual reporting (e.g., to the Maine State Legislature) \*

The Board has not yet been assembled. There is no data to report.

Update as of June 2024: The Board has not yet been assembled. There is no data to report. DACF requires dedicated staff capacity to coordinate and implement activities related to the administration of the Fund, including assembly of the Board.

### Reimbursement (total and by member) for the purposes of budget management \*

The Board has not yet been assembled. There is no data to report.

Update as of June 2024: The Board has not yet been assembled. There is no data to report. DACF requires dedicated staff capacity to coordinate and implement activities related to the administration of the Fund, including assembly of the Board.

### Reimbursement (total and by member) for the purposes of expense projections that may influence future policy amendments or changes to Fund operations. \*

The Board has not yet been assembled. There is no data to report.

Update as of June 2024: The Board has not yet been assembled. There is no data to report. DACF requires dedicated staff capacity to coordinate and implement activities related to the administration of the Fund, including assembly of the Board.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Pursuant to Public Law 2023, Chapter 643, Part D—effective August 9, 2024—the Legislature authorized the adjustment of allocations to maximize the use of and fully utilize the funds for projects that were underspent or otherwise unable to be obligated before the December 2024 deadline.

Following a review conducted in Fall 2024, it was determined that the funds allocated to this project would not be obligated within the required timeframe. Following the authority granted under Chapter 643, Part D, the project was cancelled. The funds were subsequently swept and reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives.

## Youth Career Exploration

### Project Information

Control Number \*

L37.1

Funding Amount

\$25,053,226.09

Initiative Name

Youth Career Exploration

Project Name

Youth Career Exploration

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Youth Career Exploration Program will expand on existing Career Exploration programming in high schools and communities in key parts of Maine and establish infrastructure to support this programming beyond the federal funding for this initiative. Activities include:

- DECD will transfer funding to the DOE to oversee a grant process for high schools and community groups to expand ELOs in high schools to support students in acquiring knowledge and skills through flexible instruction or study outside of the traditional classroom. This effort will focus on connecting as many students as possible to work experience.
- Provide one-time funding to expand JMG career exploration work at Maine's high schools to support more students participating in ELOs, meaningful paid work experience, and attaining of credentials/badges to prepare them for future employment and/or post-secondary degree programs. JMG will increase ELO staffing to include business specialists to connect with employers. Funding is also identified for JMG to secure technology such as a volunteer management tool and marketing to promote and support the program. Lastly JMG will develop a new Learning Management System to support ELO coordinators.
- DECD will work with GOPIF to manage the Children's Cabinet execution of a pilot project to provide grant funding to community groups to support disconnected and under-represented youth in career exploration and meaningful paid work programming.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 05/22/2022.

Partners

Department of Economic and Community Development – implementation lead, Childrens Cabinet – pilots for disconnected and highly affected youth, Dept. of Labor – collaborative partner connecting with overall vision, preapprenticeships and progressive employment model, Dept. of Education – collaborative partner on extended learning opportunities (ELO) opportunities, C3, and Life & Career Ready programs

Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG) – legislatively named intermediary and collaborative partner. The Youth Career Exploration program will be led by JMG as indicated in S.P. 577 – L.D/ 1733 with oversight provided by Department of Economic and Community Development. JMG will utilize existing reporting tools available to both JMG and Dept. of Education to identify and manage participants. Department of Economic and Community Development will work with JMG to determine the proper lead for managing and executing payroll and staffing efforts.

The ELO and JMG coordinators will lead the business coordination efforts in their respective areas and Department of Economic and Community Development will be the interface for statewide organization efforts, leaving local representatives to manage the execution of the program at the community level.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/maine-career-exploration-program>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

As noted in the P1 Risk Assessment, the Center for Workforce Research and Information (CWRI) has reported that overall unemployment for workers aged 16-24 jumped from 8.4% to 24.4% between 2019 and 2020. Workers under the age of 25 with a high school diploma or less were particularly affected. By promoting job exploration and credentialing targeted to this affected segment of the workforce, this program will empower those entering the workforce to be more attractive to existing business and help them compete in a redeveloping work environment.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$25,000,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe evaluation design as noted in **Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance** and Reporting Guidance pg. 38 \*

Through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, the Departments of Economic & Community Development (DECD) and Education (DOE), along with the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation & the Future (GOPIF), are launching a pilot program to provide meaningful paid work experience to an initial cohort of around 6,000 youths ages 16-24 throughout the state. A key objective of this pilot program is to determine the effectiveness of the various strategies employed over the first iteration of this program, to understand how to improve outcomes and expand program reach over the coming years. The University of Southern Maine will work with DECD and GOPIF to design, test, and implement an evaluation plan to determine the program's short- and long-term impacts on the participating youth population.

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

10,368

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

13,234

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

0

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

150

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

64

Participation in funded experiential learning programs \*

1550+ Businesses have hosted young people for work experiences across all 16 counties.

Number of micro credentials of badges awarded by the program \*

4777 have completed micro credentials and badges through JMG.

Student and Employer satisfaction with this program as captured through periodic interviews and surveys of participants \*

"I have learned communication skills as well as how to solve problems that I normally would struggle with".

Employers and youth were interviewed regularly about satisfaction with the program. Employers noted that the views of the upcoming workforce have changed drastically. "These youth want to work". Other comments such as "I have been humbled as a business and know our future is in good hands with this program". One youth remarked, "I was scared to even look for a job and now I have the confidence to ask questions and get clarification so that I can make better decisions."

• Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

AGC Construction Academy continues to recruit and enroll youth, and once training is completed, youth are offered jobs in well-paying careers. Total number should be available by end of Summer 2025.

• Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

0

• Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

0. Summer employment ongoing; numbers will be available in Fall of 2025.



If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Youth Pre-apprenticeship Programs

### Project Information

Control Number \*

L38.1

Funding Amount

\$3,000,000

Initiative Name

Youth Pre-apprenticeship Programs

Project Name

Youth Pre-apprenticeship Programs

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Apprenticeship Program is leveraging ARPA and additional federal grant funds to accomplish the following three goals: 1: Expand high-quality pre & apprenticeships; 2: Increase number of under-represented workers in apprenticeship; 3: Develop an integrated & effective statewide apprenticeship system. A core strategy of apprenticeship expansion will be partnering with Maine's businesses and industry associations, unions, education and training providers, and community-based organizations to develop new pre-apprenticeship programs. High-quality pre-apprenticeship programs provide foundational job and soft-skill training necessary to bridge trainees to successful employment as apprentices. Pre-apprenticeship programs can be delivered through high schools, adult education providers, community colleges, employers, labor organizations, community-based organizations or workforce agencies. These initiatives will be targeted at youth (ages 16 – 24) at Career and Technical Education (CTE) schools, high schools and out-of-school youth in need of a connection to gainful employment leading to financial stability and professional success.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/23/2022.

Partners

Dept. of Education - Career and Technical Education Director , connection to CTE center programming statewide  
Maine Community College System – Deputy Director of Workforce Development, primary Maine Community College System Quality Center contact for Dept. of Labor working toward recognizing opportunities for Maine Community College System and Dept. of Labor to leverage and braid resources  
Department of Economic and Community Development – Economic Development Coordination, identifying synergy possibilities between Department of Economic and Community Development efforts and Dept. of Labor efforts related to Career Exploration  
Governor's Children's Cabinet -, Senior Policy Analyst and Children's Cabinet Coordinator, identifies connection opportunities between work of the Children's Cabinet and Dept. of Labor apprenticeship programming for youth

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/maine-apprenticeship-program-expansion>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

Results For America (source) rated “registered apprenticeship” as having a strong evidence base and cited the outcomes and impact after extensive national review:

- Increased employment rate by 8.6 percentage points
- Estimated career earnings average of \$240,037 more than for similar nonparticipants
- Over the career of an apprenticeship, the estimated social benefits exceed the social costs by more than \$49,000

Based on Maine-specific data within the Maine apprenticeship program, recent apprentices realized, on average, a 40% growth in wages and 94% maintained employment with sponsor employer. Additionally, apprenticeship benefits cited by sponsoring employers include reducing employee turnover and increasing productivity, quality, safety, and worker versatility

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$3,000,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe evaluation design as noted in **Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance** and Reporting Guidance pg. 38 \*

Apprenticeship: A program evaluation will be conducted to understand the employment and wage outcomes of apprenticeship participants. The evaluation will examine the employment rates and wages prior to enrollment and after program completion. The evaluation will also consider industry retention among program completers. Outcomes will be disaggregated by demographic group and industry subsector where sample sizes are sufficient large enough—though likely to include gender, age and geographic region. The full evaluation will begin after program close—starting in December 2024.

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

8 employers/organizations directly receiving MJRP funding to develop new or expand existing apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship programs

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

346

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

33

Analysis of demographics/geographic info of apprentices and pre-apprentices. Demographic information on individuals served will be collected via MJL and will be reviewed quarterly to monitor which communities are accessing services, and within those communities which populations, including a disaggregation by race and ethnicity. Age range, veteran status, geographic substate region, socioeconomic status, disability, and ethnicity/race will be tracked & disaggregated. \*

97% are ages 16-24

Disability: 25% indicate having at least one disability

Wages: In addition, we will track wage growth (starting & ending wage) for registered apprenticeship participants \*

Median wage of completers: Two year prior to program: \$7,469 vs two years post program: \$19,381

Program persistence & completion: To understand the effectiveness of program's and introduce additional supports where needed, MAP tracks apprenticeship program persistence and completion rates \*

Of 346 participants, 108 have completed (31%), 190 are in progress (55%), and 40 did not complete (12%)

• Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

346

• Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

108

• Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

0

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

n/a

## Regional Education Representative

### Project Information

Control Number \*

LL.110.1

Funding Amount

\$183,366.33

Initiative Name

Regional Education Representative

Project Name

Regional Education Representative

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Department of Education Regional Representative position will play an important role in program design and monitoring to determine progress of the College and Career Success and Career navigation programs. The DOE position will provide training, support, and technical assistance for the seven college and career success coordinators and the four career advancement and navigation specialists working with populations that have been impacted by COVID-19. Eligible participants are those who are unemployed, underemployed, low socio-economic learners, and English language learners who are seeking a new and distinct pathway for education and training. The DOE Regional Representative will also work with local providers to implement grant funded projects to initiate or expand English language acquisition courses as well as job training programs to meet workforce needs of employer partners.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are fully complete as of 03/31/2024.

Partners

Commissioner, Maine Department of Education  
Office of Policy, Innovation, and the Future  
Director of Adult Education, Maine Department of Education  
President, Maine Adult Education Association  
Executive Director, Maine Adult Education Association

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/career-advancement-and-navigation-pilot-program>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

OUTCOME MEASURES: a) As we do not know which categories within the funding categories that local providers will have the need to apply for, we will measure success by the increase in numbers of ESL courses; the number of contextualized ESL courses; the number of training programs with employers b) Use of intake form with 400 participants c) Arrange with MDOL data group to conduct employment data matching for participants d) The number of adult education enrollees and completers will increase e) The number of participants entering post-secondary or employment will increase f) 35% of participants will receive an industry recognized credential g) The number of ELL participants make an English language proficiency gain will increase by 30%

0. Measure is related to staffing project LL.111.1. Please refer to the measures listed in that project.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results

OUTPUT MEASURES: a) Creation of intake form b) Creation of career plan template c) Creation of marketing materials d) Creation of data gathering and reporting tools to track: - how many people were informed of the programming; how many were in each sub-population; how many completed intakes; how many created career plan; how many informational meetings were held; how many employers were talked to; how many individuals referred to other agencies and for what purposes; inter-agency partnerships established - Development of a reporting time table e) Training plan for Navigators and local adult education providers on the purpose, goals, outcomes and roles of the navigator program f) Use of 4 marketing channels

0. Measure is related to staffing project L111.1. Please refer to the measures listed in that project.

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance

0. Measure is related to staffing project 111.1. Please refer to the measures listed in that project.

• Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs

0-This is UST Mandated Reporting Measure for sub expenditure category 2.10. Measure is not applicable to this project.

- Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs

0-This is UST Mandated Reporting Measure for sub expenditure category 2.10. Measure is not applicable to this project.

An increase in the participation within the sub-populations of eligible participants

0. Measure is related to staffing project 111.1. Please refer to the measures listed in that project.

- Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs

0-This is UST Mandated Reporting Measure for sub expenditure category 2.10. Measure is not applicable to this project.

## Career Advancement & Navigation Specialists

### Project Information

Control Number \*

LL.111.1

Funding Amount

\$569,555.41

Initiative Name

Career Advancement & Navigation Specialists

Project Name

Career Advancement & Navigation Specialists

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

Career Advancement & Navigation Specialists: Regional adult education programs will hire local talent to serve as career advancement and navigation specialists to identify, support, and coach unemployed, underemployed, low-socioeconomic learners, and adults seeking a new and distinct pathways for education and training. The DOE's adult education team will provide training, support, and technical assistance for career and navigation specialists.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 . SLFRF program expenditures are fully completed as of 12/31/2024.

Partners

Commissioner, Maine Department of Education  
Office of Policy, Innovation, and the Future  
Director of Adult Education, Maine Department of Education  
President, Maine Adult Education Association  
Executive Director, Maine Hospitality Association  
Executive Director, Maine Manufacturer's Association

|           |           |       |       |           |             |
|-----------|-----------|-------|-------|-----------|-------------|
| Executive | Director, | Maine | Adult | Education | Association |
|-----------|-----------|-------|-------|-----------|-------------|

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/career-advancement-and-navigation-pilot-program>



## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

This project is modeled after successful career advancement and navigation specialist programs in other states. For several years, Maine Adult Education has used advisors in the navigator role in the Maine College and Career Access program. Research and applied practice have determined that the intentional connection between learner and advisor/navigator/coach helps students increase feelings of engagement with their education and workforce training programs as a result of feeling they are known, that their success is important to their instructors and navigators, and received access to other support services they might benefit from. The Workforce Strategies Initiatives at the Aspen Institute reported the following: A growing body of practice and data suggests that college/career navigation assistance programs are drivers of student retention, completion of training programs, and employment advancement for nontraditional students. This somewhat new specialized role is gaining attention across the country to

close the gap in helping low-income individuals access and succeed in college programs, attain credentials, and ultimately pursue quality careers. The professionals providing these services range in their scope of work, target populations served, and by title; some are referred to as adult career coaches, career advisors, global career development facilitators, career counselors, among other titles. The Second Year of Accelerating Opportunity: Implementation Findings from the States and Colleges | Full Report | Urban Institute Findings in this journal credit a "navigator", "success coach", or "transition coordinator" outside the classroom as an important resource in connecting students to necessary services. "Navigators were often instrumental in linking students to support services available both on campus and in the community."

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$592,319

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

OUTPUT MEASURES: a) Creation of intake form b) Creation of career plan template c) Creation of marketing materials d) Creation of data gathering and reporting tools to track: - how many people were informed of the programming; how many were in each sub-population; how many completed intakes; how many created career plan; how many informational meetings were held; how many employers were talked to; how many individuals referred to other agencies and for what purposes; inter-agency partnerships established - Development of a reporting time table e) Training plan for Navigators and local adult education providers on the purpose, goals, outcomes and roles of the navigator program f) Use of 4 marketing channels \*

a) Yes

b) Yes, multiple versions have been created and available based on participant needs.

c) Yes, both print and online.

d) Yes, via MaineSTARS and excel.

- There have been 459 contacts. 170 participants completed intake forms. 95 participants created a career plan. There were 81 information meetings. There were 160 employers talked to.

- 70 referrals to other agencies for a large variety of services such as housing, translation services, food assistance, and education. 88 inter-agency partnerships were made. A few examples of partnerships in the Maine Retail Association, the Jewish Community Alliance, the Maine Career Exploration Project and the DOL.

- Yes, there are quarterly reports with deadlines for both fiscal and narrative reports as well as the compiled reports.

e) All navigators have been trained in the requirements of the grant that relate to their role, priorities, and goals of the grant/program as part of their onboarding. The goals of the grant and other aspects were also shared statewide at an Adult Education Director's meeting in November 2022. AE employees that serve as fiscal agents receive regular support regarding the grant on a monthly group basis as well as individually as needed. Local Adult Education providers have been offered support and contact from the navigator associated with their region.

f) Yes, all Navigators have a flyer that is used both in print and online as well as business cards. Social media and QR codes groups have been developed, articles in the newspaper have been published, rotating slides at a movie theatre and career fairs have been developed, as well as extensive marketing through word of mouth (visiting classrooms at AE, offering services at libraries, career centers, and to jails and recovery centers, as well as referrals from agencies and colleagues within CCs and AE).

OUTCOME MEASURES: a) 4 Navigators and staff at 70 local adult education providers will be trained resulting in heightened awareness of the Navigator program and its goals b) Project will be promoted through: MDOE and adult education provider websites; Facebook; Informal methods such as Community gatherings, church bulletins, neighborhood associations; immigrant groups; Workforce partners (DOL, DHHS, Workforce Boards, Post-secondary: websites, trade association, association websites and newsletters c) Navigators will know how to successfully complete intake forms, assist participants in completing career plans, accurately gather, analyze and complete data reports and narratives at least quarterly \*

a) All navigators have been trained in the requirements of the grant that relate to their role, priorities, and goals of the grant/program as part of their onboarding. The goals of the grant and other aspects were also shared statewide at an Adult Education Director's meeting in November 2022. AE employees that serve as fiscal agents receive regular support regarding the grant on a monthly group basis as well as individually as needed. Local Adult Education providers have been offered support and contact from the navigator associated with their region.

b) Yes, a DOE website has been developed (press release draft is complete and waiting to be published). Advertisements are on social media such as Facebook and informal methods such as flyers in public areas that the navigators serve.

c) Yes.

OUTCOME MEASURES: a) As we do not know which categories within the funding categories that local providers will have the need to apply for, we will measure success by the increase in numbers of ESL courses; the number of contextualized ESL courses; the number of training programs with employers b) Use of intake form with 400 participants c) Arrange with MDOL data group to conduct employment data matching for participants d) The number of adult education enrollees and completers will increase e) The number of participants entering post-secondary or employment will increase f) 35% of participants will receive an industry recognized credential g) The number of ELL participants make an English language proficiency gain will increase by 30% \*

- a) Not applicable to this project.
- b) 170 intakes have been collected thus far by individual participants; the measure of success in intakes as stated in the contract is 200.
- c) 95 career plans have been completed; the measure of success outlined in the contract is 160 career plans for navigators.
- d) Enrollees have increased. No tracking for this data is in the navigators' contracts.
- e) Yes, navigators have helped participants enter employment as well as referred them to post-secondary programs.
- f) Not applicable to this project.
- g) Not applicable to this project.

Navigator and local adult education programs will distribute translated information through print flyers, web, community contacts \*

completed less than 50%

An increase in the participation within the sub-populations of eligible participants \*

Yes

The number of ELL participants make an English language proficiency gain will increase by 30% \*

Not yet started tracking yet though Navigator help people to get into English language classes as indicated.

• Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

57

• Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

45

• Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

0

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

It is noteworthy that Navigators are on track to exceed several goals that are in the contract such as having 400 contacts and 200 intakes. While two of the four started in the summer of 2022, the others started that fall in October and then in February of 2024. This is later than anticipated.

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

170 participants, as recorded in MaineSTARS as having completed an intake as of May 2023

## Career Advancement & Navigation Pilot

### Project Information

Control Number \*

LL.112.1

Funding Amount

\$3,786.91

Initiative Name

Career Advancement & Navigation Pilot

Project Name

Career Advancement & Navigation Pilot

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

These one-time funds are necessary to support the technology costs associated with the work of Maine Department of Education Office of Adult Education Regional Representative. This Regional Representative will serve as the coordinator for Career Advancement and Navigation Specialists and College and Career Success Coordinators. These positions will be located throughout the state to guide eligible participants in the development of career plans and making decisions regarding next steps for academic preparation, job training and entry into the employment. In addition, the Regional Representative will work with local adult education providers and employers to direct the implementation and monitoring of grants to initiate and expand English language acquisition and workforce training with eligible employers.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and Program expenditures are fully completed as of 12/31/2024.

Partners

Commissioner, Maine Department of Education  
Office of Policy, Innovation, and the Future  
Director of Adult Education, Maine Department of Education  
President, Maine Adult Education Association Executive Director, Maine Adult Education Association

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/career-advancement-and-navigation-pilot-program>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

- Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

0-This is UST Mandated Reporting Measure for sub expenditure category 2.10. Measure is not applicable to this project.

- Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

0-This is UST Mandated Reporting Measure for sub expenditure category 2.10. Measure is not applicable to this project.

- Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

0-This is UST Mandated Reporting Measure for sub expenditure category 2.10. Measure is not applicable to this project.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A, this funding is for technology cost for state position to support Control Number LL.111.1

## Attract & Integrate Remote Workers

### Project Information

Control Number \*

M.39.1

Funding Amount

\$500,000

Initiative Name

Attract & Integrate Remote Workers

Project Name

Attract & Integrate Remote Workers

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

With funding from the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development is developing a plan for one-time funding to address Maine's workforce challenge through the attraction and integration of remote workers into a variety of communities, particularly in rural Maine. This portion of the funding will provide direct support via marketing and grants to Maine-based organizations that are already engaged in Maine talent attraction/retention and remote worker/employer training.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process October 2023.

Partners

To the extent possible DECD intends to work in conjunction with existing workforce attraction efforts in the State such as: Live and Work in Maine; Governor Mills' Welcome Home ; Veteran's groups like Boots2Roots. DECD will also work with other state agencies to identify workforce trends, identify potential community partners throughout the state, and ensure that the State has the technical infrastructure to support a remote workforce.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/remote-worker-welcome-program>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of remote workers and Maine-based employers accessing resources from this project; this will be measured by the number of participants engaging with partner organizations as a remote worker and number of Maine employers engaged with this initiative. \*

0 - Subaward granted and funds obligated November 2024; however, no data available as marketing efforts have not commenced. Vendor is in the planning stages.

PercentageGrowth of new remote positions offered by Maine-based key employers – This will be measured through surveys of existing employers and through the number of in-state positions posted to the program web portal. \*

0 - - Subaward granted and funds obligated November 2024; however, no data available as marketing efforts have not commenced. Vendor is in the planning stages.

Percentage of program participants reporting introduction to career opportunity or career advancement opportunity through the remote work program – Through surveys and program monitoring of participants, data will be gathered on effectiveness of the program. \*

0 - - Subaward granted and funds obligated November 2024; however, no data available as marketing efforts have not commenced. Vendor is in the planning stages.

Percentage Of Women, Minority, Veteran, and members of economically distressed area participants in the program – Data will be collected through surveys. \*

0 - - Subaward granted and funds obligated November 2024; however, no data available as marketing efforts have not commenced. Vendor is in the planning stages.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Contract with subcontractor recently signed and work has yet to commence.



# Coworking Development

## Project Information

Control Number \*

M.40.1

Funding Amount

\$2,500,000

Initiative Name

Coworking Development

Project Name

Coworking Development

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.4-Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs

## Project Overview

Project Description

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, many employers and employees were forced to embrace the remote working environment to ensure that daily operations could continue. Nearly 51% of workers across the country have experienced at least some remote work during the pandemic according to 2022 study by Morning Consult. This program enables communities to aid citizens who find themselves in fully remote or hybrid work situations after the disruptions caused by the pandemic. Libraries are the original coworking space and the funds provided by this program will allow libraries to modernize their business offerings and appeal to the growing remote and hybrid worker.

Coworking facilities provide the logistical support necessary for remote workers to thrive away from the office. Coworking spaces are important for the small and midsize businesses that make up 75% of shared service center market. In Maine, small and midsize businesses make up the bulk of the employers; investing in coworking resources benefits the state by ensuring that the State's remote workforce has the services and structure it needs to compete in roles that are no longer tied to physical office space. The presence of modern coworking resources and services also makes Maine more attractive to industries with large remote workforces by demonstrating that the state has the resources, capabilities, and desire to support such work.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in October 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/20/2023.

Partners

Key partners include the Maine Coworking Cohort, Main Street Maine, and the Maine Downtown Center. Partners also include the Maine Community College Foundation and its grant-funded work to support remote work in Maine. Department of Economic and Community Development will work closely with the Maine State Library to identify eligible public libraries and regions that can support the addition of coworking spaces.

Link to Project Website

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

The Tulsa Remote program executed by the Tulsa Oklahoma community is one instance where access to coworking spaces was part of the package offered to prospective remote workers willing to move to the region. A review of the program since its start in 2018 revealed that for every dollar spent on the attraction of remote workers, there was a \$13.77 return in new local labor income including the remote work income and induced local labor. Other studies specific to coworking environments suggest shared offices make 70% of their members healthier. 64% of people sharing an office with a coworker have improved on completing their tasks on time, and 68% say they are better focused. (Officevibe). Additional support in favor of increased coworking spaces comes from a recent Pew Research study that revealed that 60% of remote workers say that they feel less connected to coworkers and many cite that they do not have access to the resources they need. This is where coworking initiatives can offer support by creating a shared business resource and community center aimed at the remote working population.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$2,000,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe evaluation design as noted in **Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance** and Reporting Guidance pg. 38 \*

The evaluation will focus (1) on the implementation, (2) the form the remote work program takes at different libraries with different challenges and users, (3) the nature of the challenges the individual libraries faced in setting up the program, and (4) the usage and success of the program in the various libraries. The information gathered would be both numerical and narrative and this would enable different audiences to use the information in ways that are helpful to them in using what is learned from the project and, if needed, improve the program.

## Key Performance Indicators

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

40

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

0

Number of workers making use of new or newly enhanced coworking spaces. \*

23,332

Length and nature of visits to coworking spaces in community libraries. \*

Average stay is 130 minutes.

The most used services are Wi-Fi, printers, remote work furniture/privacy booths, and other technology hardware and software (i.e. Zoom or external monitors)

The number of new remote worker library patrons. \*

10,609

## Coworking Development - Life Science Incubator

### Project Information

Control Number \*

M.40.2

Funding Amount

\$2,000,000

Initiative Name

Coworking Development

Project Name

Coworking Development - Life Science Incubator

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.30-Technical Assistance, Counseling, or Business Planning

### Project Overview

Project Description

The state of Maine has an opportunity to develop a world-class biotechnology economy led by academic institutions and entrepreneurs who are actively investing in bioscience research and development. DECD seeks to utilize ARPA/MJRP grant funding to help enable the establishment of a life sciences incubator coworking space where nascent biotechnology and life sciences small businesses will have access to the infrastructure necessary to help them start and scale their enterprises.

There are more than 200 small businesses and organizations working in the biosciences in Maine covering everything from discovery through commercialization. This incubator initiative will encourage and support research and development of new technologies, products, and businesses. Other New England states are pursuing similar projects related to biosciences and this project will help put Maine at the forefront of this rapidly expanding field.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in December 2024.

Partners

DECD anticipates entering into a sole-source partnership with Maine Technology Institute for the administration of this program.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/remote-worker-welcome-program>

### Key Performance Indicators

New workers attracted to the state.

0

The total number of businesses and entrepreneurs utilizing the incubator will be collected. \*

0, measure should be available later in FY26

Projects supported through the Life Science Incubator coworking space will be tracked to include the number of start-ups and entrepreneurs making use of the resource. \*

Measure should be available later in FY26.

New workers attracted to the state. \*

0, measure should be available later in FY26.

New Life Science company Starts. \*

0, measure should be available later in FY26.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

DECD entered into a contractual agreement with the Maine Technology Institute (MTI) in December 2024 to administer this program. No grant funds have been awarded; however, they are currently reviewing five proposals and anticipate making an award in early August 2025. Metrics should be forthcoming in FY26.

Build Infrastructure that supports diversity in Maine's Economy. This will be demonstrated by the total number of lab seats available to small businesses and entrepreneurs operating within the Life Science industry.

0

## MCCS Workforce Development Plans

### Project Information

Control Number \*

N.41.1

Funding Amount

\$35,000,000

Initiative Name

MCCS Workforce Development Plans

Project Name

MCCS Workforce Development Plans

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

The MCCS Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan initiative focuses on short-term trainings supporting industry sectors (Healthcare, The Green Economy, Manufacturing, Hospitality, Education, Computer Technology, and trades) negatively impacted (identified by the State, see attached document "Industries Negatively Impacted by the Pandemic- Workforce" dated December 3, 2021) by COVID-19 and provides training for 8,500 Mainers negatively impacted by COVID-19 seeking training in these impacted industry sectors. Individuals qualify based on previous employment in an impacted industry sector or by receiving training in targeted impacted industry sectors. Funding supports free training, the purchase of new equipment needed to stand up new trainings and added staffing for project management, instruction, and learner navigation.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in December 2021 and program activities are ongoing as of 01/01/2022.

Partners

Maine Community College System partner organizations include our seven community colleges: Central Maine Community College, Eastern Maine Community College, Kennebec Valley Community College, Northern Maine Community College, Southern Maine Community College, Washington County Community College, York County Community College, and at our 4 off-site education locations including East Millinocket, Dover-Foxcroft, Brunswick, and Sanford. External partners include the State Workforce Board, Central-Western Maine Workforce Development Board, Coastal Counties Workforce Development Board, Northeastern Workforce Development Board, Department of Health and Human Services (Healthcare Workforce Development Manager), Dept. of Labor (Director of Employment Services), and Maine Adult Education. In addition to the above-mentioned partners, Maine Community College System actively participates in the Maine Jobs and Recovery Healthcare Coordination work group. Which is led by Dept of Labor, and includes representation from DHHS, U Maine System, and Maine Adult Education. The group is charged with statewide coordination of healthcare industry trainings supported by Maine Jobs and Recovery Funding. In addition to this group, Dan Belyea, Chief Workforce Development Officer, is participating in the Cabinet level discussions with Commissioners from Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Environmental

Protectionartment of Education, Department of Environmental Protectionartment of Labor, Department of Environmental Protectionartment of Community & Economic Development, University of Maine System, and the Governor's Office of Innovation.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/maine-community-college-system-workforce-training-programs>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals receiving financial assistance for education \*

The Maine Community College System (MCCS) MRJP program provided financial assistance for education to 6,484 Mainers through June 30, 2025\*\*. We accomplish this by offering free short-term training and providing learners with industry-recognized credentials and certifications. \*\*The numbers provided represent data pulled before the implementation of a new SIS (Student Information System) this spring. We are unable to pull current numbers due to a disconnect between the SIS and our reporting system. We will provide updated numbers in our next report.

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

Our MRJP efforts are comprehensive, with 334 training programs to date. This number includes programs currently running, future programs, and those already completed, demonstrating our commitment to a wide range of training opportunities.

Three key performance indicators (KPI's) MCCS will track, are: 1). Total number of program enrollees in sectional job training programs. 2). Total number of training completers in sectional job training programs. 3). The number of trainees receiving training in each of the targeted industry sectors (Healthcare, the Green Economy, Manufacturing, Hospitality, Education, Computer Technology, and the Trades). MCCS uses Jenzabar as our Student Information System (SIS); this system tracks student data including personal identifiable information (name, address, phone, email, etc.), demographic information, and training/education records (class participation, grades, completion, etc.). MCCS Institutional Research (IR) utilizes Tableau for report creation which identifies total number of trainees in each training program (defined by a unique course numbering tied to funding source) and total numbers of completers in each program. The MCCS workforce development team is responsible for running these reports and will track data needed for interim and annual Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan reporting \*

As of June 30, 2025\*\*, 1). The total number of enrollees in sectional job training programs is 6,484 individuals. 2). The total number of training completers in sectional job training programs is 4,823 individuals. 3). The number of trainees receiving training in each of the targeted industry sectors: Healthcare: 2,587; The Green Economy: 557; Manufacturing: 1,338; Hospitality: 417; Education: 529; Computer Technology: 131; Trades: 925. \*\*The numbers provided represent data pulled before the implementation of a new SIS (Student Information System) this spring. We are unable to pull current numbers due to a disconnect between the SIS and our reporting system. We will provide updated numbers in our next report.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

MCCS' goal is to provide training to 8,500 Maine residents from January 1, 2022, through June 20, 2025. Through June 30th\*\*, we provided training to 6,484 individuals or 76.28% of our total training goal. The total programs approved (past, current, and future) provide training to 8,500 individuals, which is 100% of our goal. We continue to have colleges submitting new funding requests and launching new training programs. We expect to meet our training goals and continue to monitor for an equitable distribution of training requests based on industry sectors. \*\*The numbers provided represent data pulled before the implementation of a new SIS (Student Information System) this spring. We are unable to pull current numbers due to a disconnect between the SIS and our reporting system. We will provide updated numbers in our next report.





## Infrastructure & Equipment Grants for Technical Ed

### Project Information

Control Number \*

N.42.1

Funding Amount

\$20,000,000

Initiative Name

Infrastructure & Equipment Grants for Technical Ed

Project Name

Infrastructure & Equipment Grants for Technical Ed

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

The purpose of this funding is to improve and align CTE education with current and future industry standards and to help address the needs of Maine's economic recovery and long-term growth. This investment in Maine's public education system's 27 CTE schools will give students the potential to learn the technical skills they need to enter the workforce to meet the workforce needs and/or continue on to postsecondary education opportunities. These funds will provide CTE schools with resources to provide career and technical education to students within the 16-24 age group that experienced disproportionate economic harm as a result of the pandemic. This project will support multiple rounds of grants to update equipment and infrastructure in the 27 secondary CTE schools and programs. Equipment upgrades would include the purchase of a single piece of equipment that exceeds \$5,000 or multiple pieces of equipment to serve a single program, such as 20 new computers for a pre-engineering program or a fully equipped toolbox for an automotive program, and the physical and personnel infrastructure upgrades to support the new equipment. The equipment would need to have a life expectancy of five years and align with the current workforce standards or projected industry standards for emerging technologies. This will allow CTE programs to prepare students for the in-demand workforce with the most up to date technology.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 05/16/2022.

Partners

Maine Administrators of Career and Technical Education will continue to support this initiative and the Directors of the 27 secondary CTE schools will be partnering with Dept. of Education to complete this initiative. State trade associations; such as Associated Builders and Contractors, Maine Manufacturers Association, Associated General Contractors of Maine, Maine Automobile Association, Hospitality Maine, etc.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/career-and-technical-education-cte-centers-infrastructure-and-equipment-upgrades>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

We will be monitoring increase enrollments into programs as well as increase in industry certifications.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$19,500,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

Not available at this time

Outcome Measure— measuring overall increase in secondary CTE program enrollments in Maine's 27 CTE schools; evaluating whether or not CTE schools are meeting projected targets for the approved grants. \*

Not Available at This Time

Outcome measure—measuring CTE program offerings and student enrollments from previous school years \*

Not Available at This Time

Outcome measure—measure input from local industry partnerships in purchasing decisions \*

Not Available at This Time

Outcome measure—examining and comparing the number of students who earned credits with post-sec partners \*

Not Available at This Time

- Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

0. Not applicable to this project.

- Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

0. Not applicable to this project.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

In total, this program has awarded 27 grants to 23 grantees. Of those, there were 23 grants for personnel and equipment upgrades and 4 grants to build/expand facilities and infrastructure.

Equipment/Personnel Infrastructure RFA:

We will be establishing baseline data measures at the conclusion of this school year. The equipment that was ordered arrived at various times throughout the school year with most of them receiving it between January and June. Therefore, the ability to measure the impact would not be feasible due to the timeline. There were a few CTE schools that were able to receive equipment and get it operational, such as Caribou and Augusta. However, because it was in the middle of the year, it would be difficult to determine the impact on student enrollments for this current school year. We anticipate that the new equipment may be used as a recruitment tool and that instructors would spend time over the summer building ways to integrate it their curriculum, therefore, we are most likely to see any impact next school year.

We have also conducted an internal audit to ensure we have updated submitted invoices and double checked on any equipment that hasn't been ordered. There are currently four schools that have not submitted all of their requests and we have submitted an amendment to their contract that will allow them to purchase the equipment in the upcoming year. This delay was due in large part to availability of the equipment.

We will be developing a plan over the summer to visit all programs next year and document the impact any of the new equipment is having. We will also be developing a process to collect the required data points in order to measure impact.

Infrastructure RFA:

There are four infrastructure projects that are all at various stages.

1. BRCOT-Biddeford: This project is complete and was occupied with students in the Fall of 2024.
2. Region 3-Lincoln: Project was completed last summer and opened in fall of 2023 for students.
3. Region 11-Oxford Hills: This project was completed and students occupied in the Fall of 2024.
4. Region 9-Mexico: There are 3 small projects in this proposal. All phases( a, b and c) of this project are still continuing and will be finalized in December 2025. Students are not currently occupying/utilizing any of these.
  - a. Welding Building: This project will be completed in December 2025.
  - b. Culinary Greenhouse/Store: This project will be completed in December 2025.
  - c. Outdoor Leadership: This project is also underway and will be completed in December 2025. A piece of property has been purchased. There are some other updates to the property underway.

## Competitive Grants for Adult Education

### Project Information

Control Number \*

N.43.1

Funding Amount

\$5,999,991.96

Initiative Name

Competitive Grants for Higher Education

Project Name

Competitive Grants for Adult Education

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

Case N.43.1 Competitive Grants for Adult Education will specifically support grant local adult education grant recipients in offering English language acquisition classes that initiate or enhance levels of programming. In addition, grants funds will be used for job training programs offered in partnership with eligible employment sectors for prospective and incumbent workers. Funds also enable the hiring of seven (7) College and Career Success Coordinators to be hired by adult education regions to reside on community college campuses and provide activities, classes, and support service to increase access and retention in postsecondary for adults eligible for this funding (low income, low levels of literacy, English language learners, the unemployed and underemployed, women, and members of communities of color).

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 06/01/2022.

Partners

Commissioner Makin, Maine Department of Education  
Commissioner Johnson, Department of Economic and Community Development  
Commissioner Fortman, Department of Environmental Protection  
Lisa Plimpton, Office of Policy, Innovation, and the Future  
Director of Adult Education, Maine Department of Education  
President, Maine Adult Education Association  
Executive Director, Maine Adult Education Association  
VP and Chief Academic Officer, Maine Community College System

Link to Project Website

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

The College and Career Success Coordinator aspect of this project is based on national research. A growing body of practice and data suggests that college/career success assistance programs are drivers of student retention, completion of training programs, and employment advancement for nontraditional students. This somewhat new specialized role is gaining attention across the country to close the gap in helping low-income individuals access and succeed in college programs, attain credentials, and ultimately pursue quality careers. The professionals providing these services range in their scope of work, target populations served, and by title; some are referred to as adult career coaches, career advisors, global career development facilitators, career counselors, among other titles. The Second Year of Accelerating Opportunity: Implementation Findings from the States and Colleges | Full Report | Urban Institute Findings credit a "navigator", "success coach", or "transition coordinator" outside the classroom as an important resource in connecting students to necessary services. "Navigators were often instrumental in linking students to support services available both on campus and in the community."

ELL and Training Grants - Recent Maine Adult Education data reflects that additional English language acquisition classes are needed. Providers located in areas where immigrants are now moving to need funds to start English language programs. In listening sessions, it was shared that current and potential employees could benefit from language classes with the vocabulary contextualized to their industries. In listening sessions, employers in the targeted business areas shared their need to basic workplace skills training for their positions. Because many of these positions need what have been referred to as "front line" workers, or in businesses without any remote options, positions were eliminated or reduced. Now these same employers must rebuild their workforces and provide training that enables potential employees to learn skills in training programs specific for their industries. Others need to quickly upskill incumbent workers to promote them to new positions within their companies.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$6,000,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

31. The 31 businesses represent 1 employer working with the College and Career success Coordinator at KVCC and 30 employers who are partnering with Adult Education on the Strengthening Maine Workforce grants.

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

509

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

142

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

40

Newly hired Success Coordinators and staff at 70 local adult education providers will be trained in all aspect of grants and goals to ensure accurate data gathering. \*

All seven CCSC have been trained in the requirements of the grant that relate to their role, priorities, and goals of the grant/program as part of their onboarding. The goals of the grant and other aspects were also shared statewide at an Adult Education Director's meeting in November 2022. AE employees that serve as fiscal agents receive regular support regarding the grant on a monthly group basis as well as individually as needed. All Adult Education providers have been offered support and contact from the CCSC associated with their hub.

Students will be placed in academic, English language acquisition and training programs that are appropriate for goal attainment as influenced by their assessment results. \*

Yes. We do not yet have enrollment numbers for the English Language Classes.

Programs will make use of web, social media, industry association mailing lists, print and partner distribution means for outreach. Materials will be translated into multiple languages. \*

Web, social media, and partner referrals for outreach. As part of the intake process forms are available in 18 different languages.

• Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

504

• Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

371

• Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

0. This is zero because these are college and career navigators, working with adult learners.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs is 202 and Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs is 42. The numbers enrolled and completed don't represent a cohort of the same group of people but rather individuals who are working either w/a Coordinator or enrolled in a SMW Workforce training.

## Competitive Grants for Higher Education

### Project Information

Control Number \*

N.43.2

Funding Amount

\$7,447,321

Initiative Name

Competitive Grants for Higher Education

Project Name

Competitive Grants for Higher Education

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

While the COVID-19 pandemic has had broad economic impacts, several Maine industries have suffered disproportionate negative economic consequences caused by the pandemic. Through this application, the Maine Department of Education intends to provide funding to higher education institutions in Maine to prepare students for employment in industries harmed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Grants awarded through this program will be limited to supporting the following industries:

- Education;
- Healthcare & social assistance;
- Construction, trades & logistics;
- Agriculture, aquaculture, fishing & forestry;
- Information;
- Manufacturing; and
- Clean energy.

These industries and sectors have experienced workforce challenges caused by COVID-19, including high rates of employment loss and unemployment.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 12/05/2022.

Partners

Dept. of Education has developed the criteria for this program in partnership with GOPIF, Dept. of Labor and Department of Economic and Community Development.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/competitive-grant-programs-english-language-acquisition-college-success-and-higher>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

2

Address critical needs in Maine's economy and workforce by advancing strategies identified in Maine's 10-year economic development strategic plan; \*

Participant grantees cite applicability of grant programs with actions "A" and "B" in Maine's 10-year economic plan. Specific initiatives include training teachers (high need area); facilitating participants earning maritime licenses; and developing job skills/talents amongst students from disadvantaged populations in the state.

Prioritize supports for disadvantaged students, students with disabilities, and individuals such as new Mainers; Black, Indigenous, and people of color; low-income students; students seeking work in rural communities and unemployed and underemployed workers; \*

Programming is targeting either disadvantaged students (defined variously as pell grant eligible; geographic origin from disadvantaged regions; or first-generation college students) or the training for teachers who will then serve in disadvantaged areas.

Demonstrate the likelihood of supporting the advancement of students and workers to achieve higher paying jobs in Maine; \*

Participant grantees cite high completion rates in the student programs supported by their applicable grants or, alternatively, peer-reviewed research indicating the particular mode of training facilitated by grant money has a track record of retention.

Use funding for one-time investments that will produce lasting benefits or propose a feasible funding strategy for sustaining activities after grant funds have been exhausted. \*

One-time investments vary by program, including specialized equipment, costs associated with the first year of employment for new positions, and critical training for program participants. All grantees are confident of various sources of ongoing funding, from sources including incoming tuition from future program participants.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

4 institutions were awarded 6 total contracts in the 2022 MJRP Higher Ed grants-

MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY (1 contract)  
HUSSON UNIVERSITY (2 contracts)  
UNIV OF NEW ENGLAND (2 contracts)  
THOMAS COLLEGE (1 contract)

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

7



Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

5

# University of Maine GEM Factory of the Future

## Project Information

Control Number \*

N.44.1

Funding Amount

\$15,000,000

Initiative Name

UMS Workforce Development Plans

Project Name

University of Maine GEM Factory of the Future

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

## Project Overview

Project Description

Through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, the University of Maine System will expand experiential learning opportunities that prepare students for success in Maine careers, upgrade research and teaching facilities necessary for training Maine's 21st century workforce, and strengthen business partnerships that spark new innovations for Maine's economy. This portion of the funds will be used to construct the University of Maine Green Engineering and Materials Factory of the Future, which will help create new education and training pathways to high-need, high growth manufacturing careers.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2023 and program activities are ongoing as of 04/11/2022.

Partners

1. Maine Department of Environmental Protection. of Economic and Community Development
2. Maine Housing Authority
3. Maine Forest Products Council
4. Forest Opportunities Roadmap-Maine (FOR-ME) /Maine Development Foundation
5. Board of Trustees, University of Maine System
6. WBRC
7. Robbins Lumber
8. Ingersoll Machine Tools Chip Storie, CEO
9. Office of the Secretary of Defense, Technology and Manufacturing Industrial Base in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering
10. U.S. Department of Energy Oak Ridge National Laboratory – Craig Blue, Director of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Programs;
11. Architect of Record – SMRT, Inc.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/university-maine-system-workforce-development-research-and-innovation-programs>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

Due to program implementation status, data not yet available. We can begin to calculate this data when GEM is completed in 2026.

Number of new businesses started \*

Due to program implementation status, data not yet available. We can begin to calculate this data when GEM is completed in 2026.

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

146

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

263

Number of individuals receiving financial assistance for education \*

35

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

244

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

27 (7 full micro-credential pathways and 20 micro-badges)

Percentage of students and workers trained in the GEM Factory of the Future disaggregated to the nine counties in Maine determined to be “Distressed” according to the Northern Border Regional Commission. \*

Due to program implementation status, data not yet available

Project expenditures within Maine or to Maine-based companies \*

Through June 30, 2025, \$19,034,557 has been spent within Maine or to Maine-based companies to advance the GEM Factory of the Future project. Please note that this amount exceeds the MJRP allocation, as the MJRP funds have leveraged other public and private investments. The total project is expected to be \$82 million. Of the \$15 million in MJRP funds directly supporting this project, \$13,878,846 have been invested within Maine/with Maine-based companies through June 30, 2025.

Number of manufacturing companies participating in GEM Factory of the Future development or workforce training programs \*

Three - Ingersoll Machine Tools, ElectroImpact and CEAD Group, Inc.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The project is now under construction with expected completion in summer 2026. More information about the start of construction, which was attended by then DECD Commissioner Heather Johnson on behalf of the Mills Administration, is here: <https://umaine.edu/news/blog/2024/10/29/construction-begins-for-the-first-of-its-kind-cutting-edge-sustainable-manufacturing-research-facility-at-umaine/>

## UMS Talent, Research & Innovation Competition

### Project Information

Control Number \*

N.44.2

Funding Amount

\$4,000,000

Initiative Name

UMS Workforce Development Plans

Project Name

UMS Talent, Research & Innovation Competition

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

Through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, the University of Maine System will expand experiential learning opportunities that prepare students for success in Maine careers, upgrade research and teaching facilities necessary for training Maine's 21st century workforce, and strengthen business partnerships that spark new innovations for Maine's economy. This portion of funding will be used to support innovative programs across University of Maine System institutions that prepare or place students for work in Maine's critical industries negatively impacted by the pandemic.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in September 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 09/02/2022.

Partners

Given the statewide mission, reach and resources of UMS universities, communities, companies, hospitals, schools, and non-governmental organizations throughout the state will benefit from student interns placed within their organizations. Funding, coordination, and management of the internship cohorts will be conducted by the university to maximize the impact on organization hosting student interns. Examples of partners include: Maine Department of Economic and Community Development; Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Dept. of Education; regional school units; Maine Community College System; Maine hospitals, healthcare, and dental organizations, Maine State Chamber of Commerce; Maine Municipal Association, Maine Technology Institute; and Maine-based companies, industries, and non-profit organizations.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/university-maine-system-workforce-development-research-and-innovation-programs>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

746

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

4,264

Number of individuals receiving financial assistance for education \*

894

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

516

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

27

In addition to the measures above which monitor this initiative's equity and workforce preparation goals, additional performance indicators will include: a) number of students directly supported through programming supported; b) number of paid internships, and student work opportunities; c) number of enrolled workforce preparation participants; d) documentation of how projects impact students' career preparation, student retention and success in areas of state workforce needs in those industries negatively impacted by the pandemic; and e) provide estimates of total number of students to be served. \*

Number of students directly supported through programming: 1,699;  
Number of paid internships and student work opportunities: 239; and  
Number of enrolled workforce preparation participants (interpreted as inclusive of non-students by some respondents): 1,758.

Multiple narratives have been recorded that document the greater participation of students benefitting from these programs in the workforce. They have supplied needed medical technologists, have become or remained educators, have joined the nursing workforce, are participating in the tourism, hospitality, and outdoor recreation industries, are working in rehabilitation services, and more. Their stories are borne out by the sheer number of students directly impacted by these funds, who are meeting state workforce needs across sectors and regions.

An estimated 4,241 students have been served through these programs.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

This initiative is supporting nine distinctive projects across the University of Maine System's small campuses that were selected through an internal competition. Each individual project has its own success stories. Some examples:

-The University of Maine at Farmington-led project to develop and retain the teacher workforce is continuing to serve multiple school districts and teacher educators across Maine. More than 60 mentors and 60 mentees have benefitted from the program, and more than 50 students have been supported in this work.

-The University of Maine at Augusta and University of Maine at Farmington collaborative project to strengthen their Health and Human Services Program and Rehabilitation Services Program, respectively, are working with their first cohort of students. Participating students receive tuition waivers as they work towards degrees in these in-demand fields, while community educational-outreach helps recruit future participants. The project will continue supporting students with tuition waivers through the end of Spring Semester 2025.

-In February, the University of Maine at Augusta opened its new state-of-the-art Medical Laboratory Technology lab, which will enable UMA to double its output of in-demand Med Lab Techs. In the nation's oldest state and with the profession facing a wave of retirements in the coming years, UMA and University of Maine at Presque Isle's expanded capacity to prepare more highly skilled Med Lab Techs is essential to the health and well-being of the people of Maine and to the ability of our clinical partners, like MaineGeneral Health, to care for their patients and our loved ones. The lab construction was made possible in part by funding from the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan put forth by Governor Janet Mills and supported by the 130th Maine Legislature to invest the State's share of federal American Rescue Plan relief funds, including in University of Maine System workforce development. There was extensive media coverage of this opening.

-The University of Maine at Fort Kent and University of Maine at Presque Isle Health Sciences Immersive Simulation Center has developed needed infrastructure and is offering culturally competent training to students and health professionals across Aroostook County. The Simulation Center was opened in August 2023, and hundreds of enrolled students have directly benefitted from this investment.

As projects move towards their end, in many places they leave behind valuable infrastructure that will continue training future students and workforce participants.

Aquaculture Research Institute SAWIC

Project Information

Control Number \*

N.44.3

Funding Amount

\$3,500,000

Initiative Name

UMS Workforce Development Plans

Project Name

Aquaculture Research Institute SAWIC

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

Project Description

Through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, the University of Maine System will expand experiential learning opportunities that prepare students for success in Maine careers, upgrade research and teaching facilities necessary for training Maine’s 21st century workforce, and strengthen business partnerships that spark new innovations for Maine’s economy. This portion of the funds will be used to construct a Sustainable Aquaculture Workforce and Innovation Center, which will help expand and create new education and training pathways to high-need, high-growth aquaculture and biotechnology related careers.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/28/2023.

Partners

Beyond University of Maine collaborators, the following industry and educational institutions have expressed support and would be involved in the development of training opportunities through internships, externships, workshops, micro-credentialing, curriculum and career pathway development, and outreach.

Department of Economic and Community Development

Maine Department of Marine Resources

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife -

Maine Aquaculture Association, Sebastian Belle

National Cold Water Marine Aquaculture Center Research, USDA ARS

Kennebec River Biosciences

Cooke Aquaculture

Mook Sea Farm

Presque Isle CTE School

Washington County Community College

American Unagi

1



Nordic Aquafarms  
Educate Maine

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/university-maine-system-workforce-development-research-and-innovation-programs>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

9, including Hurricane Island Center for Science and Leadership, Wild Ocean Aquaculture, Maine Oyster Company, Southern Maine Community Shellfish, Petit Manan Oysters, Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center and American Unagi.

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

18

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

20

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

0

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

3

In addition to the measures above which monitor the SAWIC's equity and student engagement goals, additional performance indicators will include number of research contracts supported, number of research grants supported and number of jobs created (through f/t staff positions, temporary positions, paid internships and students workers). This will measure direct economic impacts and economic sustainability of the facility. All of these data already collected annually as part of the UMaine Office of Research Administration and Department of Industrial Collaboration reporting process and can be disaggregated. \*

To support the internship program, one part-time position temporary was created to mentor and help direct the program in the summer 2025.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The SAWIC building project broke ground in June, 2025. The building is expected to be open by September, 2026.

## UMaine Aroostook Farm Research & Education Center

### Project Information

Control Number \*

N.44.4

Funding Amount

\$3,000,000

Initiative Name

UMS Workforce Development Plans

Project Name

UMaine Aroostook Farm Research & Education Center

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

Through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, the University of Maine System will expand experiential learning opportunities for students, accelerate research and innovation, and spur new industry partnerships in support of Maine's economic recovery and long-term growth. Through renovation, this project will modernize outdated agriculture teaching, research and breeding facilities at the University of Maine's Aroostook Farm in Presque Isle to strengthen industry partnerships, research and workforce training programs that address innovation needs and skilled labor shortages in Maine's agriculture sector.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in August 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 10/01/2022.

Partners

Maine Department of Environmental Protection  
Maine Potato Board  
USDA/Agricultural Research Service  
Aroostook County Soil and Water Conservation District  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Agricultural Council of Maine

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/university-maine-system-workforce-development-research-and-innovation-programs>

## Key Performance Indicators

In addition to the workforce metrics developed by the MJRP team, the university plans to track four other performance indicators, including: Number of new varieties of potatoes produced annually and economic impact of those varieties in Maine and nationally Increased yields of potatoes per acre Number of individuals who utilize the renovated facilities, including those from the University of Maine System, Aroostook County, PK-12 groups, and national crop breeding program communities. Level of extramural funding obtained that utilizes these facilities in the funded project. \*

Due to program implementation status, data not yet available

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The facility's construction is expected to be completed this summer and a ribbon-cutting has been scheduled with Governor Mills for July 18, 2025

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

Due to program implementation status, data not yet available

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

Due to program implementation status, data not yet available

Number of new businesses started \*

Due to program implementation status, data not yet available

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

30 (This includes 20 undergraduates, three master's students, and seven doctoral students.)

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

Due to program implementation status, data not yet available

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

Due to program implementation status, data not yet available

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

Due to program implementation status, data not yet available

## University of Maine Food Innovation Cluster Food

### Project Information

Control Number \*

N.44.5

Funding Amount

\$2,500,000

Initiative Name

UMS Workforce Development Plans

Project Name

University of Maine Food Innovation Cluster Food

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

Through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, the University of Maine System will expand experiential learning opportunities that prepare students for success in Maine careers, upgrade research and teaching facilities necessary for training Maine's 21st century workforce, and strengthen business partnerships that spark new innovations for Maine's economy. This portion of the funds will be used to construct the University of Maine Food Innovation & Education Center, which will support food and food product and business development, processing, safety consulting, and workforce training to help Maine's agriculture and seafood/aquaculture sectors recover from the negative impact of the pandemic, including employment losses of more than 15%.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in November 2022.

Partners

Department of Environmental Protection  
Maine Farm Bureau  
Maine Wild Blueberry Commission  
Agricultural Council of Maine

The University of Maine continues to solicit feedback and support for this project from stakeholders, including statewide private businesses in the ag and seafood sectors who expect to utilize the services of the Food Innovation & Education Center and may also provide sponsorship.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/university-maine-system-workforce-development-research-and-innovation-programs>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

9 (Funds currently supporting nine Innovate for Maine student fellows work with food processing companies in the state.)

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

Due to program implementation status, data are not yet available

Number of new businesses started \*

Due to program implementation status, data are not yet available

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

9 (Funds currently supporting nine Innovate for Maine student fellows work with food processing companies in the state.)

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

9 (Funds currently supporting nine Innovate for Maine student fellows work with food processing companies in the state.)

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

Due to program implementation status, data are not yet available

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

Due to program implementation status, data are not yet available

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

Due to program implementation status, data are not yet available

In addition to the workforce metrics developed by the MJRP team, the university plans to track other performance indicators, including the number of new products developed in partnership with the Center, and to the extent it can be measured, the economic impact from the sales of those products, and the level of extramural funding obtained as a result of the new center. \*

Due to program implementation status, data are not yet available

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

In addition to the MJRP funding, UMS has secured an additional \$2.5 million in FY23 Congressionally Directed Spending (commonly known as earmarks) requested by U.S. Sens. Collins and King. On July 15, 2024, the UMS Board of Trustees gave final approval to UMaine's plan to spend the MJRP and CDS funds to renovate an existing facility on the Orono campus that has been selected to be the home of the new Food Innovation Lab. See July 2024 press release here: <https://umaine.edu/news/blog/2024/07/16/new-commercial-food-production-coming-to-umaine-will-expand-markets-through-innovation/>. As of June 30, 2025, the lab was in the design and delivery phase. It is estimated that construction will start in late fall or early winter and will be finished in late 2026. With changing construction and equipment costs due to tariffs and other factors, it has been a challenge to keep the project in budget.

# USM Dubyak Center for Digital Science & Innovation

## Project Information

Control Number \*

N.44.6

Funding Amount

\$1,500,000

Initiative Name

UMS Workforce Development Plans

Project Name

USM Dubyak Center for Digital Science & Innovation

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

## Project Overview

Project Description

Through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, the University of Maine System will expand experiential learning opportunities that prepare students for success in Maine careers, upgrade research and teaching facilities necessary for training Maine's 21st century workforce, and strengthen business partnerships that spark new innovations for Maine's economy. This portion of the funds will be used to construct the Michael E. Dubyak Center for Digital Science and Innovation, which will help create new education and training pathways to high-need, high-growth computer and data science, cybersecurity, and information technology careers.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in August 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 08/05/2022.

Partners

Gorham School District (Superintendent of Schools)  
Portland Public Schools ( PPS STEM Coordinator)  
Foundation for Portland Public Schools (- Executive Director)  
Maine Robotics ( Director)  
Maine Health (Vice President, Innovation)  
Roux Institute ( Director of Computational Life Sciences)  
WEX (Chief Technology Officer)  
Town and Country FCU ( Director of Strategic Initiatives)  
Covetrus (Data Privacy Officer)

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/university-maine-system-workforce-development-research-and-innovation-programs>

## Key Performance Indicators

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The previous director of the Dubyak Center retired from the faculty in August 2024, and we have a new director in place as of September 2024. Over the past year, he convened an Advisory Board that consists of both industry representatives and faculty aligned with the Center. The director will collaborate with the Board to develop a strategic vision for the Center, continuing to support students and faculty while fostering relationships within the community.

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

23

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

35

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

55

Number of individuals receiving financial assistance for education \*

34

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

18

In addition to the measures above which monitor the Dubyak Center's student and employer engagement, additional performance indicators tracked by the university will include: number of PK-12 student campers and after-school program participants and related demographics, and number of participant and hours of support provided in digital literacy programs. \*

Through the Center, USM has offered 10 different summer programs at 10 locations around the state. Across both 2024 and 2025, we offered 93 weeklong sessions, with 1,222 students participating, and we hired 93 staff, both camp leaders and counselors. In addition to summer, we expanded camp offerings in December 2024 over school vacation, running three programs that enrolled 32 students with six staff. Additional programming reached another 818 students and involved over 100 adult mentors.



## Expand UMF Child Care and Early Education Center

### Project Information

Control Number \*

N.44.7

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000

Initiative Name

UMS Workforce Development Plans

Project Name

Expand UMF Child Care and Early Education Center

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

Through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, the University of Maine System will expand experiential learning opportunities that prepare students for success in Maine careers, upgrade research and teaching facilities necessary for training Maine's 21st century workforce, and strengthen business partnerships that spark new innovations for Maine's economy. This portion of the funds will be used to construct a new child care and early education center at the University of Maine at Farmington that will provide high-quality early learning to area infants, toddlers and preschool aged children and allow for the expansion of early childhood education degree programs to meet statewide workforce needs.

ADDED 4/27/22: UMS would note that according to a report from Strong Nation (Child Care Providers: The Workforce Behind the Workforce in Maine, 2022), since 2019, Maine has experienced a 19% decrease in employment rates among child care workers and researchers point to the COVID-19 pandemic as having exacerbated long-standing capacity challenges in the sector, well beyond the 8% employment loss required by the Final Rule for eligibility.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in February 2022 and SLFRF program expenditures completed as of 9/30/2024.

Partners

UMF is partnering with Senior Policy Analyst and Children's Cabinet Coordinator with the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future; Franklin County Adult and Community Education; Greater Franklin Development Council; Promise Early Education Center; Community Concepts, Inc.; Saddleback Mountain; Maine Association for the Education of Young Children, Regional School Unit No. 9; , Western Maine Community Action.

Link to Project Website

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

36

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

72

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

36

Number of children enrolled in early childhood or PreK programs \*

75

In addition to the metrics being developed by the MJRP workforce metrics team, UMF plans to monitor the following: To the extent possible, UMF will seek post-graduation data from early childhood education degree program graduates, including employment and quality of preparation. This is something the university does already to assess and improve the quality of its programming. Additionally, UMF will monitor demographic data associated with degree program students, including age, gender, geography, race/ethnicity, Pell-eligibility (indication of financial need), etc. Finally, UMF will survey families whose children are enrolled in childcare to understand how the expanded new center is serving their needs. To the extent families are willing to report it, UMF will correct demographic data upon enrollment in its child care center. \*

UMF's Sweatt-Winter completed an end of year survey for families with enrolled children to gain insight on their experiences with Sweatt-Winter. Sweatt-Winter collects demographic data at enrollment of all children.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

In March 2024, Governor Janet Mills, U.S. Senator Susan Collins and University of Maine at Farmington President Joe McDonnell helped local preschool students cut the ribbon on the new Sweatt-Winter Child Care and Early Education Center. Additionally, CHA Consulting, Inc, transformation (w/Optimum Construction) of a former call center into the new UMF Sweatt-Winter Childcare and Early Education Center has just been recognized by AIA Maine with a prestigious award in the Renovation & Adaptive Reuse category.

There has been extensive media coverage of the center's reopening and the design award. Some examples:

BDN Editorial: UMF early childhood center boost youngest Mainers, their future teachers and our economy (<https://www.bangordailynews.com/2024/05/06/opinion/opinion-contributor/umf-early-childhood-center-future-teachers-economy/>)

UMF Press Release: <https://www.umf.maine.edu/2024/04/this-is-going-to-make-a-real-difference-in-franklin-county-umf-celebrates-opening-of-expanded-child-care-center/>

Lewiston Sun Journal: <https://www.sunjournal.com/2024/03/28/mills-and-collins-cut-the-ribbon-on-umfs-new-sweatt-winter-center-2/>

Mainebiz: <https://www.mainebiz.biz/article/innovative-design-of-umf-child-care-center-focuses-on-nature-based-education>

## UMS Solutions for Maine R&D and Innovation Hub

### Project Information

Control Number \*

N.44.8

Funding Amount

\$2,500,000

Initiative Name

UMS Workforce Development Plans

Project Name

UMS Solutions for Maine R&D and Innovation Hub

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.30-Technical Assistance, Counseling, or Business Planning

### Project Overview

Project Description

Through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, the University of Maine System will expand experiential learning opportunities that prepare students for success in Maine careers, upgrade research and teaching facilities necessary for training Maine's 21st century workforce, and strengthen business partnerships that spark new innovations for Maine's economy. This portion of the funds will be used to provide technical assistance, counseling, and other services to help stabilize and support the recovery and growth of startups and small businesses negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in August 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 01/30/2023.

Partners

In addition to collaborations across the University of Maine System, external partner organizations will include Maine Technology Institute and Maine Center for Entrepreneurs . Discussions are in the early stages. Many of the concepts have been shared broadly with stakeholders such as Maine Accelerates Growth and partner research organizations, like Mount Desert Biological Laboratory , Gulf of Maine Research Institute , and MaineHealth. Additional partners will likely include trade associations that support innovating companies such as E2Tech, BioME, Maine Manufacturing Association, Maine Aquaculture Association, Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center, as well as incubators and accelerators such as Tech Place in Brunswick, Union River Center for Innovation in Ellsworth, Dirigo Labs accelerator in Waterville, and the Roux Institute in Portland.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/university-maine-system-workforce-development-research-and-innovation-programs>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

The I-Corps program has been well studied and outcomes indicate that startups that have team members who participated in I-Corps are more likely to get additional commercialization funding (Huang-Saad et al. 2017. Journal of Technology Transfer 42:6) and save money by stopping projects that do not have a strong market potential (Youtie et al. 2021. Science and Public Policy 48:4), among other outcomes. The impact of the Advanced Manufacturing Center's technical support was assessed by UMaine economics researchers who found a total \$51.4 million impact in the last five years. Entrepreneurs-in-residence are a demonstrated model used in incubators and accelerators worldwide. Student intern support in startups has been shown to help companies with talent recruitment, business acceleration, and financial value (Lantu et al. 2022. Higher Education, Skills and Work-Based Learning 12:1).

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$2,500,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe evaluation design as noted in **Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance** and Reporting Guidance pg. 38 \*

The University of Maine Office of Innovation and Economic Development will collect baseline data on the entrepreneur's/company's jobs and revenue. During the period of the project, the UMaine Office of Innovation and Economic Development will survey participants upon completion of any project/program activity to assess satisfaction with the assistance provided and again biannually to track business outcomes such as new revenue grants, investment, jobs, etc. After the project is complete, the UMaine Office of Innovation and Economic Development, working with researchers from the UMaine School of Economics, to conduct annual surveys of program participants to track long-term outcomes and economic impact including:

- New revenue and new revenue from new products and services
- New jobs
- For existing businesses, retained sales/jobs and cost savings
- New grants and investment
- New intellectual property

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

247

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

86.5 jobs created/losses avoided (Six companies who responded indicated they have created a total of 20 new jobs -- nine permanent, 11 temporary while 16 companies indicated they were able to rehire/retain 66.5 jobs.)

Number of new businesses started \*

41 businesses were formed post 2020, per the baseline surveys received. The Solutions Hub serves existing businesses whose operations were impacted by the pandemic, as well as new businesses whose start was delayed as a result of the pandemic.

New revenue, grants, investment, products introduced/prototyped: The university will require recipients of technical assistance to complete bi-annual surveys indicating new revenue/grant/investment as well as new product outcomes. These results will be updated and reported biannually. \*

Retained revenue: 15 businesses, \$657,000; 21 businesses brought new products/services to market worth \$428,000, six businesses developed new products but have not yet generated new revenue with them; 31 businesses received new grants; 12 businesses made capital investments.

Equity - number rural and BIPOC-owned businesses served: The university will track participation data and report on a quarterly basis the number of businesses receiving technical assistance. We will disaggregate by community and demographics to the extent possible while also maintaining client confidentiality, as needed. \*

BIPOC and multi-ethnic-owned businesses: 11; Detailed rurality calculations are pending additional baseline survey data. Of the companies who have responded to the baseline survey to date, 76 companies served are based in the four counties that contain Maine's 10 largest population centers (Androscoggin, Cumberland, Penobscot, York); 45 companies served are based in Maine's remaining 12 counties.

Intellectual Property: The university will require recipients of technical assistance to complete bi-annual surveys indicating new patents, trademarks, and copyrights. These results will be updated and reported biannually. \*

Eight businesses reported developing new intellectual property. Of those businesses, one company reports applying for new patents and receiving two patents.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Survey response rates remain below our targets. To date, 121 businesses served have completed baseline surveys, and of those, 37 completed a follow-up impact survey sent in early 2025. Both baseline and impact survey distribution must be staggered in order to align with project start and completion dates, which vary significantly based on project type. (For example, student fellows covered by the Solutions Hub have clear start and end dates, while prototyping projects can extend beyond projected end dates. As a point of reference, we have initiated 77 new projects since January 1, 2025, the majority of which are Innovate for Maine fellowships that started in late May 2025 and will wrap up in August 2025.) Because projects are initiated and finished on different timetables, impact data has been slower to gather. We continue to follow up with companies at regular intervals to increase our survey response rates.

## UMS Rural Career Pathway Center

### Project Information

Control Number \*

N.44.9

Funding Amount

\$1,500,000

Initiative Name

UMS Workforce Development Plans

Project Name

UMS Rural Career Pathway Center

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

Through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, the University of Maine System will expand experiential learning opportunities that prepare students for success in Maine careers, upgrade research and teaching facilities necessary for training Maine's 21st century workforce, and strengthen business partnerships that spark new innovations for Maine's economy. This portion of the funds will be used to establish the Rural Career Pathway Center, which will provide funding opportunities for undergraduate students to pursue internships in high-need rural workforce areas during their time in school.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in September 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 05/15/2023.

Partners

As the Center develops, we anticipate many external collaborations to contribute to the overall design and success of the project. These collaborations might include Focus Maine's Maine Career Catalyst program; industry associations such as BioME, Maine Manufacturers Association, and several others; chambers of commerce throughout the state, and state agencies.; We have continued the process of working with industry-related groups to facilitate internship opportunities across the state. For example, plans for an internship coordinator for forest-product related companies were included in the workforce development activities of the FOR/Maine initiative and we are planning pilot training activities with healthcare organizations like Northern Light Health.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/university-maine-system-workforce-development-research-and-innovation-programs>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

There is a wide body of research that has informed the development of the Rural Career Pathways Center with special attention to advancing equitable outcomes, including for students of color, those who live in rural communities, those who are low-income and/or those who are the first in their families to access postsecondary education. For example, students who graduate during an economic recession have reduced earnings for a decade or more relative to their peers who do not experience reduced opportunity (Kahn 2010. Labour Economics 17:303; Genda et al. 2008. J. Human Resources 45:157; Cockx 2016. IZA World of Labor 2016:281). The effects are longer for less advantaged students (Oreopoulos et al. 2012 Applied Economics 4:1), where earning disparities can persist through their entire lives. There are already socioeconomic and racial disparities present in internship programs nationally (Greenman, Chepp, and Burton 2022. Teaching in Higher Education 27:267), even before the pandemic impacts. Historically, disadvantaged populations not only participate in these High Impact Practices with lower frequency, students in these marginalized groups also obtain less benefit from participation due to the inadequacy of appropriate preparatory training by the educational institution (Valentine, Price, and Yang 2021. Lumina Issue Paper). The reliance on a "culture of volunteerism" to take advantage of internships, which requires students to have the resources to work without pay or to relocate to expensive urban centers for no or low pay, is a high socioeconomic barrier for many often disadvantaged populations.

The emphases of the Rural Career Pathway Center directly address these known barriers by providing 1) better pre-internship training, 2) more paid opportunities, 3) more online and rural opportunities, and 4) wrap-around services like housing and transportation to support participation. Throughout the proposed activities, we will monitor participation by gender, first-generation college attendance, socioeconomic, rural, and racial identities to allow for evidence-based narrowing of opportunity gaps. Additionally, UMS would note that a review of the academic literature and a study of Slippery Rock University graduates (Galbraith & Mondal 2019. Research in Higher Education Journal, 38) found consistent evidence that participation in internships leads to better career outcomes. Evidence from three states show that disadvantaged groups participate in these experiences less frequently and obtain lower gains from participation due to a lack of adequate training (Valentine et al. 2021) and the Wisconsin Center for Education (Hora et al. 2019) concluded that interventions that help students gain access to opportunities and that provide mentoring and structure will result in better outcomes.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$1,500,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe evaluation design as noted in **Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance** and Reporting Guidance pg. 38 \*

The program will be evaluated at three time scales. In the short term, students will be surveyed prior to and following the completion of internship training and the first internship to assess attitudes toward career preparation. In the medium term, we will assess whether students who participate in preparatory training and internships are retained with the University of Maine System (UMS) at higher rates, achieve higher scholarly outcomes, or graduate within fewer semesters relative to students who do not have these experiences. In the longer term, we will survey alumni within one year of graduation and in subsequent five-year intervals to test for relationships between internship participation and job attainment, career satisfaction, and general well-being. These assessment protocols will capture student changes involved in this MJRP-funded project, as well as all related MJRP projects that include support for internships for UMS students. An assessment team has been selected and baseline data for all metrics have been assessed in the cohort prior to intervention to allow context to assess the impacts of this program.



## Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

614

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

638

In addition to the metrics listed above and those decided by the team developing workforce-specific MJRP metrics, the University of Maine System plans to track: Number of unique businesses engaged as internship hosts, sectors, geography will be tracked by staff for all students participating in this program. Academic retention and time to degree completion of students participating in this program will be tracked by the assessment team in University of Maine Office of Institutional Research on an annual basis. Descriptive characteristics of participants (e.g., gender, parental education level, socioeconomic, rural, and racial identities) will be aggregated by the assessment team in University of Maine Office of Institutional Research on an annual basis. \*

At least 333 unique businesses were engaged as internship hosts. With the graduating Class of 2025 across the University of Maine System, new data collection on internship participation was piloted which will provide information on retention, demographics, and academic characteristics related to internship participation that was previously unavailable.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

• Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

419

• Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

419

• Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

153 (youth included college-age young adults)

## Machias/Marine Science Field Station at the DEI

### Project Information

Control Number \*

N.44.10

Funding Amount

\$500,000

Initiative Name

UMS Workforce Development Plans

Project Name

Machias/Marine Science Field Station at the DEI

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

Through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, the University of Maine System will expand experiential learning opportunities that prepare students for success in Maine careers, upgrade research and teaching facilities necessary for training Maine's 21st century workforce, and strengthen business partnerships that spark new innovations for Maine's economy. This portion of the funds will be used to scale up an existing aquaculture internship program at the University of Maine at Machias' field station, the Downeast Institute, which will help create new education and training pathways to increase the number of skilled workers who can fill the aquaculture and related seafood industry labor gaps that were exacerbated by the pandemic.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in May 2022 and SLFRF program expenditures fully complete as of 12/31/2024.

Partners

University of Maine at Machias  
AC Inc (oyster farm)  
Blue Hill Bay Mussels  
AS Francis (oyster farm)  
Cooke Aquaculture  
Western Washington County Institute of Technology  
Washington County Community College  
Kingfish, Maine

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/university-maine-system-workforce-development-research-and-innovation-programs>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

12

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

No additional 2025 data as all funds were expended in the prior year

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

27

In addition to the workforce metrics developed by the MJRP team, we will track at least three other performance indicators, including: Number of interns who go on to be hired in aquaculture or a related sector, development of skills beneficial to the sector. Specifically, the project coordinator will administer a survey during onboarding to allow the student to rate their skills on a list of core competencies for aquaculture employment. The survey will be administered a second time at the end of the summer, allowing us to quantify skill increases. Economic status of internship participations. Specifically, our goal is to serve economically disadvantaged students with a target minimum rate of 20%. Using a separate survey form, college students will be asked if they are eligible for work study grants. High School students will be asked if they qualify for free/reduced hot lunch. \*

Number of interns who go on to be hired in aquaculture or a related sector: 2 thus far (from 2022 cohort).

Development of skills beneficial to the sector: Skills surveyed included hatchery hygiene and practices, field practices, farm experience, math and science concepts, raising algae, larval husbandry. Average skills score from self-evaluation showed significant increase from the start to the completion of the internship, demonstrating the significant skill development.

Economic status of internship participants: One-third met threshold for economically disadvantaged according to anonymous surveys thus far.

## Promotion of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

### Project Information

Control Number \*

O.45.1

Funding Amount

\$500,000

Initiative Name

Promotion of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Project Name

Promotion of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

Maine's Department of Economic and Community Development will be launching a competitive grant program that will fund regional communities of practice to help local employers in key sectors respond to labor shortages through more effective promotion, attraction and retention of racially, ethnically and linguistically diverse talent. These communities of practice will be comprised of local businesses and community organizations who will have opportunities to learn from each other, partner together, and receive assistance on talent initiatives. Each regional community of practice will be convened by either an individual organization or business, or a group of organizations and/or businesses. The program will be limited to addressing labor shortages facing employers in the following sectors: Health Care & Social Assistance; Construction, Trades, Logistics; Manufacturing; Education & Child Care; Agriculture, Fishing, & Forestry; Information; and Clean Energy.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in May 2022.

Partners

The Maine Dept. of Labor and Maine Department of Health and Human Services are key partners in this effort.

Key partners & roles to date:

- oDepartment of Economic and Community Development—lead on planning & implementation

- oDept. of Labor—support on planning & implementation

- oDepartment of Health and Human Services—advisory partner to ensure alignment with other advancing equity focused efforts

- oDepartment of Administrative and Financial Services—advisory partner to ensure alignment with procurement equity focused efforts and existing contractors

- oPermanent Commission—advisory partner to all advancing equity and procurement equity focused efforts

Link to Project Website

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

20

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

0

Number of new businesses started \*

0

Percentage of beneficiaries/stakeholders supported through this funding who report an improvement in the attraction and retention of workers. \*

0

Percentage of beneficiaries/stakeholders supported through this funding who report being better prepared to attract, retain and support individuals of various racial, ethnic and linguistic backgrounds. \*

0

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Promotion of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion - NMRC

### Project Information

Control Number \*

O.45.2

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000

Initiative Name

Promotion of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Project Name

Promotion of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion - NMRC

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

This project will expand existing programming to help foreign-born residents overcome barriers to entering Maine's workforce, assist New Mainers in becoming credentialed in Maine, and connect employers to qualified candidates – with a focus on those who on arrive in Maine with prior significant skills, education, and professional experience. The project builds on a successful Portland-based Welcome Center pilot program created by the Maine State Legislature in 2013, called the New Mainer Resource Center. These funds will expand capacity to serve more clients in the Portland area and introduce new capacity to serve additional communities around the state. There is significant evidence that this population experienced economic harm with the pandemic, including high levels of job losses and unemployment.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in May 2023 and program activities are ongoing as of 07/01/2023.

Partners

The Maine Dept. of Education are key partners in the effort to expand the New Mainer Resource Center and provide services in additional locations. Dept. of Education and Department of Economic and Community Development are partnering on the planning of the program and will closely collaborate on implementation.

- Maine Dept. of Labor: support on planning & implementation
- The University of Maine System: advise on implementation and coordination of services
- The Maine Community College System: advise on implementation and coordination of services
- Department of Health and Human Services: advisory partner to ensure alignment with other equity focused efforts
- GOPIF: workforce policy coordination

Link to Project Website

not yet available

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of Individuals receiving career development or job training; Number of NMRC clients who earn a license, certification, or credential relevant in their field as a result of their participation in NMRC offerings. \*

43

Number of workers earning a license or credential; Data on the number of licenses and credentials earned will be reported not less than quarterly and shall be broken down by industry, geography, and demographics. \*

29

Number of NMRC clients who report a career advancement as a result of their participation. \*

86 YTD, Data reflects results of a mid-year survey. NMRC will conduct an FY25 year-end survey during Q1 of FY26.

Number of NMRC clients who report connecting to their key professional industry as a result in one of NMRC offerings. \*

79 YTD, Data reflects results of a mid-year survey. NMRC will conduct an FY25 year-end survey during Q1 of FY26.

Number of referrals to other entities within the higher education or workforce development system. \*

0.

DECD plans to collect additional qualitative performance measures to assess the difference made as a result of these interventions and investments. Some of these measures include but are not limited to:

- Number of individuals provided with advising services
- Number of individuals who participate in one or more NMRC offerings.
- Demographic information on individuals served, including prior educational attainment, country of origin, English level, sector and location; as well as career advancement placements by industry/sector, location and wage.
- Number of individuals served by NMRC enrolling in other adult education or higher education. \*

350 provided with advising services, 53 involved in one or more of NMRCs offerings, 79 reporting connecting to their key professional industry (results of a mid-year survey where 74% of respondents responded affirmatively to this question), 173 credential translations and evaluations processed by NMRC.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Infrastructure - Diverse Business & Non-Profits

### Project Information

Control Number \*

O.46.1

Funding Amount

\$3,308,091

Initiative Name

Infrastructure - Diverse Business & Non-Profits

Project Name

Infrastructure - Diverse Business & Non-Profits

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

This program is designed to provide aid to Maine industries negatively impacted by the pandemic. It will help local employers in these key sectors respond to labor shortages by scaling or expanding best practices in in diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging AND/OR piloting innovative practices.

The program will be limited to addressing labor shortages facing employers in the following sectors only: Health Care & Social Assistance; Construction, Trades, Logistics; Manufacturing; Education & Child Care; Agriculture, Fishing, & Forestry; Information; and Clean Energy. These industries in Maine each experienced negative harms from the pandemic that were comparable or greater than that of the national tourism, travel, and hospitality industries.

The overarching strategy and intent is to focus the attraction and retention efforts in a specific demographic group: racial, ethnic and linguistic minorities.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 06/30/2022.

Partners

The Maine Dept. of Labor (Samantha Dina, Karen Fraser) and Maine Department of Health and Human Services (Leana Amaez) are key partners in this effort. Department of Administrative and Financial Services (Jaime Schorr) is also a key partner for connecting procurement efforts and TA capacity building and infrastructure.

Key partners & roles to date:

-Department of Economic and Community Development—lead on planning & implementation



- Dept. of Labor—support on planning & implementation and alignment with other advancing equity focused efforts, including work with disability and veterans communities
- Department of Health and Human Services—advisory partner to ensure alignment with other advancing equity focused efforts
- Department of Administrative and Financial Services—advisory partner to ensure alignment with procurement equity focused efforts and existing contractors
- Permanent Commission—advisory partner to all advancing equity and procurement equity focused efforts
- Professional and Financial Regulation.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/business-diversity-technical-assistance-grant-program>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

4,125

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

120

number of employers that report this investment has improved their workforce attraction, hiring and/or retention practices. \*

12

improvement in the number of demographic indicators collected by professional licensure and certification. \*

0. Relevant metrics are expected in FY26.

number of best practices adopted in other geographical regions and/or industries that have resulted in improvements in workforce attraction or other related economic indicators for the region(s). \*

0. Relevant metrics are expected in FY26.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Community-Led Needs Assessments

### Project Information

Control Number \*

O.47.2

Funding Amount

Initiative Name

Data Collection to Improve Diversity

Project Name

Community-Led Needs Assessments

Sub-Expenditure Category

3.4-Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

### Project Overview

Project Description

With funding from the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, Maine's Department of Health and Human Services will conduct a series of Community-Led Needs Assessments (CLNA's) to better enable the Department to respond to the unique needs of communities of diverse backgrounds, help advance opportunities for these communities across the Department, and to reduce barriers to diverse businesses and non-profits in accessing Department resources. The CLNAs will be conducted by community-based organizations with technical assistance from a research partner.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in February 2023. Following a review conducted in Fall 2024, it was determined that the funds allocated to this project would not be obligated within the required timeframe. Following the authority granted under Chapter 643, Part D, the project was cancelled. The funds were subsequently swept and reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives.

Partners

Department of Health and Human Services will work with multiple Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) that are collaborating to lead these CNLAs from multiple communities that have experienced COVID-19 disparities. Department of Health and Human Services anticipates 2-4 formal contracts as a result of this project, and that each of these contracts will include multiple external stakeholders and organizations from the communities targeted. Department of Health and Human Services also anticipates working with an external partner to validate the process and serve as a data intermediary.

Link to Project Website

not yet available

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

Pursuant to Public Law 2023, Chapter 643, Part D—effective August 9, 2024—the Legislature authorized the adjustment of allocations to fully utilize the funds for projects that were underspent or otherwise unable to be obligated prior to the December 2024 deadline.

Following a review conducted in Fall 2024, it was determined that the funds allocated to this project would not be obligated in time. In accordance with the authority granted under Chapter 643, Part D, the project was cancelled. The funds were subsequently swept and reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives.

The number of organizations that participate in each CLNA (disaggregated by community and recipient demographics). \*

Pursuant to Public Law 2023, Chapter 643, Part D—effective August 9, 2024—the Legislature authorized the adjustment of allocations to fully utilize the funds for projects that were underspent or otherwise unable to be obligated prior to the December 2024 deadline.

Following a review conducted in Fall 2024, it was determined that the funds allocated to this project would not be obligated in time. In accordance with the authority granted under Chapter 643, Part D, the project was cancelled. The funds were subsequently swept and reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives.

The number of individuals that participate in the development, planning, and execution of each CLNA (disaggregated by community and recipient demographics). These data will be collected quarterly and reviewed by the Project Manager. \*

Pursuant to Public Law 2023, Chapter 643, Part D—effective August 9, 2024—the Legislature authorized the adjustment of allocations to fully utilize the funds for projects that were underspent or otherwise unable to be obligated prior to the December 2024 deadline.

Following a review conducted in Fall 2024, it was determined that the funds allocated to this project would not be obligated in time. In accordance with the authority granted under Chapter 643, Part D, the project was cancelled. The funds were subsequently swept and reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives.

The number of individuals who participate in a CLNA survey as a recipient individual/household (disaggregated by community and recipient demographics). These data will be collected quarterly and reviewed by the Project Manager. \*

Pursuant to Public Law 2023, Chapter 643, Part D—effective August 9, 2024—the Legislature authorized the adjustment of allocations to fully utilize the funds for projects that were underspent or otherwise unable to be obligated prior to the December 2024 deadline.

Following a review conducted in Fall 2024, it was determined that the funds allocated to this project would not be obligated in time. In accordance with the authority granted under Chapter 643, Part D, the project was cancelled. The funds were subsequently swept and reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives.

The number of individuals who participate in a CLNA focus group as a recipient individual/household (disaggregated by community and recipient demographics). These data will be collected quarterly and reviewed by the Project Manager. \*

Pursuant to Public Law 2023, Chapter 643, Part D—effective August 9, 2024—the Legislature authorized the adjustment of allocations to fully utilize the funds for projects that were underspent or otherwise unable to be obligated prior to the December 2024 deadline.

Following a review conducted in Fall 2024, it was determined that the funds allocated to this project would not be obligated in time. In accordance with the authority granted under Chapter 643, Part D, the project was cancelled. The funds were subsequently swept and reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Pursuant to Public Law 2023, Chapter 643, Part D—effective August 9, 2024—the Legislature authorized the adjustment of allocations to fully utilize the funds for projects that were underspent or otherwise unable to be obligated prior to the December 2024 deadline.

Following a review conducted in Fall 2024, it was determined that the funds allocated to this project would not be obligated in time. In accordance with the authority granted under Chapter 643, Part D, the project was cancelled. The funds were subsequently swept and reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives.

## Basic Needs for Underserved Communities

### Project Information

Control Number \*

O.48.1

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000

Initiative Name

Basic Needs for Underserved Communities

Project Name

Basic Needs for Underserved Communities

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Department of Labor is seeking to partner with community-based organizations, worker groups, labor unions, or other non-profit organizations with deep ties to underserved and under-represented communities within the workforce in order to develop a peer workforce navigator pilot program that connects individuals disproportionately affected by COVID-19 with employment, skills development, and basic needs support resources, such as unemployment benefits. The Department is especially focused on increasing access to employment opportunities and basic needs resources among communities most impacted by the COVID-19 crisis including immigrants, individuals with limited English proficiency, inexperienced and untrained individuals, low-income and homeless individuals, individuals who have been out of the workforce for an extended period, individuals with low literacy and individuals with disabilities.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/04/2022.

Partners

No other state agencies or external partners are involved in the planning of this initiative

Link to Project Website

not yet available

### Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

As the US Department of Health and Human Services reported, the (mostly small-scale) rigorous impact evaluations to date find that peer navigators in health care have significant psychological and process impacts (e.g., patient feelings of self-efficacy, compliance with treatment) that may lead to important longterm well-being benefits, such as improved recovery outcomes and medical cost saving. The peer navigator model has been proven within healthcare settings and is currently being piloted within workforce settings as well.

In Maine, DOL is administering a federal grant program that hires peer support workers personally affected by the opioid epidemic to connect individuals in recovery with substance use services as well as employment, education and training resources. The program has been very effective—currently working with 500+ individuals, of which more than 400 are connected to education, training or employment.

We intend to pilot the peer navigation model proven effective in healthcare and substance use settings to understand its effectiveness in a workforce setting.

Several other states are launching similar efforts including an effort in King County, Washington that is leveraging employment navigators to connect individuals experiencing homelessness to jobs. Outcomes across King County and Pierce County show job placement rates of between 50% and 60% for individuals experiencing homelessness for this effort.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$1,000,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

2161

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

294 customers served self-reported they have been connected to employment

Number of households receiving household assistance \*

791 referrals made and connection to support services

Analysis of demographics of individuals served. Demographic information on individuals served will be collected via MJL and will be reviewed quarterly to monitor which communities are accessing services, and within those communities which populations, including a disaggregation by race and ethnicity. Age range, veteran status, substate region, disability, and ethnicity/race will be tracked & disaggregated. We also want to see how this pilot shifts the overall demographic make-up of who is referred into CareerCenters to gauge the effectiveness of the pilot in building bridges between priority communities and DOL workforce resources.

\*

Number of individuals with disabilities served: 72  
Number of people experiencing homelessness served: 87

Referrals to benefit programs: One pillar of the peer workforce navigator pilot will be raising awareness of and connecting individuals to unemployment benefits. We will work with community grantees to capture the number of referrals made to unemployment benefits and identify the individuals connected to UI benefits from this pilot \*

812 referred to unemployment resources

• Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

163

• Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

0-Though several individuals have been referred to and enrolled in training programs, this program does not directly enroll individuals in training--thus completion data is not collected

• Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

0

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

n/a

## Expand Progressive Employment Program

### Project Information

Control Number \*

O.49.1

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000

Initiative Name

Expand Progressive Employment Program

Project Name

Expand Progressive Employment Program

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

This initiative will expand the utilization of Progressive Employment, an evidence-based dual customer practice proven successful in increasing the employment of individuals who have not been traditionally employed in the workforce, including those who have little or no work history due to barriers - including stigma - but want to work. For the last five years, MDOL's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation incrementally and successfully deployed Progressive Employment statewide to employers and people with disabilities of all ages who are seeking employment. This funding will allow MDOL to pilot this evidence-based approach among two communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and facing significant barriers to employment—individuals who are justice-involved and those in recovery. Engagement of this previously untapped workforce will be key to Maine's economic recovery and the achievement of adding 75,000 workers to our talent pool as identified in the 10-Year Economic Development Strategy.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in July 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 07/01/2023.

Partners

Key partners will include employers who want to engage in Progressive Employment; all CareerCenter partners, including Title IB funded agencies, Adult Education, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Economic and Community Development, Department of Corrections and ME Department of Transportation; and any organizations who are involved with the priority populations of job seekers with barriers. Implementation of this initiative will be done in alignment with other MJRP initiatives that touch Maine employers and job seekers with barriers, including Pre-Apprenticeship; Career and Industry Awareness; Department of Economic and Community Development Dept. of Education career exploration; and Department of Economic and Community Development business diversity

Link to Project Website



## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

MDOL's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation has five years of experience using Progressive Employment with youth and young adults with disabilities and now is offering the model statewide to Vocational Rehabilitation customers of all ages. From an AIR evaluation of the progressive employment model in Maine among youth with disabilities, estimates suggest that youth with disabilities "enrolled in the Progressive Employment program were 10.5 percentage points more likely to be employed in the first year after developing an individualized plan for employment than non-Progressive Employment clients. The result implies that Progressive Employment had an additional positive impact on the probability of youth being employed compared to traditional VR services."

The Vermont Agency of Human Services piloted the approach from March 2016 through December 2018 to SNAP work registrants with barriers, including homelessness, connections to the correctional system, and substance abuse. Multiple researchers are currently studying Progressive Employment and finding the model increases the likelihood of exiting Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services with an employment outcome (Mann, Stapleton, & Porter, 2018), potentially reduces the early drop out from VR (Moore, Haines, Foley, Kwan, & Mitchell, 2018a and 2018b), results in high levels of satisfaction and engagement of businesses (Robertson, Noys, & Pan, 2019), and fosters collaborative environments among VR counselors and employment specialists serving individuals with disabilities (Yin & Siwach, 2019). The characteristics of individuals assisted through the Progressive Employment model tend to be those who are detached from the workforce and have multiple employment barriers, which suggests that it will be effective with the identified priority populations – those who are justice-involved and those in recovery.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$1,000,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Experience indicators: Satisfaction of Progressive Employment project job seekers, employers and staff service providers will be collected consistent with the model’s evidence base and technical assistance provided. This data will be reviewed by the MDOL MJRP director, in consultation with the MDOL DVR director, at the mid- and endpoint of the project and can be disaggregated with adherence to confidentiality requirements. \*

An evaluation will be conducted by program partner ICI and reported in 2025

• Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

21

• Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

10

• Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

0 - not applicable

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

n/a

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

86 employers/organizations participated in DOL-lead progressive employment training to integrate as approach in their employment & training program

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

30

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

10

Participant demographics: Demographic information on Progressive Employment participants will be collected by CareerCenter Counselors and recorded in the Maine Job Link to ensure that the two priority communities – those who are justice-involved and/or in recovery - are participating in the pilot project and accessing employment services. This data will be reviewed by the MDOL Progressive Employment coordinator and the MJRP director at least quarterly and can be disaggregated with adherence to confidentiality requirements.

\*

100% in recovery or re-entry  
37% have a disability  
17% in Machias, 77% in Bangor, 7% in Lewiston

Fidelity to the Progressive Employment model: The four main components of the model – services to job seekers with barriers to employment; business relations; dual-customer team approach; and risk mitigation strategies – will be collected and tracked consistent with the model’s evidence base and technical assistance provided to project staff. This data will be reviewed by the MDOL MJRP director, in consultation with the MDOL DVR director, at least quarterly and can be disaggregated with adherence to confidentiality requirements. \*

An evaluation will be conducted by program partner ICI and reported in 2025

Progressive Employment team training: To ensure that CareerCenter staff and partners develop competencies in utilizing the Progressive Employment model, we will also collect data on the number of participants and events that occur in training the deployment of Progressive Employment in this pilot project. This data will be reviewed by MDOL MJRP director, in consultation with the MDOL DVR director, at least quarterly and can be disaggregated as needed. \*

86 participants in training

## Career Center Consultants - Workforce

### Project Information

Control Number \*

P.50.1

Funding Amount

\$1,100,000

Initiative Name

Career Center Consultants - Workforce

Project Name

Career Center Consultants - Workforce

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

The ARPA resources will expand capacity to provide intensive services to unemployed and underemployed job seekers—with a specific emphasis on communities that experienced disproportionate effects of COVID-19—including BIPOC communities, those with lower educational attainment, justice-involved, immigrant communities, and more. Job seekers will get help overcoming skill deficiencies, accessing supports to overcome barriers such as childcare and transportation, and an opportunity to receive continued follow-up support and guidance as they find suitable employment and start in new jobs.

The initiative is also important to business who are experiencing a shortage of workers. Many lost workers due to factors named above and others are experiencing a surge in business and are increasing staffing levels based on increased business in their sector. This initiative will dovetail efforts to fill openings with efforts to guide and prepare individuals for those in-demand jobs. It will provide direct connection and referral for individuals who have required qualifications, and will help individuals without needed skills access education and training resources to bridge the skills gap.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in December 2021 and program activities are ongoing as of 01/04/2022.

Partners

While no other state agencies or external organizations are immediately involved in the planning efforts of this initiative, we envision collaborating closely with different partners to implement this work, including:  
Community-based organizations who have existing relationships with individuals who may need career counselling assistance and/or connection to other workforce supports.  
Local service providers who may offer additional services to support job search, training, and/or employment-related needs.  
Employer/business community.

Other outreach worker initiatives Department of Environmental Protection employed through Dept. of Education or Department of Health and Human Services to ensure a coordinated support approach among similar priority communities.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/career-counseling-mainers-seeking-work>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

In a June 2021 report prepared for the U.S. Department of Labor by Mathematica and Social Policy Research associates, it is stated that “job seekers assigned to receive intensive services—assistance through one-on-one counseling and workshops—achieved higher employment and earnings than those with access only to self-service resources.” It reported that “the intensive services group had earnings that were approximately \$3,300 higher across 36 months than the self-services group.” The goal of this initiative is to reach populations who have been underserved and help them understand their existing strengths, how to overcome skill deficits and other challenges, gain confidence in their skills and employability, and connect to good employment, and/or education/training opportunities and supports. We believe that with these individualized intensive services, these individuals will find quality employment faster than if they hadn't received the services. The funds under this initiative will be spent on activities that will help us learn the direct public benefit on employment and wages for the individuals and populations served.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$1,100,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

11,401 employer/organizational contacts received coaching, TA or other workforce services from ARPA outreach workers

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

0--to reduce duplication and over-counting, all individual jobseekers served by ARPA outreach workers is captured in business case EE.100

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

0--to reduce duplication and over-counting, all individual jobseekers served by ARPA outreach workers is captured in business case EE.100

Analysis of demographics of customers receiving services. Demographic information on individuals served by the CareerCenter Counselors will be collected via MJL and will be reviewed quarterly to monitor which communities are accessing services, and within those communities which populations, including a disaggregation by race and ethnicity. Age range, veteran status, socioeconomic status, disability, and ethnicity/race will be tracked & disaggregated.

\*

To reduce duplication and over-counting, all data on jobseekers served by ARPA outreach workers is captured in business case EE.100

Wages: In addition, we will track median earnings of initiative participants to determine success at matching individuals with quality jobs. This data will be gathered from unemployment insurance wage records as reported by employers. The wage record information is recoded in the Maine JobLink through a system interface and will be included in quarterly reports. \*

To reduce duplication and over-counting, all data on jobseekers served by ARPA outreach workers is captured in business case EE.100

Satisfaction of jobseekers and employers: After customers are served, we will seek to understand their level of satisfaction with the service provided and outcome achieved. This will be captured in a variety of ways—online through surveys via email & chat, over the phone and in-person. \*

Not yet captured

• Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

0--to reduce duplication and over-counting, all individual jobseekers served by ARPA outreach workers is captured in business case EE.100

• Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

0--to reduce duplication and over-counting, all individual jobseekers served by ARPA outreach workers is captured in business case EE.100

• Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

0--to reduce duplication and over-counting, all individual jobseekers served by ARPA outreach workers is captured in business case EE.100

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Note: A prior annual report indicated a program evaluation to be completed. After further review the department has determined that as this initiative is for staffing, this project will not be part of any planned program evaluations for federal reporting.



# Apprenticeships to Facilitate Economic Recovery\_1

## Project Information

Control Number \*

P.51.1

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000

Initiative Name

Apprenticeships to Facilitate Economic Recovery

Project Name

Apprenticeships to Facilitate Economic Recovery\_1

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

## Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Apprenticeship Program is leveraging ARPA and additional federal grant funds to accomplish the following three goals: 1: Expand high-quality pre & apprenticeships; 2: Increase number of under-represented workers in apprenticeship; 3: Develop an integrated & effective statewide apprenticeship system. A core strategy of apprenticeship expansion will be partnering with Maine's businesses and industry associations, unions, education and training providers, and community-based organizations to develop new pre-apprenticeship and expand existing apprenticeship programs. This initiative will specifically focus on building high quality pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs for communities negatively affected by the pandemic including:

- Low-wage workers, lower income workers, workers of color
- Older workers and younger workers
- Women
- Justice involved
- Rural workers
- Those w/ lower educational attainment
- Individuals in recovery

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/23/2022.

Partners

Dept. of Education - Career and Technical Education Director , connection to CTE center programming statewide  
Department of Economic and Community Development - Director, Economic Development Coordination, identifying synergy possibilities between Department of Economic and Community Development efforts and Dept. of Labor efforts.  
Department of Corrections - Vocational trades staff, navigating the expansion of apprenticeship in DOC statewide  
Department of Health and Human Services – Workforce Program Manager, recognizing opportunities for Department of



Health and Human Services and Dept. of Labor to leverage and braid resources within the health care sector  
Maine Community College System – Department of Workforce Development, primary Maine Community College System contact for Dept. of Labor working toward recognizing opportunities for Maine Community College System and Dept. of Labor to leverage and braid resources

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/maine-apprenticeship-program-expansion>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

Results For America (source) rated “registered apprenticeship” as having a strong evidence base and cited the outcomes and impact after extensive national review:

- Increased employment rate by 8.6 percentage points

Estimated career earnings average of \$240,037 more than for similar nonparticipants

- Over the career of an apprenticeship, the estimated social benefits exceed the social costs by more than \$49,000

Based on Maine-specific data within the Maine apprenticeship program, recent apprentices realized, on average, a 40% growth in wages and 94% maintained

employment with sponsor employer. Additionally, apprenticeship benefits cited by sponsoring employers include reducing employee turnover and increasing

productivity, quality, safety, and worker versatility

Furthermore, the National Skills Coalition emphasizes the importance of pre-apprenticeship or pre-employment programs to provide foundational math and

technical skills as well as career coaching for people looking to access apprenticeships. The National Skills Coalition recommends these programs be

implemented to expand apprenticeship opportunities and education to traditionally underrepresented populations (Johnson and Spiker 2018).

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$1,000,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe evaluation design as noted in **Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance** and Reporting Guidance pg. 38 \*

Apprenticeship: A program evaluation will be conducted to understand the employment and wage outcomes of apprenticeship participants. The evaluation will examine the employment rates and wages prior to enrollment and after program completion. The evaluation will also consider industry retention among program completers. Outcomes will be disaggregated by demographic group and industry subsector where sample sizes are sufficient large enough—though likely to include gender, age and geographic region. The full evaluation will begin after program close—starting in December 2024.

## Key Performance Indicators

Analysis of demographics & geographic info of apprentices and pre-apprentices. Demographic information on individuals served will be collected via MJL and will be reviewed quarterly to monitor which communities are accessing services, and within those communities which populations, including a disaggregation by race and ethnicity. Age range, veteran status, socioeconomic status, substate region, disability, and ethnicity/race will be tracked & disaggregated. \*

Age: 61% 16-24 yrs old  
Race: 70% White, 19% Black, 6% Other race, 5% Declined to answer  
Gender: 70% Male, 27% female  
Disability: 11% self-disclosed having a disability  
Education: 86% lack a post-secondary degree

Wages: In addition, we will track wage growth (starting & ending wage) for registered apprenticeship participants \*

Median wage of completers two years prior to program: \$16,978; Median wage of completers two years post program: \$53,251

Program persistence & completion: To understand the effectiveness of program's and introduce additional supports where needed, MAP tracks apprenticeship program persistence and completion rates \*

Of 394 participants, 61% completed and 11% exited without completing

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

n/a

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

5 employers/organizations directly receiving MJRP funding to develop new or expand existing apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship programs

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

394

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

241

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

33

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

Of the 184 individuals who exited the program at least 6 months ago (for whom we have data), 156 are employed



## Apprenticeships to Facilitate Economic Recovery\_2

### Project Information

Control Number \*

P.51.2

Funding Amount

\$3,000,000

Initiative Name

Apprenticeships to Facilitate Economic Recovery

Project Name

Apprenticeships to Facilitate Economic Recovery\_2

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Apprenticeship Program is leveraging ARPA and additional federal grant funds to accomplish the following three goals: 1: Expand high-quality pre & apprenticeships; 2: Increase number of under-represented workers in apprenticeship; 3: Develop an integrated & effective statewide apprenticeship system. A core strategy of apprenticeship expansion will be partnering with Maine's businesses and industry associations, unions, education and training providers, and community-based organizations to develop new pre-apprenticeship and expand existing apprenticeship programs. This initiative will specifically focus on building high quality pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs for sectors negatively affected by the pandemic—including healthcare, clean energy, leisure & hospitality, public sector & education, retail, infrastructure (construction, broadband, logistics, trades), manufacturing, food & agriculture/fisheries/forestry.

Justification for allowable use: Maine ended 2019 with employment of 113,164 in Maine's Health Care and Social Assistance industry. Following the onset of the pandemic, employment in the industry dropped by 11.75% to 99,866 in April 2020 (source: Maine Center for Workforce Research and Information, Monthly Industry Employment). See attached PDF for justification for other affected industries noted above.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/23/2022.

Partners

Dept. of Education - Career and Technical Education Director , connection to CTE center programming statewide  
Department of Economic and Community Development - Director, Economic Development Coordination, identifying synergy possibilities between Department of Economic and Community Development efforts and Dept. of Labor efforts.  
Department of Corrections - Vocational trades staff, navigating the expansion of apprenticeship in DOC statewide  
Department of Health and Human Services – Workforce Program Manager, recognizing opportunities for Department of Health and Human Services and Dept. of Labor to leverage and braid resources within the health care sector

Maine Community College System – Department of Workforce Development, primary Maine Community College System contact for Dept. of Labor working toward recognizing opportunities for Maine Community College System and Dept. of Labor to leverage and braid resources

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/maine-apprenticeship-program-expansion>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

7 employers/organizations directly receiving MJRP funding to develop new or expand existing apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship programs

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

459

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

262

Number of new career development or job training programs offered \*

33

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

Of the 268 individuals who exited the program at least 6 months ago, 204 are employed

Analysis of demographics & geographic info of apprentices and pre-apprentices. Demographic information on individuals served will be collected via MJL and will be reviewed quarterly to monitor which communities are accessing services, and within those communities which populations, including a disaggregation by race and ethnicity. Age range, veteran status, socioeconomic status, substate region, disability, and ethnicity/race will be tracked & disaggregated. \*

Age: 20% under 24, 5% over 55  
Disability: 17%

Wages: In addition, we will track wage growth (starting & ending wage) for registered apprenticeship participants \*

Wage growth of completers: Median wage two years prior to program: \$32,003; two years post program: \$49,607

Program persistence & completion: To understand the effectiveness of program’s and introduce additional supports where needed, MAP tracks apprenticeship program persistence and completion rates \*

Of the 459 participants, 262 completed (57%), 209 are in progress (45%), and 47 exited without completing (10%)

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

n/a

## Connecting Workforce to Jobs\_Portal

### Project Information

Control Number \*

P.52.1

Funding Amount

\$850,000

Initiative Name

Connecting Workforce to Jobs

Project Name

Connecting Workforce to Jobs\_Portal

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

To ensure individuals and businesses most affected by COVID-19 are able to connect to much-needed social supports, training, programs, and job opportunities—and help employers connect more easily with jobseekers - funding will be used to develop a centralized online career portal, focused on the workforce system--to include career exploration, training, employment, and support services, and to brand and market Maine's workforce system as transparent and easily accessible. Maine's career portal, Work Source Maine, will be designed keeping specific constituent journeys in mind – with specific emphasis on these priority communities and industries most affected by COVID- to provide them a simple user-friendly way to access available jobs, workforce trainings, and other needed resources. The career portal will be concierge service connecting across partner sites, creating a “no wrong door” approach for Maine workers and employers, enabling ease of navigation to relevant education, training, and career/job pathway options. Also, MDOL seeks to support the development of a complementary portal, Bendable, which will be one piece of the Work Source Maine career portal. Bendable will be a comprehensive, searchable database of trainings that are occurring across Maine. This platform will support MDOL's efforts in connecting individuals to high quality training offerings to result in credential attainment—and is an important partner in the development of a more a navigable workforce system.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 09/25/2023.

Partners

The career portal working group consists of Dept. of Labor, Department of Economic and Community Development, Department of Health and Human Services, Dept. of Education/Adult Education, GOPIF, the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System, and the National Governor's Association. Additionally, the three local workforce boards are currently being brought into the career portal working group.; In addition to the portal working group the SWB Workforce System Coordination committee will be providing input to the design and implementation of the portal.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/career-portal-and-emergency-support-jobseekers>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

Illinois workNet Portal

Launched in 2005, the Illinois workNet Portal System is that state's one-stop virtual hub for resources and tools to help individuals, employers, and workforce/education partners achieve their training and employment goals. It is also relied on as a source for facilitating and connecting statewide programs.

From July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021, Illinois workNet received over 10.8 million page views and had over 60,000 individual active accounts created. (PY 2020

WIOA Annual Statewide Performance Report Narrative, Illinois Workforce Innovation Board)

In April 2021 a Customer Feedback Survey indicated that 70 percent were satisfied/very satisfied with Illinois workNet, while only 6 percent were dissatisfied.

The three primary reasons why individuals utilized the site were to find job openings, explore career options and find training and education opportunities.

(PY 2020 WIOA Annual Statewide Performance Report Narrative, Illinois Workforce Innovation Board)

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$850,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

0 - portal in development



One of the essential outcomes of this initiative is that we will measure is how one centralized platform facilitates seamless user navigation to the activities and resources on multiple agency websites or platforms.

\*

0 - portal in development

We will develop a dashboard to keep track of on-going engagement and activity to make data-based decisions on each specific constituent journey. \*

0 - portal in development

Visitor stats—analysis of demographics of visitors to ensure we’re reaching the communities most in need—and understanding of where they are coming from. We will track overall users and employers using the integrated portal as a metric to understand how the portal is broadening reach and engagement with Maine’s workforce system \*

0 - portal in development

Portal activity—understanding of a user journey in terms of pages viewed, time spent on page and where individuals are likely to get stuck or leave the site to provide guidance on how to strengthen site \*

0 - portal in development

Referrals—analysis showing the connection of individuals to a workforce resource through the portal and the individual’s ultimate outcome, i.e. connected to a training or educational program, got a job, etc. \*

0 - portal in development

Career Pathways – we will track the number of career pathways (developed through the Maine Industry Partnerships for Workforce Development initiative) available to Maine workers. \*

5 career pathway maps have been developed

- Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

0 - portal in development

- Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

0 - portal in development

- Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

0 - portal in development

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Development of portal is in progress with selected contractor; launch scheduled in October 2025

Note: A prior annual report indicated a program evaluation to be completed. After further review the department has determined that the evaluation planned is intended for internal program monitoring and process improvement, as opposed to federal program evaluation purposes.

## Connecting Workforce to Jobs\_Workers Fund

### Project Information

Control Number \*

P.52.2

Funding Amount

\$2,849,101.09

Initiative Name

Connecting Workforce to Jobs

Project Name

Connecting Workforce to Jobs\_Workers Fund

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Department of Labor is working with local workforce boards to improve employment outcomes for those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, including low-income workers, unemployed & underemployed workers, workers of color, individuals without a college degree, women, younger & older workers, rural workers, women, workers with disabilities, re-entry & recovery communities. Local boards will develop or expand approaches that 1) Address basic needs not met by existing programs to support job placement/retention and 2) Connect with individuals disengaged from the workforce system. This portion of the funding will provide grants to local area workforce boards to expand and enhance their ability to serve workers from high-need populations and remove some of the barriers to accessing the workforce.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in December 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 07/01/2023.

Partners

There are no other state agencies involved in the design process of this fund at this stage. The Maine Department of Labor solicited input from local workforce boards about this funding opportunity to enable them to address workforce needs not met by their existing programs and resources.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/career-portal-and-emergency-support-jobseekers>

### Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

Local workforce boards will propose how to spend their grant funding on evidence-based interventions. These proposals are likely to include:

Providing basic needs support to address unmet needs. Local workforce boards may use their funds to address workers' basic needs based on the WIOA

supportive services model. Research by the Institute for Women's Policy and Research suggests that individuals whose supportive services needs are well met

have improved job training and retention outcomes.

Community partnerships as a recruitment tool. Research prepared for the U.S. Department of Labor demonstrates that partnering with community

organizations and leaders with "street-corner presence and credibility to engage in word-of-mouth conversations to build trust and invite participation" has

proven effective at reaching youth disconnected from workforce development systems.

Recruitment or marketing campaigns. Robust social media campaigns or mobile recruitment techniques have proven effective at reaching individuals

disconnected from existing workforce systems. Orleans Parish Workforce Development Board implemented a multi-channel social media campaign to inform

individuals about their resources. Minnesota's Workforce Board (Area #2) launched a "Trades Bus," a mobile career unit, to raise awareness about their

programs in local communities.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$2,850,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

292

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

0 - outcomes too early to track

Number of households receiving household assistance \*

2124 individuals received assistance in applying for work authorization OR receiving a stipend to participate in training

analysis of demographic and geographic information of individuals served: Demographic information on individuals served mirroring that for individuals employed or re-employed will be collected via MJL and will be reviewed quarterly to monitor which communities are accessing service.

\*

Earn and Learn Demographics  
Age: 27% 16-24; 5% 55+  
Disability: 18% self-disclosed a disability

Longer Term Employment Rates: MJL will be used to monitor the job retention rates of individuals whose employment was secured or supported by the program (at 6 and 12 months after participation). \*

For participants that exited program at least two quarters ago: 45% were employed 1 year prior to earn and learn program vs 63% 1 year post program

Measure New Community Outreach: Depending on the nature of each LWIB proposal, we will also track the number of new community partners or referral pipelines initiated to reach the target populations. Local Workforce Boards will be required to report this information quarterly. \*

3 community based organizations contracted to create new referral pipeline to WIOA program (Central Western Maine)  
4,000 unique website visitors as result of outreach campaign leading to 63 new referrals to WIOA programs (Coastal Counties)

• Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

292

• Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

148

• Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

N/A

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

This initiative reports for a combination of programs including earn and learn training programs with local workforce boards, two outreach efforts with local boards, training programs with Tribal organizations, and funding for Hope Acts work authorization clinic

## Competitive Skills Scholarships

### Project Information

Control Number \*

P.53.1

Funding Amount

\$1,500,000

Initiative Name

Competitive Skills Scholarships

Project Name

Competitive Skills Scholarships

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g. job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or i

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Competitive Skills Scholarship Program (CSSP) provides eligible applicants with financial support for education and training for High-Wage, In-Demand (HWID) Maine jobs. This funding will allow for the expansion of the current program to serve additional residents with an enhanced focus on individuals whose employment was impacted by COVID by intentionally targeting outreach to unemployed individuals, with an emphasis and increased flexibility to focus on short-term trainings that result in a postsecondary certificate, undergraduate degree, or industry recognized credential, leading to employment in HWID occupations. In addition to the financial support for tuition and fees that are not paid from other sources, including federal financial aid, the grant may also pay for other supports while a student is in training including childcare, transportation, books, supplies, equipment, and remedial and prerequisite training. In situations where a student fails to gain employment after successful completion of their training, an On-the-Job Training option could be introduced, making a direct connection to employment.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in October 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 01/01/2023.

Partners

- Community Colleges – Collaborate to identify short-term trainings for employment in HWID occupations
- Adult Education providers – Collaborate to identify short-term trainings for employment in HWID occupations
- Department of Environmental Protection. of Health and Human Services – HOPE Program and FSET Program. Co-enrollment opportunities
- WIOA Providers. Co-enrollment opportunities

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/competitive-skills-scholarship-program>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

This funding will help expand and serve more individuals through the existing Competitive Skills Scholarship program—with an enhanced focus on short term

trainings. The CSSP program has achieved positive outcomes in wage growth, credential attainment and employment:

- Entered employment. CSSP served 1,140 individuals during calendar year 2019. Between April 2018 and March 2019 (the most recent period that captures wage earnings of those exited), a total of 362 individuals completed the program and 77% entered employment in Maine.

- Improved wage earnings. Of those completing the program between April 2018 and March 2019, participants' average quarterly wage earnings after completion increased by 75.12%

- Positive credential attainment rate. In the most recent year, 346 individuals completed CSSP with 67% successfully earning their degree or industry recognized credential. Of those who exited in 2019, 35 earned associate degrees, 34 earned bachelor's degrees, and 162 earned post-secondary occupational skills certificates or credentials of value.

- Relevant training for employers. CSSP trains individuals for in-demand jobs available in Maine. According to Maine's Occupational Employment Outlook to 2026, the largest job gains are expected in Health Practitioner and Technician and Healthcare Support occupations. Twenty-six percent of CSSP trainees choose healthcare occupations.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$1,500,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

• Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs \*

233

• Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs \*

117

• Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs \*

0--not applicable

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

233

Number of individuals receiving financial assistance for education \*

233

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

117

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

Evaluation work underway; will report employment outcomes next cycle

Analysis of demographics of customers receiving services. Demographic information on individuals enrolled in CSSP will be collected via MJL and will be reviewed quarterly to monitor which communities are accessing services, and within those communities which populations, including a disaggregation by race and ethnicity. Gender, age range, veteran status, socioeconomic status, disability, and ethnicity/race will be tracked & disaggregated. \*

Average age of participants: 36.09  
County of Residence (233)  
Androscoggin – 30  
Aroostook – 37  
Cumberland – 22  
Franklin – 5  
Hancock – 6  
Kennebec – 7  
Knox – 2  
Lincoln – 4  
Oxford – 2  
Penobscot – 60  
Piscataquis – 6  
Sagadahoc – 5  
Somerset – 6  
Waldo – 3  
Washington – 18  
York – 20

Industries and occupations most affected: The specific trainings, credentials and occupations where CSSP participants become employed will all be tracked and reported on a periodic basis. We will examine which COVID affected industries and occupations are receiving the most CSSP trained employees \*

Tractor trailer drivers (CDL): 53, Registered nurse: 43: Counselors: 22, HVAC: 12, Medical Assistant: 11



Wage growth: We will capture the wage growth of individuals who participate in CSSP short term training programs, comparing their wage when they entered to the program to their ending wage when they've entered employment post-training. \*

Too early for outcomes

## Improve Career & Industry Awareness

### Project Information

Control Number \*

P.54.1

Funding Amount

\$3,700,000

Initiative Name

Improve Career & Industry Awareness

Project Name

Improve Career & Industry Awareness

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

The initiative will create industry-driven partnerships via workforce intermediaries, to include industry associations, groups of employers and other collaboratives, that organize and address the employment needs of industries impacted by COVID-19 through accessing funding, training, and education in the public workforce system, resulting in improved staffing for employers and a coordinated approach to developing talent for workers and jobseekers. These industries most affected by COVID-19 include leisure & hospitality, healthcare, education, retail, clean energy, infrastructure, manufacturing, agriculture & information. Sector-based strategies have been shown to improve employer approaches to staffing, training, and advancing workers, resulting in reduced vacancies and increased employment of residents.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in May 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 06/28/2022.

Partners

The current Maine Industry Partnership Collaborative members are, State Workforce Board, Maine Adult Education, Department of Education, Department of Economic and Community Development, Department of Health and Human Services.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/industry-partnerships-workforce-development-initiative>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

6 organizations received grant funding

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

185 partners are engaged in industry partnership learning activities

Recruitment activities to potentially include: number of employees hired due to recruitment activities, demographics of employees hired, number of staff vacancies filled \*

463 individuals connected to employment (as reported by grantees)  
6,274 participants engaged in various recruitment events, workshops, activities

Retention activities to potentially include: retention rate of employees of industry partners, number of employee advancements due to retention activities, number of staff trained during grant period on DEIA related-topics to support inclusion \*

N/A

Training activities to potentially include: number of new training programs created, number of employees earning a credential of value, wage gains of employees involved in training programs, \*

1613 participants engaged in training developed or offered by industry partners  
535 completed training programs  
9 new job training programs created or expanded

Career Pathway Maps for every employer in the Industry Partnership. Expand access to career pathways via increased awareness, multiple on-ramps, and wraparound supports. This supports the development of the state's new workforce system portal for job seekers and employers. Career pathway maps for the industry that detail occupations with significant numbers of workers, the skill/education/licensing requirements for each position, the training and education available in the state for those occupations, and the career progressions possible. This information will be utilized by the state of Maine in creating a uniform set of career pathways maps with linkages that will be a main feature of the new portal. This collection will be collected quarterly from industry partners with the vast majority collected by end of year. \*

58 career pathway maps have been created

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Eligibility Specialist

### Project Information

Control Number \*

P.55.1

Funding Amount

\$400,000

Initiative Name

Eligibility Specialist

Project Name

Eligibility Specialist

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.37-Economic Impact Assistance: Other

### Project Overview

Project Description

The federal Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) program provides tax credits to employers who hire individuals that face serious barriers to finding employment, from populations most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. These individuals include long-term unemployed individuals, unemployed veterans, low-wage workers, justice-involved individuals, and workers in certain rural counties—all of which were negatively affected by COVID. This funding will explore and potentially implement systems updates and upgrades and create additional capacity (via on eligibility specialist position) to process employer applications to take advantage of this program. This position will concentrate on applications received since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Expediting the processing of applications filed by the employers will serve as a catalyst in ensuring that the targeted population (individuals disproportionately affected due to COVID-19) becomes gainfully employed at a faster rate.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/15/2022.

Partners

Will want to collaborate with Department of Economic and Community Development in communications to employers about opportunities to support businesses in recruitment & workforce support challenges, to include WOTC tax credit availability

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/work-opportunity-tax-credit-program>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

The effectiveness of the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is assessed by The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) in the following report. In summary, the report concludes that WOTC, and programs like WOTC: "... work in that they achieve the result hoped for, which is being associated with statistically significant improvements in the labor market outcomes of participants. The difficulties that disadvantaged individuals face in securing jobs are difficult to crack. Programs designed to improve those outcomes face many obstacles. Employment subsidies appear to be the best approach in part because they tap private funds and in part because they are directed closest to the problem, which is to get individuals into jobs. Especially compared to other active labor market policies, the evidence on the effectiveness of hiring subsidies is quite positive. The direct evidence on the WOTC program per se is very limited, but we can make reasonably informed judgments about its effectiveness – especially its cost-effectiveness – by using a variety of evidence about the program and about similar programs. The evidence we have suggests that even with conservative estimates the program is very cost-effective. The benefits to taxpayers appear to exceed the costs of the program... Beyond the goal of assisting disadvantaged job seekers, the WOTC program should also be seen as a cost-saving program for the government."

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$400,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

1,150 unique employers/organizations with certified WOTC applications for new hires.

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

0-this program provides administrative support for WOTC applications, does not directly employ individuals

Total number of individuals from target groups eligible for WOTC as determined by successful application \*

Total Certified Individuals: 27,940

Demographic information and individual SSN will be captured to track outcomes within this program and understand how individuals might be served by multiple programs—and the resulting impact.

\*

Individuals receiving SNAP: 15,920  
Individuals on SSI: 2,251  
Young adults in rural counties: 2,222  
Long term family assistance TANF recipient: 1,570  
Formerly Incarcerated: 565  
Unemployed Veteran: 2,200

Processing metrics: As a goal of this initiative is to process applications submitted by employers during the pandemic, staff will track processing rates in terms of remaining backlog, processing time and monitor the rate of eligibility among submitted applications. \*

We currently have under 12,000 applications to process. When this initiative started, we had over 70,000 applications in our backlog

Demographics: Staff will report on breakdown of WOTC demographic (i.e.: new hire target group) benefitting from applications certified (ex: Felons with hire date within one year of conviction or release, Food Supp received during 6 months prior to hire, long term unemployed, unemployed 27 or more weeks and received at least one unemployment payment in that time frame, etc.). We will track participation across these demographic groups to inform areas of focused outreach. \*

Individuals receiving SNAP: 15,920  
Individuals on SSI: 2,251  
Young adults in rural counties: 2,222  
Long term family assistance TANF recipient: 1,570  
Formerly Incarcerated: 565  
Unemployed Veteran: 2,200

Geographic: Staff will coordinate with data management system provider (Certlink) to develop reporting by new hire county. We will track participation across these demographic groups to inform areas of focused outreach. \*

- Androscoggin 3758
- Aroostook-3313
- Cumberland-5030
- Franklin-564
- Hancock-566
- Kennebec-3156
- Knox-627
- Lincoln-416
- Oxford-1235
- Penobscot-4051
- Piscataquis-633
- Sagadahoc-543
- Somerset- 1389
- Waldo-603
- Washington-499
- York-2821

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

n/a

## Senior Economic Research Analyst

### Project Information

Control Number \*

P.56.1

Funding Amount

\$600,000

Initiative Name

Senior Economic Research Analyst

Project Name

Senior Economic Research Analyst

Sub-Expenditure Category

3.4-Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

### Project Overview

Project Description

This initiative will provide funding to Maine's Department of Labor for additional evaluation and monitoring capacity as well as case management systems improvement to analyze and improve the outcomes and effectiveness of the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plans workforce initiatives. Many Jobs Plan programs are aimed at advancing three goals: increasing the number of individuals connected to jobs in Maine, increasing the attainment of credentials of value, and increasing the average wage among Mainers. It is imperative to track the success of the workforce initiatives in accordance with these goals—and look at data to ensure that communities and industries most affected by COVID-19 are engaged in supports and realize the benefits of these investments. Several programs are pilot efforts where learning what worked and what didn't is particularly essential for sustaining the impact of these investment.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in October 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/28/2023.

Partners

Preliminary conversations on data collection and outcomes tracking with GOPIF, Department of Economic and Community Development and Department of Health and Human Services partners

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/job-and-career-programs-learning-evaluation>

### Key Performance Indicators



Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

0--resources are allocated to evaluate workforce programs

Number of individuals receiving career development or job training assistance \*

0--resources are allocated to evaluate workforce programs

Number of individuals receiving financial assistance for education \*

0--resources are allocated to evaluate workforce programs

Number of workers earning a license or credential \*

0--resources are allocated to evaluate workforce programs

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

0--resources are allocated to evaluate workforce programs

Analysis of demographics of customers receiving services. Demographic information on individuals enrolled in MJRP MDOL workforce programs will be collected via MJL and will be reviewed quarterly to monitor which communities are accessing services. Gender, age range, veteran status, socioeconomic status, disability, and ethnicity/race will be tracked & disaggregated. \*

0--resources are allocated to evaluate workforce programs

Wage growth: We will capture the wage gains of individuals who participate in MDOL MJRP workforce programs, comparing their wage when they entered to the program to their ending wage when they've entered employment post-training. \*

0--resources are allocated to evaluate workforce programs

Overall spending: An additional metric that will be tracked and regularly reported on is spending per program, remaining funds, and spending per program participant to understand the cost effectiveness of programs in achieving desired outcomes \*

0--resources are allocated to evaluate workforce programs

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

This initiative is focused on evaluating program outcomes and developing program dashboards--it is not responsible in itself for directly service delivery to individuals or businesses but rather monitors and informs program improvement efforts. As this is a supporting staff vs direct service delivery role, we will be updating the metrics in the business case to more accurately reflect that work--to potentially include number of program dashboards created, number program evaluations completed, and number of meetings held with program teams focused on data analysis and program improvement.

## Contracted Service for Licensing & Compliance

### Project Information

Control Number \*

Q.57.1

Funding Amount

\$8,000,000

Initiative Name

Contracted Service for Licensing & Compliance

Project Name

Contracted Service for Licensing & Compliance

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is seeking to procure a modern, internet-based Enterprise Licensing System (ELS) and implementation services.

The implementation of a modern, internet-based ELS will provide new tools such as a self-service portal and automatic application validation that will enable remote application completion and reduced manual work. This will remove the need for human interaction and speed up the processing times which will allow for a safer, more efficient economic recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in March 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 04/19/2022.

Partners

Contracted Partner Berry Dunn MacNeil Parker LLC has been intrinsically involved with the planning stages of this initiative. Key licensing customers (frequently engaged consultants, small and large businesses doing many infrastructure projects) are the primary external stakeholders in this initiative.

Maine IT will be engaged in the implementation of this initiative because of the requirements to comply with State of Maine IT security, accessibility and architecture policies and because of the extensive integration with existing information systems. Some of these existing information systems are at the Department of Environmental Protection, and some support business at other State of Maine agencies (e.g. AdvantageME at the Department of Administrative and Financial Services).

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/increase-licensing-efficiency>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses that obtain a license through the new ELS \*

DEP's Maine Enterprise Licensing System (MELS) is in the process of being configured.

How many licenses have been transitioned to the ELS online portal, enhancing economic, social and environmental equity. \*

DEP's Maine Enterprise Licensing System (MELS) is in the process of being configured.

Number of licensing programs that have been made ADA accessible. \*

DEP's Maine Enterprise Licensing System (MELS) is in the process of being configured. The first Departmental program to be implemented, Land Licensing, has recently gone live, and so we have one program who's application process has been made ADA accessible.

Number of licenses that have been transitioned to the new ELS. \*

The Land Licensing program has just gone live, and so 12 license types have been transitioned into MELS.

Percentage by which customers's satisfaction with the licensing system has increased, as measured by online survey. \*

DEP's Maine Enterprise Licensing System (MELS) is in the process of being configured. Since Land Licensing has gone live recently, we anticipate that after an initial transitional period, we will obtain valid survey data.

Dollars paid online that are associated with the new ELS. \*

DEP's Maine Enterprise Licensing System (MELS) is in the process of being configured. Since Land Licensing gas gone live recently, we anticipate that we will soon be able to provide such data.

Number of critical business requirements met by ELS vendor. \*

DEP's Maine Enterprise Licensing System (MELS) is in the process of being configured.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The vendor selected to provide and implement the system is Windsor Solutions from Portland, Oregon. The system, now named The Maine Enterprise Licensing System (MELS) is in the process of being configured. Business units at the department will have their workflows migrated into the new system consecutively using a multi-phase, multi-track approach over the next few years. The first set of license types, for the Land Licensing program, completed their go-live evolution in March. This project is progressing well and with minimal delays, with Departmental staff and Windsor staff collaborating to best match Windsor's tools with each business unit's needs. Several programs are anticipated to go live by the end of 2025: Solid Waste, Biomedical Licensing, Overboard Discharge, PFAS in Products, and Oil Conveyance. Two large programs will be starting near the end of 2025: Air Licensing and Water Licensing.

## Contract Grant Specialist (PreK Expansion)

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.58.1

Funding Amount

\$9,586,230.53

Initiative Name

Contract Grant Specialist (PreK Expansion)

Project Name

Contract Grant Specialist (PreK Expansion)

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.14-Healthy Childhood Environments: Early Learning

### Project Overview

Project Description

Establishes one limited-period Contract Grant Specialist position through June 10, 2023 and provides funding for one contracted distinguished educator position to provide technical assistance and professional learning to school administrative units for prekindergarten expansion. Provides funds to the Department of Education for grants to school administrative units to establish new or expanded public prekindergarten programs to increase the number of children accessing high-quality prekindergarten. Priority will be given to programs that engage in community partnerships, provide longer duration of education, support inclusive programming and enroll socioeconomically disadvantaged students.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in September 2021 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/28/2022.

Partners

The Children's Cabinet Coordinator in the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/pre-kindergarten-expansion-grants>

### Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

Provision of high-quality public pre-k has been extensively documented in research as an effective intervention for promoting whole child development and or attributing to long-term positive impacts. A 2019 synthesis of the research by the Learning Policy Institute on the impacts of pre-k found that investments in early childhood education bolster student success and have positive impacts on children's early literacy, math, and, social-emotional skills. While all children can benefit from high-quality pre-k, positive impacts are greater for children who are economically disadvantaged and who have special needs (Yoshikawa, H., et al., 2013). Within Maine, results of the 2015-2019 federally funded Pre-K Expansion Grant (PEG) demonstrated 75% of students attending public pre-k programs funded through the grant that began the year at high-risk in school readiness target areas were no longer at high risk by the end of the year. Not only have direct benefits to children's development been documented, but the economic benefits of pre-k have also been established--cost-benefit analyses show high-quality preschool programs can yield up to a \$17 return for each dollar invested, when lifetime outcomes that result in contributions to society are considered (Learning Policy Institute, 2019).

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$9,500,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of children enrolled in early childhood or PreK programs \*

Across the 2022-23, 2023-24, and 2024-25 school years, a total of 2007 children have been enrolled in Pre-K programs funded through MJRP Pre-K Expansion projects.

Student Enrollment: Intended outcome is an overall increase in Maine 4 year olds attending public pre-k \*

Through the 3 cohorts of MJRP Pre-K Expansion projects funded between 2022-2025, school administrative units added 663 new slots for public pre-k students and expanded 371 existing slots from part-day to full day programming.

Program Length: Intended outcome is to increase the overall number of full day/ full year slots either by converting existing part day/ part week slots to full day/ full week and/or through the addition of new full day/ full year slots. \*

Of the 1044 new or expanded slots added between 2022-2025, 900 of the slots are full day/full week slots.

Partnerships \*

The number of partnerships between school administrative units and community-based for the provision of public pre-k increased by 10.

Program Quality Standards \*

The alignment of programs to quality standards established in Chapter 124 for public pre-k is collected using a program monitoring tool. The maximum total points a program can receive is 60. The average number of points for pre-k programs in Cohort 1 in the Spring of 2024 was 50.80 and for Cohorts 2 & 3 in the Spring of 2025 was 57.83.

Child/Teacher Interactions and Classroom Environment \*

The quality of classroom environment and interactions with children is measured using an evidence-based observation tool (CLASS) conducted by a certified observer (DOE Early Childhood Monitor).

In Cohort 1, aggregate results across the programs demonstrated the following shifts in scores from the spring of 2023 to spring of 2024:

- Emotional Support: Shift from 6.44 in spring of 2023 to 6.18 in spring of 2024.
- Classroom Organization: Shift from 6.02 in spring of 2023 to 5.85 in spring of 2024.
- Instructional Support: Shift from 4.06 in the spring of 2023 to 4.44 in the spring of 2024.
- Classroom Environment: Shift from 76.1 in the spring of 2023 to 76.5 in the spring of 2024.

In Cohort 2, aggregate results across the programs demonstrated the following shifts in scores from spring of 2024-spring of 2025:

Emotional Support: Shift from 6.20 in spring of 2024 to 6.23 in spring of 2025

Classroom Organization: Shift from 5.65 in spring of 2024 to 5.75 in spring of 2025

Instructional Support: Shift from 4.17 in spring of 2024 to 4.12 in spring of 2025

Classroom Environment: Shift from 78.54 in spring of 2024 to 78.88 in spring of 2025

- Number of children served by childcare and early learning services (pre-school/pre-K/ages 3-5) \*

Across the 2022-23, 2023-24, and 2024-25 school years, a total of 2007 children have been served in Pre-K programs funded through MJRP Pre-K Expansion projects.

- Number of families served by home visiting \*

0

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Prior year annual report indicated a that a program evaluation would be completed. After further review of the UST guidance it has been determined that the program monitoring for this initiative will be conducted for internal management purposes and not for federal reporting purposes.

## Certain Legal and Admin Costs - Contract Grant Specialist (PreK Expansion)

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.58.2

Funding Amount

\$241,892

Initiative Name

Contract Grant Specialist (PreK Expansion)

Project Name

Certain Legal and Admin Costs - Contract Grant Specialist (PreK Expansion)

Sub-Expenditure Category

7.3-Costs Associated with Satisfying Certain Legal and Administrative Requirements of the SLFRF Program After December 31, 20

### Project Overview

Project Description

Provides funding for certain legal and administrative costs to be incurred on behalf of initiative R.58.1 Contract Grant Specialist (PreK Expansion) from 1/1/2025 through 12/31/2026

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in September 2021 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/28/2022.

Partners

The Children's Cabinet Coordinator in the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/pre-kindergarten-expansion-grants>

### Key Performance Indicators

Provide any other information to provide context to project status .

Provides funding for certain legal and administrative costs to be incurred on behalf of initiative R.58.1 Contract Grant Specialist (PreK Expansion) from 1/1/2025 through 12/31/2026. Performance metrics are included in R.58.1

## Low Income Weatherization Initiative

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.59.1

Funding Amount

\$25,000,000

Initiative Name

Weatherization & Efficiency Upgrades

Project Name

Low Income Weatherization Initiative

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.2-Household Assistance: Rent Mortgage and Utility Aid

### Project Overview

Project Description

This project will deploy \$25 million to accelerate home weatherization and efficiency retrofits of existing homes for low- and moderate-income (LMI) Mainers, including older residents and renters. The project will partner with weatherization contractors to market the opportunity to qualifying homes, including multi-unit dwellings, and will deliver financial incentives for delivery of labor and materials associated with completed weatherization projects.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 03/18/2022.

Partners

Efficiency Maine Trust (EMT) will coordinate with MaineHousing and, to the extent possible, with the Department of Health and Human Services, to verify eligibility of Maine households receiving means-tested state or federal assistance and to share information with LMI households about the program. EMT will also collaborate with MaineHousing, the Governor's Energy Office, and the Department of Labor to monitor workforce capacity among weatherization providers and to support training programs for this purpose as necessary. EMT is coordinating with MaineHousing.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/energy-efficiency-and-weatherization-homeowners-small-businesses-and-local-governments>

### Use of Evidence



Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

All of the project funds will be used for weatherization, which constitutes an evidence-based intervention. This includes spending associated with both administration and project execution.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$25,000,000

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe evaluation design as noted in **Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance** and Reporting Guidance pg. 38 \*

The program evaluation of the project has started and will be completed by December 2026.

The project will be evaluated as part of EMT's existing program evaluation process. The Efficiency Maine Trust Act provides that the Trust is required to arrange for an independent evaluation of each major program at least once every five years. The analysis is conducted by independent third parties that specialize in the evaluation of energy efficiency programs. Program evaluations conducted by these third parties are designed to: Document and verify the program impacts on energy and demand savings; and, Assess program cost-effectiveness. Each program evaluation typically includes collection and analysis of both qualitative and quantitative data and methods, through steps such as: Program staff interviews; Customer telephone surveys; Interviews with trade allies (participating installers, distributors, retailers, and manufacturers); On-site data logging and equipment verification; Analysis of utility bills; Assessments of impact factors (in-service rate, realization rates); Net impact assessment; and, Cost-effectiveness assessment.

This funding flows through the Trust's ongoing Low-Income Initiatives, which will be evaluated as part of the Trust's existing program evaluation process. The Trust will develop an RFP for a competitive bidding process after the timeframe in which income-eligible weatherization projects are funded by the American Rescue Plan Act.

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of households receiving household assistance \*

3381

#### Equity (in project access, delivery, or results)

Equity is the central aim of this project; all households participating in this project will fall within the LMI demographic. EMT will use geographic data to further report on the number of participating LMI households by community.

EMT requires an application form for every project. Among the required fields on this form is the project installation address. The consumer and the contractor sign the forms submitted to EMT. The program delivery teams enter this information into EMT's project tracking database (called "effRT"). EMT can then sort projects by address to determine the number of households served in a given area. EMT staff will conduct quarterly reviews of these metrics during the project period.

To further measure equity in project results, EMT will supplement this performance indicator with additional demographic data collected through voluntary participant surveys. These surveys may include questions relating to income level, number of individuals in the household, etc. \*

1,972 participants out of 3,381 live in economically disadvantaged communities in total for fiscal years (FY) 2023, 2024, and 2025

For FY 2025, 784 participants out of 1,369 live in economically disadvantaged communities.

- 9% had a household income less than \$15,000
- 28% had a household income of \$15,000 to \$34,999
- 17% had a household income of \$35,000 to \$49,999
- 25% had a household income of \$50,000 to \$74,999
- 10% had a household income of \$75,000 to \$99,999
- 3% had a household income over \$100,000
- 9% preferred not to indicate their household income

#### Lifetime cost savings and carbon reductions

EMT requires an application form for every project. Among the required fields on this form is the type of weatherization project being installed (e.g., air sealing, attic insulation, basement insulation, etc.). The consumer and the contractor sign the forms submitted to EMT. The program delivery teams enter this information into EMT's project tracking database (called "effRT"). The database assigns a deemed energy savings value for each project type based on average values in the Trust's Technical Reference Manuals. The energy savings are converted to indicate lifetime cost savings and carbon reductions. EMT staff will conduct quarterly reviews of these metrics during the project period. \*

The installed weatherization measures will save \$13,823,692 over the lifetime of the measures. They will avoid 104,948 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e.

For FY 2025, the installed weatherization and heat pump measures will save \$2,785,229 over the lifetime of the measures. They will avoid 40,843 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e.

- Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation) \*

0 - not applicable to the project.

- Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed \*

0 - not applicable to the project.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

not applicable

## Energy Efficiency for Tourism & Hospitality

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.59.2

Funding Amount

\$4,000,000

Initiative Name

Weatherization & Efficiency Upgrades

Project Name

Energy Efficiency for Tourism & Hospitality

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.35-Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

### Project Overview

Project Description

Efficiency Maine Trust, the independent agency charged with improving energy efficiency across the state, is expanding weatherization and efficiency programs to help Mainers save money on annual heating and electricity bills, reduce Maine's dependence on fossil fuels, and – by working through local contractors – support more than 1,500 local energy efficiency businesses across the state. This portion of funding will support energy efficiency upgrades for businesses in Maine's travel, tourism, and hospitality sectors, which experienced severe negative impacts as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in May 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 05/26/2022.

Partners

The Trust will consult the Governor's Energy Office, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Tourism, and the Department of Economic and Community Development in planning this initiative. Their involvement will be advisory. Specific to the plans for serving targeted business groups, the Trust will consult with trade associations serving Maine's travel, tourism and hospitality businesses. The role will be advisory and to assist with outreach to impacted businesses.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/energy-efficiency-and-weatherization-homeowners-small-businesses-and-local-governments>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

74

Equity (in project access, delivery, or results) – number of participating minority-owned, women-owned or veteran-owned businesses

EMT will measure equity in project results by reporting on recipients' minority-owned, women-owned or veteran-owned business status. EMT may collect this information upfront, as part of a project application, or ex-post, as part of the project close-out process or survey. EMT staff will conduct quarterly reviews of these metrics during the project period. \*

There were 23 minority-owned, veteran-owned, and women-owned businesses out of 74 total businesses or community organizations that received economic assistance.

Equity (in project access, delivery, or results) – number of participating small businesses

EMT will measure equity in project results by reporting on the number of participating small businesses. EMT may collect this information upfront, as part of a project application, or ex-post, as part of the project close-out process or survey. EMT staff will conduct quarterly reviews of these metrics during the project period. \*

69 small businesses participated out of 74 total businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance.

Equity (in project access, delivery, or results) – number of participants in rural areas and small towns

EMT will measure equity in project results by reporting on program participation levels in rural areas and small towns.

EMT requires an application form for every project. Among the required fields on this form is the project installation address. This information is entered into EMT's project tracking database (called "effRT"). EMT can then sort projects by address to determine the number of businesses served by community. EMT staff will conduct quarterly reviews of these metrics during the project period. \*

Out of the 74 businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance, 73 were in rural areas, and 38 were in small towns.

Lifetime cost savings and carbon reductions

EMT requires an application form for every project. Among the required fields on this form is the type of energy efficiency project being installed. This information is entered into EMT's project tracking database (called "effRT"). The database assigns a deemed energy savings value for each project type based on average values in the Trust's Technical Reference Manuals. (For custom projects, the delivery team determines savings values through the technical review process and enters those values into the database.) The energy savings are converted to indicate lifetime cost savings and carbon reductions. EMT staff will conduct quarterly reviews of these metrics during the project period. \*

The installed beneficial electrification HVAC measures will save \$5,829,536 over the lifetime of the measures. They will avoid 23,370 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

n/a

## Efficiency in Local Government and Schools

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.59.3

Funding Amount

\$15,000,000

Initiative Name

Weatherization & Efficiency Upgrades

Project Name

Efficiency in Local Government and Schools

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

Efficiency Maine Trust, the independent agency charged with improving energy efficiency across the state, is expanding weatherization and efficiency programs to help Mainers save money on annual heating and electricity bills, reduce Maine's dependence on fossil fuels, and – by working through local contractors – support more than 1,500 local energy efficiency businesses across the state. This portion of funding will support energy efficiency upgrades at buildings owned or leased by local governments (including municipal, county, or tribal governments), public schools, and community organizations providing congregate housing. The Trust will prioritize projects among entities that serve relatively small population sizes, rural areas, and/or economically disadvantaged communities.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 05/26/2022.

Partners

The Trust will consult and collaborate with the Maine Department of Education and Maine Municipal Bond Bank in planning and delivering this project. The Trust will also coordinate with the Maine Municipal Association to provide information to qualified local governments about the initiative.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/energy-efficiency-and-weatherization-homeowners-small-businesses-and-local-governments>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

166

Equity (in project access, delivery, or results) – number of participating entities by economically disadvantaged community EMT will measure equity in project results by reporting on the number of participating entities by economically disadvantaged community. EMT requires an application form for every project. Among the required fields on this form is the project installation address. This information is entered into EMT's project tracking database (called "effRT"). EMT can then sort projects by address to determine the number of entities served in a given area. EMT staff will conduct quarterly reviews of these metrics during the project period. \*

106 entities out of 166 total participating entities are located in economically disadvantaged communities.

Equity (in project access, delivery, or results) – number of participating entities in rural areas and small towns EMT will measure equity in project results by reporting on participation levels in rural areas and small towns. EMT requires an application form for every project. Among the required fields on this form is the project installation address. This information is entered into EMT's project tracking database (called "effRT"). EMT can then sort projects by address to determine the number of entities served in a given area. EMT staff will conduct quarterly reviews of these metrics during the project period. \*

Out of the 166 entities receiving economic assistance, 166 were in rural areas, and 133 were in small towns.

Lifetime cost savings and carbon reductions EMT requires an application form for every project. Among the required fields on this form is the type of energy efficiency project being installed. This information is entered into EMT's project tracking database (called "effRT"). The database assigns a deemed energy savings value for each project type based on average values in the Trust's Technical Reference Manuals. (For custom projects, the delivery team determines savings values through the technical review process and enters those values into the database.) The energy savings are converted to indicate lifetime cost savings and carbon reductions. EMT staff will conduct quarterly reviews of these metrics during the project period. \*

The installed beneficial electrification HVAC measures will save \$12,703,852 over the lifetime of the measures. They will avoid 53,606 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

n/a



## Efficiency in Manufacturing

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.59.4

Funding Amount

\$6,000,000

Initiative Name

Weatherization & Efficiency Upgrades

Project Name

Efficiency in Manufacturing

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

Efficiency Maine Trust, the independent agency charged with improving energy efficiency across the state, is expanding weatherization and efficiency programs to help Mainers save money on annual heating and electricity bills, reduce Maine's dependence on fossil fuels, and – by working through local contractors – support more than 1,500 local energy efficiency businesses across the state. This portion of funding will support high-efficiency, clean energy upgrades for Maine's manufacturing sector, which experienced severe negative impacts as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in November 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 07/20/2022.

Partners

The Trust will consult the Governor's Energy Office and the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Economic and Community Development in planning this initiative. The Trust will also consult with trade associations serving Maine's manufacturing sector to assist with outreach to impacted businesses. The involvement of these partners will be advisory.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/energy-efficiency-and-weatherization-homeowners-small-businesses-and-local-governments>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

3

Equity (in project access, delivery, or results) – number of participants in rural areas and small towns EMT will measure equity in project results by reporting on program participation levels in rural areas and small towns. EMT requires an application form for every project. Among the required fields on this form is the project installation address. This information is entered into EMT's project tracking database (called "effRT"). EMT can then sort projects by address to determine the number of businesses served by community. EMT staff will conduct quarterly reviews of these metrics during the project period. \*

Out of the 3 entities receiving economic assistance, 2 were in rural areas, and 2 were in small towns.

Lifetime cost savings EMT requires an application form for every project. Among the required fields on this form is the type of energy efficiency project being installed. This information is entered into EMT's project tracking database (called "effRT"). The database assigns a deemed energy savings value for each project type based on average values in the Trust's Technical Reference Manuals. (For custom projects, the delivery team determines savings values through the technical review process and enters those values into the database.) The energy savings are converted to indicate lifetime cost savings. EMT staff will conduct quarterly reviews of these metrics during the project period. \*

\$8,712,535 in lifetime cost savings.

Lifetime carbon reductions EMT requires an application form for every project. Among the required fields on this form is the type of energy efficiency project being installed. This information is entered into EMT's project tracking database (called "effRT"). The database assigns a deemed energy savings value for each project type based on average values in the Trust's Technical Reference Manuals. (For custom projects, the delivery team determines savings values through the technical review process and enters those values into the database.) The energy savings are converted to indicate lifetime carbon reductions. EMT staff will conduct quarterly reviews of these metrics during the project period. \*

30,884 in lifetime carbon reductions.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Efficiency Maine Trust launched the Manufacturer Program Opportunity Notice on November 17, 2022. Since then, it has made seven project awards, totaling approximately \$3.6 million in committed funds. These large manufacturer projects take time to develop and execute; the Trust expects all remaining projects to be completed by the fall of 2026.

## Competitive Grants for Municipal Culverts & Stream

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.60.1

Funding Amount

\$3,000,000

Initiative Name

Competitive Grants for Municipal Culverts & Stream

Project Name

Competitive Grants for Municipal Culverts & Stream

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.6-Clean Water: Stormwater

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Municipal Stream Crossing Upgrade Grants program provides grants of up to \$150,000 towards the replacement of municipal stream crossing culverts for fish and wildlife habitat restoration, stormwater and flooding management, among other goals such as nonpoint source pollution reduction. The competitive program invests in local transportation resiliency, flooding reduction, improvement of fish and wildlife habitat and water quality improvement by prioritizing crossings that span the stream and sized for a 100 year storm event.. Applications are scored on how well program goals are met and top scoring projects are reimbursed through the program.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in August 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 06/29/2022.

Partners

The program works closely with staff at several agencies within state government to provide feedback on the biological importance, selection criteria, and to provide regulatory contacts to applicants. The agency, primary contact(s) and the nature of involvement is listed below:

-Maine Department of Environmental Protection  
Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Brook Trout biologist, provided feedback on application materials, compiles and provides comments on individual proposals for inland fisheries importance; secondary contact:

-Maine Department of Marine Resources, Sea Run Fisheries Biologist - provided feedback on application materials, compiles and provides comments on individual proposals for sea-run fisheries importance.

-Maine Department of Transportation, Bridge Maintenance Division - provided feedback on application materials, is primary contact for municipalities to report structure changes that may require Maine Department of Transportation inspection or other changes in responsibility.

-Maine Department of Transportation, Environmental Office, Senior Hydrologist - provided feedback on application materials, provides comment on application materials for hydraulic sizing of stream crossings, engineering feedback.

## Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/municipal-stream-crossing-grant-program>

## Key Performance Indicators

Please describe how the project contributes to addressing climate change and/or advances the Justice40 initiative

\*

All the stream crossings that will be upgraded will meet standards for significantly larger storm events, allow for natural movement of water, sediment, and debris, minimize channel erosion and allow for a more resilient transportation system.

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

20 municipalities received MJRP funding as grant awards.

Number of stream crossing culverts upgraded or replaced with larger crossings \*

Ten projects have been completed as of this reporting. Most projects are completed between July 15 and Oct 1 to comply with state regulatory in-water work windows, so 2025 projects have yet to break ground.

The Department will monitor construction design activity and timeliness. Projects will be monitored to ensure progress is being made toward the project goals and installation of an improved stream crossing structure. \*

Department is receiving regular updates on upcoming projects. 2025 Construction is planned for several of the remaining outstanding projects.

The Department will monitor construction and permitting activities. Deliverables of the contract include a notification of the intended construction dates, submission of final plans, and Army Corps of Engineers permits (as required) prior to the beginning of construction. Following project completion, photos showing the improved stream crossing will be required as a condition of the contract. \*

Deliverables have been received for the completed projects to date.

The Department will monitor the through period and biannual updates on progress. Municipalities receiving grant funds to upgrade stream crossing culverts will be required to submit biannual progress updates until the project is completed and deliverables received. \*

This information has been collected except actual start dates. Stream miles have been calculated but not officially attributed until completion of the project within standards.

The Department will be able to disaggregate by community but not by recipient demographics.

In addition, the Department will collect project-level information including:

\* Projected and actual construction start date

\* Location of crossings & Number of projects, total stream miles restored upstream of the crossing \*

The design criteria for all selected projects was adjudicated during the selection process to ensure these criteria could be met based on substantial field work. Projects will submit pre-construction plan/permits for review to ensure construction plans match proposal data, and after photos will be submitted to ensure compliance with performance standards of a natural bottom, matching grade/alignment.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Maine has a regulatory limitations on construction in streams. This work window occurs from July 15 to October 1 to minimize impacts to fisheries and coincide with typical low water periods. Projects are not allowed to begin prior to July 15 without explicit approval from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

# Perfluoroalkyl Research & Remediation

## Project Information

Control Number \*

R.61.1

Funding Amount

\$5,000,000

Initiative Name

Perfluoroalkyl Research & Remediation

Project Name

Perfluoroalkyl Research & Remediation

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.10-Drinking water: Treatment

## Project Overview

Project Description

Funding will be used to address contamination from perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) exceeding Maine's interim drinking water standard in groundwater wells used for drinking water. Funding is anticipated to be used for: the sampling of PFAS in soils and groundwater statewide as a result of the application of biosolids; the installation, sampling, and ongoing maintenance of filtration systems (or other technologies) designed to ensure drinking water is safe; and the distribution of clean water (bottled) or reimbursement for purchase of clean water where filtration systems have not yet been installed, but where laboratory results confirm PFAS exceeds the interim drinking water level and the sources is tied to a residuals land application site or a remediation-type site.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022. Program expenditures are fully complete as of 03/31/2025.

Partners

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry coordination with farms and pathways for PFAS to ag products and supporting farmers impacted by this problem.

- Maine Center for Disease Control - coordination on health impacts from exposure to PFAS as well as risk communications to the public about PFAS.
- Maine Department of Inland Fish & Wildlife - coordination on community impacts from PFAS from hunting and fishing (e.g., advisories/warnings)
- Maine Drinking Water Program- coordination on support for clean drinking water to public water systems (vs. private water systems).

Link to Project Website

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of improvements made to individual residential homes to ensure provision of safe drinking water. This will be measured by the number of water filtration system installations as part of the PFAS investigation as well as overall number of samples taken. \*

DEP has installed approximately 535 carbon filtration systems at residential homes where Maine's Interim Drinking Water Standard of 20 parts per trillion for the Sum of 6 PFAS was exceeded. As part of this investigation, approximately 3,300 initial residential water samples were taken and analyzed to determine the need for these systems. Additional sampling was completed once filtration systems were installed for required ongoing monitoring and maintenance of these systems.

Begin investigation of Tier 1 facilities to include sampling, and installation/maintenance of filter systems Winter 2021 through Spring 2023. Measures will be number of locations sampled, number of locations provided with filtration systems and ongoing filtration system maintenance. \*

DEP's Tier 1 investigation of sludge land application sites has been completed. As part of this investigation, 1,166 initial water samples were collected, and 298 carbon filtration systems were installed. These numbers are slightly different from initial reports due to data errors and subsequent clarifications. Sampling and maintenance of these systems has occurred at a periodic frequency based on the influent PFAS concentration. Periodic sampling will continue to occur over the long-term and subject to available funding to ensure the systems are effective and operating as designed.

Begin investigation of Tier 2 facilities to include sampling, and installation/maintenance of filter systems Summer/Fall 2022 through Winter 2024. Measures will be number of locations sampled, number of locations provided with filtration systems and ongoing filtration system maintenance. \*

DEP's investigation of Tier 2 is complete. Approximately 228 water samples have been collected and analyzed and 8 filter systems have been installed. Sampling and maintenance of these systems has also occurred at a periodic frequency based on the influent PFAS concentration. Periodic sampling will continue to occur over the long-term and subject to available funding to ensure the systems are effective and operating as designed.

Begin investigation of Tier 3/4 facilities to include sampling, and installation/maintenance of filter systems Spring 2024 through Winter 2025. Measures will be number of locations sampled, number of locations provided with filtration systems and ongoing filtration system maintenance. \*

DEP is over half-way through the investigation at Tier 3 sites and has begun sampling at some Tier 4 sites. Approximately 1,241 initial water samples have been collected at Tier 3 sites, and 42 filter systems have been installed. At Tier 4 sites approximately 39 initial water samples have been collected and 2 filter systems have been installed. Sampling and maintenance of these systems has also occurred at a periodic frequency based on the influent PFAS concentration. Periodic sampling will continue to occur over the long-term and subject to available funding to ensure the systems are effective and operating as designed.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

In addition to the above, approximately 465 initial residential water samples have been collected at septage land application sites and 36 filter systems have been installed. At closed municipal landfills where sludge amended topsoil was applied, approximately 149 water samples have been collected and 5 filter systems have been installed. Periodic sampling will continue to occur over the long-term subject to available funding to ensure the systems are effective and operating as designed.



## Renovate, Expand, Construct Child Care Facilities

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.62.1

Funding Amount

\$9,971,883.83

Initiative Name

Renovate, Expand or Construct Child Care Facilities

Project Name

Renovate, Expand, Construct Child Care Facilities

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

With funding from the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, Maine's Office of Child and Family Services in the Department of Health and Human Services is establishing the Child Care Infrastructure Grant Program, which will deliver funding and technical assistance to launch or grow child care programs throughout the state. The program will enable providers to build or renovate facilities, increase enrollment, and add to the number of providers in Maine.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in July 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 04/01/2022.

Partners

Senior Policy Analyst and Children's Cabinet Coordinator, Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/child-care-infrastructure-grant-program>

### Key Performance Indicators

Total Number of Grant Awards \*

There have been 260 total grant awards made: 103 Family Child Care Start Up Awardees, 5 Family Child Care Growth Awardees, 59 Facility Child Care Expansion Awardees, and 91 Facility Child Care Start Up Awardees and 2 Acquisition Awardees.

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

All individuals that received an award (260) are considered to have received economic assistance by way of the grant. This grant has now ended as of 2025.

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

All individuals that received an award (260) have received technical assistance.

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

Of the 71 Facility Child Care Start Up Awardees - 586 FTE will be hired, and 255 PTE will be hired (it is unknown if this includes the owner). Of the 59 Facility Child Care Expansion Awardees - 243 FTE will be hired, and 135 PTE will be hired. Of the 103 Family Child Care Start Up Awardees - 167 employees will be hired (this includes the owner - it is unknown if these are FTE or PTE). Of the 5 Family Child Care Growth - 4 FTE will be hired. No new employees will be hired with the Acquisition awards.

Grand total of employees hired as a result of 260 awards is 1,390 employees. "

Number of new businesses started \*

A total of 160 businesses have been awarded to start a new business. There have been 89 Family Child Care Start Up Awardees, and 71 Facility Child Care Start Up Awardees thus far.

Number of children enrolled in early childhood or PreK programs \*

Based on the 260 awards made, 4,460 early childhood program slots have been implemented/created.

Total number of grant awards made to minority businesses \*

This information is not tracked.

Total number of new start child care providers \*

A total of 194 businesses have been awarded to start a new business. There have been 103 Family Child Care Start Up Awardees, and 91 Facility Child Care Start Up Awardees thus far.

Total number of child care providers expanding capacity \*

A total of 64 existing businesses have been awarded to expand capacity. There have been 59 Facility Child Care Expansion Awardees and 5 Family Child Care Growth Awardee thus far.

Total number of new child care slots created \*

Anticipated total number of new slots is 5912, of those, 4460 have been implemented.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

There have been a total of 260 awards made totaling \$14,326,375, as follows:

103 Family Child Care Start Up totaling \$934,875, 5 Family Child Care Growth totaling \$20,000, 59 Facility Child Care Expansion totaling \$6,229,300, and 91 Facility Child Care Start Up totaling \$7,092,200 and 2 Acquisition awards totaling \$50,000.

At least one award has been made in each of the 16 Maine counties, as follows: Androscoggin: 31, Aroostook: 14, Cumberland: 54, Franklin: 8, Hancock: 7, Kennebec: 33, Knox: 5, Lincoln: 5, Oxford: 16, Penobscot: 22, Piscataquis: 5, Sagadahoc: 6, Somerset: 8, Waldo: 4, Washington: 6, York: 36.

## Expand Affordable Housing

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.63.1

Funding Amount

\$53,718,000

Initiative Name

Expand Affordable Housing

Project Name

Expand Affordable Housing

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.15-Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

### Project Overview

Project Description

Provides one-time funding to expand housing options that are affordable to low and moderate income workers and their families to own or rent. \$10,000,000 will be made available through a redesigned and expanded Affordable Homeownership Program, which will subsidize the creation of modest single family homes affordable to moderate income households with incomes up to 120% of area median income. The purchase price of these new homes will be capped and there will be affordability covenants restricting this affordability for 15 years, although the modest size of these "first" or "starter" homes has kept homes built previously naturally affordable beyond their affordability period. \$40,000,000 will be made available to increase affordable rental opportunities for low income households in Maine with incomes up to 80% of area median income. Program rules require that the subsidized rental units be made available to low income renters and that most units retain their affordability for at least 45 years.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 03/20/2024.

Partners

Developers, advocates, Governor's Office, Department of Economic and Community Development, Efficiency Maine Trust, and many others. These partners help us design the details of the program.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/affordable-homeownership-rental-development-programs>

## Use of Evidence

Whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions \*

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

Please describe the evidence base for the interventions funded by the project \*

Products of units, both for homeownership and rental that will house disproportionately impacted low- and moderately-income households will provide evidence of success. MaineHousing produced an estimated 524 number of units in 2021 evidence the success of the most recent of our 50 years producing affordable housing.

The dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions (If Applicable) \*

\$16,202,885

Whether a program evaluation of the project is being conducted \*

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of housing units created or improved \*

Funding has been awarded to 615 units to create or improve housing with MJRP funding (through a competitive process, applications have been approved for development underwriting process). Of these 615 units, funding has been committed for 597 units by a notice to proceed.

Number of units created in rural areas. MaineHousing will define rural areas and collect data on the number of units created. We will monitor the number of applications for rural areas and the amount of total funding they receive. \*

342 total units have been awarded funding in rural areas in the State of Maine, defined by RD's definition. In our multi-family programs, 202 units have been awarded funding and of those units, 184 have committed funding. In our affordable homeownership program, 140 units have been awarded and committed funding.

Number of families served. MaineHousing will track the number of units, determined by number of bedrooms, that will serve families, who generally overlap with workforce housing. \*

485 total units will be serving families. In our multi-unit program, 325 units have been awarded funding and of those, 307 units funding has been committed. In our affordable homeownership program, 160 units have been awarded funding and all these units have committed funding.

Number of people with disabilities or special needs served by housing. The management company will collect the data and report it to MaineHousing. This metric will address equity for a group that is often left behind. \*

0 - In our current pipeline of projects who are receiving State ARP fund, no developer has designated a certain number of units for people with disabilities or special needs. Each project complies with the ADA guidelines on accessible units.

• Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation) \*

0 - There have been no households who have received eviction prevention services at this time.

- Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed \*

396 units have funding committed with a notice to proceed for preserving or the development of affordable units.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

After further review, MaineHousing has further determined we have an internal moderator for the creation and preservation of affordable units with MJRP funds and will not be completing a program evaluation for federal reporting.

## Expand High Speed Broadband

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.64.1

Funding Amount

\$21,000,000

Initiative Name

Expand High Speed Broadband

Project Name

Expand High Speed Broadband

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.19-Broadband: "Last Mile" projects

### Project Overview

Project Description

This funding provide broadband to households/communities/businesses currently without reliable internet of 25 mbps download/3 mbps upload. The most recent study from ConnectMaine triennial strategic plan estimates 50% of Maine roads lack these current service levels of download/upload speeds. As cited on page 26805 of the US Treasury Interim Final Rule (IFR) "the interim rule treats users as being unserved or underserved if they lack access to a wireline connection capable of reliably delivering at least minimum speeds of 25 Mbps downloads and 3 Mbps upload as households and business lacking this level of access are generally not viewed as being able to originate and receive high-quality voice, data, graphics, and video telecommunications.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in November 2021 and program activities are ongoing as of 01/01/2022.

Partners

In addition to the Maine Connectivity Authority, ConnectMaine will play a supporting role. Digital inclusion work will need to continue to be included in all efforts that have an expectation that people will be able to use the internet, that they have a device and that they can connect.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/expand-high-speed-broadband>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of additional households with access to broadband internet services \*

476 residential locations (480 total locations) now have access to broadband internet via fixed wireless or low Earth orbit satellite services. The fixed wireless projects are in the post-construction phase, and a complementary low-Earth orbit satellite internet access program, Working Internet ASAP (WIA), was launched in late 2024. MJRP funds also continue to support technical assistance initiatives and partner enabling investments that ensure universal, sustainable last mile connectivity. Please see the "other information" field for more information. These MJRP funds are also directly enabling the connection of an additional 53,919 locations through Maine's Capital Projects Funds investments.

Number of locations connected \*

480 total locations now have high speed broadband connections through fixed wireless or low Earth orbit satellite services. Additionally, MJRP funds are also directly enabling the connection of an additional 53,919 locations through Maine's Capital Projects Funds investments.

Amount of funding leverage \*

A \$60,000 grant to Wireless Partners leveraged \$30,000 of matching funds, and a \$424,893 grant was awarded to Outer Reach Broadband, which was leveraged with \$163,011 of matching funds, totaling \$193,011 in directly leveraged funds.

Early investments made through MJRP funds, such as those used to support the Regional and Wabanaki Broadband Partners, led to the successful deployment of complementary U.S. Treasury Capital Projects Funds (CPF). To date, MCA has deployed approximately \$107M in CPF funds for broadband infrastructure projects, which yielded an additional \$84M in leveraged private or community matching funds.

Equity of access, tracking the number of people in qualified census tracts that become connected, not just have the option to be connected. We will track locations and those can be aggregated at the local or county level. We will utilize public data on demographics to ensure that intentional equity. We will not collect any personal or private information about individual customers who are connected as we do not have the security systems to protect that data nor does it add value to the consumer. \*

MCA is facilitating accelerated, universal internet access to some of Maine's least-served areas through its MJRP-funded fixed wireless and low Earth orbit satellite programs. 480 locations (across 15 out of Maine's 16 counties) that previously had no connectivity service or technology of any kind have been connected through these programs.

These MJRP funds are also directly enabling the connection of an additional 53,919 locations through Maine's Capital Projects Funds investments. MCA investments in broadband infrastructure total 86,000 locations in all 16 counties.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

MCA is strategically deploying MJRP funds in coordination with other state, federal, and private funding sources to ensure universal broadband coverage and access across Maine. This approach employs a combination of technologies, including fixed wireless and low Earth orbit satellite, paired with enabling investments through partnerships that support, maximize, and sustain infrastructure investments.



## Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.65.1

Funding Amount

\$8,000,000

Initiative Name

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Project Name

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

With funding from the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, the Maine Department of Transportation and Efficiency Maine Trust will coordinate to support the continued expansion of electric vehicle charging stations at town buildings, school buildings, State facilities, and public locations and at private businesses open to the general public , with an emphasis on expanding charging capacity into rural areas of the state.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 08/09/2022.

Partners

GOPIF, Efficiency Maine Trust, and Governor's Energy Office are, and will continue to be, involved in the planning of this initiative in partnership with Maine Department of Transportation. The Department plans to work through Efficiency Maine Trust's current process to administer the program (which includes the RFP, outreach, and scoring. The Department sits on the RFP scoring team for Efficiency Maine's electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) grant program.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/electric-vehicle-charging-stations>

### Key Performance Indicators

EMT will track and report the total number and size of EV charger plugs (ports) installed through the project and total number of sites added to the network of public chargers in the state. These numbers will be reviewed quarterly by program staff. EMT records the address of all plugs installed through its programs. This allows EMT to disaggregate charger locations by town or ZIP code and to link charger access to community-wide demographics. \*

A cumulative total of 170 L2 ports between 62 sites and 3 L3 ports at 1 L3 site have been installed and paid.

EMT will track the number and power levels (kW) of plugs installed in disadvantaged communities (DACs). EMT will also track total investment in projects in DACs, and percentage of investment in DACs relative to total program investment. This information will be reviewed by EMT staff quarterly. \*

Cumulatively 56 L2 ports and 3 L3 ports have been installed in DACs. During FY25, 18% of incentives were paid in DACs relative to all Maine parts. Cumulatively, 49% of incentives were paid in DACs relative to all Maine parts.

EMT will track per capita EV charger investments by town. This information will be reviewed by EMT staff annually. \*

Van Buren \$142.71, Newry \$26.99, Monson \$22.99, Carrabassett Valley \$20.68, Ogunquit \$20.29, Limestone \$12.58, Lovell \$11.66, Palmyra \$10.40, Millinocket \$11.09, Woodstock \$8.99, Wayne \$8.86, Damariscotta \$8.71, Winter Harbor \$8.68, Norway \$7.57, Old Town \$6.15, Litchfield \$5.58, Bath \$5.48, Unity \$5.23, St. George \$4.84, Gray \$3.87, Paris \$3.28, Blue Hill \$3.58, Madawaska \$3.53, Hallowell \$3.25, Bridgton \$2.87, Rockport \$5.49, Rumford \$2.39, Presque Isle \$2.27, Bucksport \$1.88, Harpswell \$2.83, Waldoboro \$1.94, Orono \$1.76, Wells \$9.83, Topsham \$1.46, Hampden \$1.02, Scarborough \$0.90, Brunswick \$3.29, Sanford \$0.78, Bar Harbor \$0.28, Biddeford \$0.15, East Central Washington \$4.02, Waldoboro \$1.94, Rockland \$2.02, Yarmouth \$5.17.

For Level 3 networked chargers, EMT will collect information on charging station usage, including number of sessions, energy (kWh) dispensed for each session, and peak power (kW) for each session. EMT staff will collect this information from Level 3 charger hosts and review it annually. Usage data will not be available for non-networked chargers or Level 2 networked chargers. \*

Efficiency Maine paid incentives for a 3-port L3 site in Van Buren, ME. Since the initial build, the site has supplied 3.148 MWh of energy amongst 138 sessions, an average of 23 kWh/session. Peak power for sessions has typically been between 70 and 90 kW.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

A cumulative total of 2 L3 ports at a site have been installed but not yet paid. A cumulative total of 22 L3 ports between 9 sites have been awarded grant funds but not yet installed and paid.

## Infrastructure Adaptation - 5.5 Clean Water

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.66.1

Funding Amount

\$9,957,000

Initiative Name

Infrastructure Adaptation for Public Safety

Project Name

Infrastructure Adaptation - 5.5 Clean Water

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.5-Clean Water: Other Sewer Infrastructure

### Project Overview

Project Description

Funds will be used for pre-design, design and construction implementation.

Climate change poses a serious risk to Maine infrastructure, with damage estimates in the billions of dollars unless action is taken. The Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund, administered through the Maine Department of Transportation, will provide grants to municipalities, tribal governments, and others to improve stormwater, drinking water, and wastewater infrastructure from flooding, rising sea levels, and extreme weather. These grants will help protect vital infrastructure most at risk, support natural resources, and benefit public safety and emergency management efforts. This part of the program will focus on Clean Water: Other Sewer Infrastructure projects and will comply with Clean Water State Revolving Fund Eligibilities, May 2016, EPA.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 10/05/2022.

Partners

Maine Department of Transportation is setting up a framework to identify how to structure the selection process for the projects. We've met with Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife and Department of Health and Human Services to discuss their grant programs. Our current thought is to follow their process as much as possible as people are used to the approach. We will establish a Board made up of the Commissioners of Maine Department of Transportation, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Marine Resources, Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Emergency Management Agency, and Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife to rank projects.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/maine-infrastructure-adaptation-fund>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

8 awards went to Municipalities and Local Sewer Districts (note that some projects received funding from multiple expenditure categories). The Town of Scarborough, City of Bath, Town of Blue Hill, Boothbay Harbor Sewer District, Ogunquit Sewer District, Anson-Madison Sanitary District, City of Rockland, and the Town of Norway were awarded funds through 5.5 Clean Water.

Similar to N, but the number of individual projects that are funded and less vulnerable due to these funds. We will be able to sort by community and demographic. \*

8 individual projects (3 design of replacement/improvements to sewer systems and 5 design and construction of replacement/improvement to sewer systems) are being funded. These funds have made the projects more robust to the fluctuation in relative sea level elevation.

Please describe how the project contributes to addressing climate change and/or advances the Justice40 initiative \*

The 8 awarded projects, identified the risk of excessive permeation related to the fluctuation in relative sea level elevation or riverine saturation, impacting their wastewater pipes, wastewater treatment facilities, and pump stations. Reducing the risk of saturation now will prevent future excessive permeation from impacting the infrastructure, save these municipalities and districts damage costs down the road, and reduce the risk of sewer/wastewater discharge events, as well as the associated damages to public health and marine life. Two awarded applicants (Rockland and Anson-Madison) are rated as high on the Maine Social Vulnerability Index. 5 awarded applicants (Bath, Boothbay Harbor, Ogunquit, Norway, and Winslow) are rated as medium on the Maine Social Vulnerability Index.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The Town of Scarborough, Anson-Madison Sanitary District, and the City of Rockland have completed their projects.

## Infrastructure Adaptation - 5.6 Clean Water

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.66.2

Funding Amount

\$8,491,500

Initiative Name

Infrastructure Adaptation for Public Safety

Project Name

Infrastructure Adaptation - 5.6 Clean Water

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.6-Clean Water: Stormwater

### Project Overview

Project Description

Climate change poses a serious risk to Maine infrastructure, with damage estimates in the billions of dollars unless action is taken. The Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund, administered through the Maine Department of Transportation, will provide grants to municipalities, tribal governments, and others to improve stormwater, drinking water, and wastewater infrastructure from flooding, rising sea levels, and extreme weather. These grants will help protect vital infrastructure most at risk, support natural resources, and benefit public safety and emergency management efforts. This part of the program will focus on Clean Water: Stormwater projects and will comply with Clean Water State Revolving Fund Eligibilities, May 2016, EPA.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 10/05/2022.

Partners

Maine Department of Transportation is setting up a framework to identify how to structure the selection process for the projects. We've met with Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, and Department of Health and Human Services to discuss their grant programs. Our current thought is to follow their process as much as possible as people are used to the approach. We will establish a Board made up of the Commissioners of Maine Department of Transportation, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Marine Resources, Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Emergency Management Agency, and Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife to rank projects.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/maine-infrastructure-adaptation-fund>

## Key Performance Indicators

We will measure the number of projects proposed in areas that rank "high" on the Maine Social Vulnerability Index, the program's indicator for equity in project access. \*

Two awarded applicants (Rockland and Anson-Madison) are ranked as high on the Maine Social Vulnerability Index.

Please describe how the project contributes to addressing climate change and/or advances the Justice40 initiative \*

Two projects ranked as high on the Maine Social Vulnerability Index (MSVI) and 4 ranked as medium on MSVI. These projects will reduce the risk of damages from fluctuation in relative sea level elevation and other excessive permeation events associated with the project's infrastructure. These reduced damages will save the municipalities and districts costs to repair these damages as well as road closures, detours, damages to buildings, and in some cases stormwater that results in sewer overflow and becomes a public health issue.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The Town of Scarborough, Anson-Madison Sanitary District, City of Rockland, Town of Frenchville, Town of Berwick have completed their projects.

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

10 Awards went to Municipalities and local sewer districts (note that some of the projects received funding from multiple expenditure categories). Scarborough, Kennebunkport, Bath, Boothbay Harbor Sewer District, Winslow, Berwick, Anson-Madison Sanitary District, Frenchville, Rockland, Norway were awarded funds through 5.6 Clean Water.

Similar to N, but the number of individual projects that are funded and less vulnerable due to these funds. As mentioned above, we will be able to sort by community and demographic. \*

10 individual projects - 4 design of replacement/improvements to stormwater systems, 4 design and construction of replacement/improvement to stormwater systems, and 2 construction of stormwater system replacement/improvements are being funded. These funds have made stormwater systems more robust to the fluctuation in relative sea level elevation.

We will track the reduced risk to public safety that results from these projects. The reduced risk to public safety will be based off the estimated number of individuals who will no longer suffer from impacts such as service disruption, inoperability, or inaccessibility, with the result of a project. \*

Anson-Madison Sanitary District and The Town of Berwick have completed their construction project and greatly reduced the risk to public safety. The project in Madison, Maine on Main Street eliminated excessive permeation. During heavy rain events, traffic could not pass through a section of Main Street. Due to this funding, there will no longer be service disruption, inoperability, or inaccessibility on Main Street in Madison. The project in Berwick, Maine mitigated the risk of severe erosion, pollution of the Salmon Falls River and saturation along the project limits. Due to this funding, the risk to public safety and public health has been greatly reduced.

We will also track the avoided cost of damages that results from these projects. The avoided damages will be based on observed/records of past damage costs incurred during infrastructure failure. \*

Anson-Madison Sanitary District and The Town of Berwick have completed their construction project and have avoided several thousand dollars in damage. For Anson-Madison Sanitary District, the anticipated avoided costs per single high intensity storm event may be \$180,000. For Berwick, the anticipated avoided cost of damages could have been up to \$2,000,000. Damages would include excessive permeation of property, infrastructure damage to stormwater system and road, as well as costs of river pollution.

We will track the number of projects located within the sea level rise inundation zone based on the Climate Council's Scientific and Technical Subcommittees sea level rise projections. \*

6 projects are related to withstanding the fluctuation in relative sea level elevation.

## Infrastructure Adaptation - 5.15 Drinking Water

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.66.3

Funding Amount

\$1,300,000

Initiative Name

Infrastructure Adaptation for Public Safety

Project Name

Infrastructure Adaptation - 5.15 Drinking Water

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.15-Drinking water: Other water infrastructure

### Project Overview

Project Description

Climate change poses a serious risk to Maine infrastructure, with damage estimates in the billions of dollars unless action is taken. The Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund, administered through the Maine Department of Transportation, will provide grants to municipalities, tribal governments, and others to improve stormwater, drinking water, and wastewater infrastructure from flooding, rising sea levels, and extreme weather. These grants will help protect vital infrastructure most at risk, support natural resources, and benefit public safety and emergency management efforts. This part of the program will focus on Drinking Water: Other Water Infrastructure projects and will comply with Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Eligibility Handbook, 2017, EPA.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 12/19/2022.

Partners

Maine Department of Transportation is setting up a framework to identify how to structure the selection process for the projects. We've met with Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, and Department of Health and Human Services to discuss their grant programs. Our current thought is to follow their process as much as possible as people are used to the approach. We will establish a Board made up of the Commissioners of Maine Department of Transportation, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Marine Resources, Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Emergency Management Agency, and Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife to rank projects.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/maine-infrastructure-adaptation-fund>



## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

1 Award went to the Town of Kennebunkport for 5.15 Drinking Water.

Similar to N, but the number of individual projects that are funded and less vulnerable due to these funds. As mentioned above, we will be able to sort by community and demographic. \*

The Town of Kennebunkport (1 project) has been funded for the replacement/improvement to public water infrastructure running along a causeway that has experienced excessive permeation events in the past.

We will track the reduced risk to public safety that results from these projects. The reduced risk to public safety will be based off the estimated number of individuals who will no longer suffer from impacts such as service disruption, inoperability, or inaccessibility, with the result of a project. \*

The Town of Kennebunkport (population of >3600) will benefit from the reduced risk to public safety associated with the impacts of the inaccessibility of the causeway, risking access to critical services.

We will also track the avoided cost of damages that results from these projects. The avoided damages will be based on observed/records of past damage costs incurred during infrastructure failure. \*

The causeway closure disrupts the \$13-\$15 million dollars that come in annual through Cape Porpoise Pier.

We will track the number of projects located within the sea level rise inundation zone based on the Climate Council's Scientific and Technical Subcommittees sea level rise projections. \*

The Town of Kennebunkport (1 project) is located along the coast and is impacted by excessive permeation events from fluctuation in relative sea level elevation, extreme tides, and storms.

We will measure the number of projects proposed in areas that rank "high" on the Maine Social Vulnerability Index, the program's indicator for equity in project access. \*

This project does not rank high on the Maine SVI.

Please describe how the project contributes to addressing climate change and/or advances the Justice40 initiative \*

This project intends to prevent the closure of the causeway that connects Cape Porpoise to Bickford Island. The causeway has experienced fluctuation in relative sea level elevation through excessive permeation events during king tide and storm surges, which forced it to close. The closure cuts off critical services to Bickford Island and disrupts \$13 - \$15 million dollars that come in annually through Cape Porpoise Pier, the largest commercial fishing fleet between Portland and Portsmouth, cost to business and clamming would also occur.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

# Northern Rural Contractor Support

## Project Information

Control Number \*

R.66.4

Funding Amount

\$200,000

Initiative Name

Infrastructure Adaptation for Public Safety

Project Name

Northern Rural Contractor Support

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

## Project Overview

Project Description

With funding from the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, the Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund, administered through the Maine Department of Transportation, will provide grants to municipalities, tribal governments, and others to improve stormwater, drinking water, and wastewater infrastructure from flooding, rising sea levels, and extreme weather. This portion of the funding will be used to provide contractor support to Northern and rural Maine communities to assist with securing funding for infrastructure project development and implementation.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in April 2022 and SLFRF Program expenditures fully complete as of 10/21/2024.

Partners

The Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future is administering the competitive RFP process to select the contractor. Senior Climate Resilience Coordinator for GOPIF, is the lead for the RFP, in collaboration with the Governor's Energy Office. This grant program builds on the Community Resilience Partnership administered by the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future. The Resilience Partnership offers two grant types: 1) Community Action Grants that support municipal and tribal governments to fund projects, including increasing resilience to climate change effects, and 2) Service Provider Grants that support organizations that assist communities with community engagement, project prioritization, and applications for the Community Action Grants or other funding opportunities. The selected contractor will provide applicants with the technical assistance they may need to submit a successful application to the Maine Infrastructure Adaptation fund.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/maine-infrastructure-adaptation-fund>

Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

Eastern Maine Development Corp. (EMDC) has engaged with 34 communities as of Q3 2024 and EMDC is providing additional technical assistance to 7 of those communities (Corinna, East Millinocket, Dexter, Bradford, Hermon, Veazie and Guilford) with the Community Resilience Partnership (CRP) enrollment process. Other EMDC technical assistance efforts (in addition to the 2023 report) have included:

- Held a Resilience Workshop in Eddington in September 2023.
- Preliminary/informational outreach for enrollment in the CRP: Beaver Cove, Bradford, Bradley, Brewer, Brownville, Burlington, Corinna, Crystal, Dixmont, Dexter, East Millinocket, Enfield, Exeter, Greenville, Guilford, Howland, Island Falls, La Grange, Lee, Lincoln, Lowell, Maxfield, Medford, Milo, Monson, Mt. Chase, Newport, Passadumkeag, Patten, Seboeis Plantation, Sherman and Shirley. The towns contacted in the final quarter were Bradford, Bradley, Brownville, Corinna, Dexter, East Millinocket, Guilford, and La Grange.
- Assisting 6 towns with incorporating resilience into comprehensive plans.

Additional performance indicators include the number of smaller (less than 4,000 population) and high social vulnerability communities; the number of projects completed; and the amount of federal funds leveraged for projects. \*

27 communities (in the region supported by EMDC) are fully enrolled in the Community Resiliency Partnership:

- Abbot, Aroostook Band of Micmacs, Bangor, Beaver Cove, Burlington, Crystal, Dixmont, Dover-Foxcroft, Enfield, Fort Kent, Frenchville, Garland, Greenville, Howland, Houlton Band of Maliseets, Howland, Island Falls, Limestone, Lincoln, Lowell, Millinocket, Monson, Old Town, Orono, Patten, Penobscot Nation, Van Buren, Washburn
- 21 of these communities have populations below 4,000.
- 16 have high social vulnerability and 8 have medium social vulnerability according to the Maine SVI.
- EMDC assisted many of these communities to apply for Federal funding but data on funding secured is not available.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Workforce Transportation Pilot 1

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.67.1

Funding Amount

\$3,371,070

Initiative Name

Workforce Transportation Pilot

Project Name

Workforce Transportation Pilot 1

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

To support increased economic security and workforce development, the Maine Department of Transportation, with funding from the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, is opening a Workforce Transportation Program. This initiative will provide competitive grants to local partnerships that connect workers and employers through ridesharing, vanpools, and other subsidized transit options.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in May 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 12/30/2022.

Partners

Maine Department of Labor is assisting with this effort, by identifying rural areas with a critical mass of employers, job openings, and current and potential employees who could benefit from additional transportation options. Dept. of Labor is also identifying regional stakeholders such as trade associations, chambers of commerce, and workforce boards that could partner on a project. Three large employers have been identified as having challenges related to transportation in attracting and retaining employees and early planning and discussions have begun with these employers. Development of the framework for the pilots and discretionary grant program is underway, and Maine Department of Transportation is consulting with Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Economic and Community Development, and GOPIF in developing this framework.

Maine Department of Transportation is partnering with the Maine Department of Labor, Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Economic and Community Development, and the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future in designing and developing the framework for the discretionary grant program. Dept. of Labor has identified regional stakeholders such as trade associations, chambers of commerce, and workforce boards who could assist with outreach and communication and/or partner on a project.

Link to Project Website

## Key Performance Indicators

### Number of Grants Awarded

•MaineDOT is developing a communication and outreach program that will ask partners to share this opportunity with eligible applicants. There is no minimum number of awards, as projects will be selected based on merit and the availability of funding. MaineDOT anticipates a flexible \$750,000 cap that is subject to change based on need and volume of applications. MaineDOT's hope is that the program strikes an appropriate balance between encouraging and enabling applicants to apply for funds and safeguards that ensure funds are used appropriately and in a way that maximizes the return on investment across the state. The number of grants awarded will be an indication of whether funds are being applied for by appropriate applicants and for appropriate projects.

\*

11 grants totaling \$3.37 million were awarded to ten different organizations (Gagne Foods was awarded two separate grants for two related but distinct projects). 3iHousing of Maine is returning its award of \$127,171 as the development for which it hoped to provide transportation services will not be completed within the window for using these funds. IRC has completed its project and will not use the remaining balance of \$21,236. As a result of TimberHP's bankruptcy, MaineDOT has completed a termination agreement for TimberHP's WTP project and will work with MJRP and ARPA officials to determine next steps for these funds.

### Diversity of Grant Applicants and Recipients

A goal of the program is to encourage discussions and project applications from diverse applicants across the state. Factors that may be considered in project evaluation include geography, applicant and project size, socioeconomic factors, and expected impact, particularly on communities hardest hit by COVID-19, including lower-income workers; black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) individuals; individuals with disabilities; justice-involved individuals; older adults; and younger (age 16 – 24) adults. The diversity of grant applicants and recipients will help to indicate if the program is successful in this regard. \*

Grantees in this category - Aroostook Regional Transportation System (Presque Isle), Bath Iron Works (Bath), Gagne Foods (Bath), Industrial Roofing Company (Lewiston), Maine West (Bryant Pond), Robbins Lumber (Searsmont), Western Maine Transportation Services (Auburn), and York County Community Action Corporation (Sanford) - represent small, medium, and large businesses; include a nonprofit organization, a regional economic development organization, and three public transportation providers; and are geographically diverse. ARTS' award supports transit connections between Caribou and Presque Isle and several large agricultural, forestry, and manufacturing employers. BIW employs individuals from every county in Maine. Gagne Foods employs many new Mainers and second chance employees. Industrial Roofing Company is a manufacturer looking to expand its workforce. The grant to Maine West, which is part of the University of Maine System, supports the purchase of vehicles to connect students in four school districts to opportunities in the outdoor recreation field, including on-the-job training, work experience, skill building, and mentorship. Robbins Lumber's grant supported transportation for at risk individuals within the corrections system who are learning employable skills for when they re-enter the workforce, which is proven to assist with recidivism. Western Maine Transportation Service's initiative expands hours of operation and routes to better connect employees to employers of all types in the Lewiston/Auburn region. YCCAC's innovative program expands transportation connections for Portsmouth Naval Shipyard employees in the Sanford region.

Program Structure

- As noted, MaineDOT has worked with several state agencies to design this competitive grant program according to the parameters of the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan. MaineDOT will assess internally and with its partners whether the applicants for funds, project partners, the types of projects applied for and awarded, and the individuals benefitting from the projects are consistent with the intent of the Workforce Pilot as set forth in the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan and with other state priorities. This may include diversity of geography, applicant and project size, socioeconomic factors, and expected impact, particularly on communities hardest hit by COVID-19, including lower-income workers; black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) individuals; individuals with disabilities; justice-involved individuals; older adults; and younger (age 16 – 24) adults. \*

MaineDOT received grant applications from, awarded funds to, and had discussions with a variety of organizations across the state for a range of creative workforce transportation solutions. Evaluation criteria were consistent with the overall goals for the program as set forth in the MJRP: projected impact, project partners, deliverability, sustainability, and local match. Other factors included a match greater than the required 20%; whether projects were replicable or could serve as an example for other efforts; whether projects addressed housing, childcare, and workforce development issues that affect workforce participation; whether projects encouraged greater use of all transportation modes, such as carpooling, transit, or bike sharing; diversity of geography, applicant, and project size, socioeconomic factors, and expected impact; impacts on disadvantaged communities; and sustainability beyond the life of the WTP funding. MaineDOT consulted with the Maine Department of Labor and Maine Department of Economic and Community Development as appropriate in evaluating proposals.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Eleven grants were awarded to recipients over a nearly 18-month period, from October 2022 to March of 2024. Some grantees have completed their projects, while others are still in the final stages of planning or will begin operations soon. The Workforce Transportation Pilot has allowed MaineDOT to provide financial support to several innovative projects and to engage with and provide technical support to a range of organizations to help identify potential solutions to workforce transportation challenges, which may not have occurred without the WTP project's funding support. MaineDOT has worked with grantees to make adjustments that make the best use of resources and best meet program goals. For example, 3i Housing of Maine was awarded \$127,171 but will not be able to use those funds as the new development which would have been the focus of the project will not be completed within the timeline to use the funds, as had been anticipated. 3i Housing was unable to find a suitable alternative that would have allowed the funds to be used within the timeline. As a result of TimberHP's bankruptcy, MaineDOT has completed a termination agreement for TimberHP's WTP project and will work with MJRP and ARPA officials to determine next steps for these funds.

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

9

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

Several hundred, ranging from large employers like Bath Iron Works to small employers like Robbins Lumber to educational institutions like the University of Maine to small transit providers in rural Maine. MaineDOT tracks the number of organizations consulted with on workforce transportation challenges (whether or not they lead to a grant application or award), as well as organizations engaged through GO MAINE, the state's trip planning and ride sharing service, which is administered by MaineDOT and the Maine Turnpike Authority. With the WTP project and the relaunch of GO MAINE in April 2022, MaineDOT was able to engage with many more stakeholders and participate in many more discussions on workforce transportation challenges than would otherwise have been the case.

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

70

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

157

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

211. This is significantly less than the 2024 reporting primarily because BIW modified its approach for 2025 only consider the towns directly served by Western Maine Transportation Services' bus route, which is supported by the WTP funds. BIW had some changes in leadership on their team between the 2024 and 2025 reports that account for the changes in approach. This approach more accurately reflects the direct impact of the WTP project specifically on workforce transportation for the shipyard. Two transit providers that received WTP funds, ARTS and WMTS, also tracked other relevant program data. ARTS has provided 4,357 total trips, to 13 total communities and 72 employers with 100 total job sites, with a daily high of 54 trips. WMTS has provided 26,308 one-way trips for workers to over 15 workplaces in Lewiston/Auburn, many in manufacturing but also including banks, hospitals, long-term care facilities, small businesses, educational institutions, and human service institutions.

## Workforce Transportation Pilot Tourism/Hospitality

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.67.2

Funding Amount

\$1,628,930

Initiative Name

Workforce Transportation Pilot

Project Name

Workforce Transportation Pilot Tourism/Hospitality

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.35-Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

### Project Overview

Project Description

To support increased economic security and workforce development, the Maine Department of Transportation, with funding from the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, is opening a Workforce Transportation Program. This initiative will provide competitive grants to local partnerships that connect workers and employees through ridesharing, vanpools, and other subsidized transit options for the travel, tourism and hospitality industries.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in August 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 10/26/2022.

Partners

Maine Department of Labor is assisting with this effort, by identifying rural areas with a critical mass of employers, job openings, and current and potential employees who could benefit from additional transportation options. Dept. of Labor is also identifying regional stakeholders such as trade associations, chambers of commerce, and workforce boards that could partner on a project. Three large employers have been identified as having challenges related to transportation in attracting and retaining employees and early planning and discussions have begun with these employers. Development of the framework for the pilots and discretionary grant program is underway, and Maine Department of Transportation is consulting with Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Economic and Community Development, and GOPIF in developing this framework. Maine Department of Transportation staff worked with the Department of Economic and Community Development, Health and Human Services, Labor, and the Governor's Office on Policy Innovation and the Future to develop the framework and materials for the Workforce Transportation Pilot and will engage with these organizations as necessary to evaluate applications. Maine Department of Transportation worked with the organizations noted above to communicate the launch of the program and anticipates working with numerous local and regional entities to evaluate challenges and identify potential solutions especially for the travel, tourism and hospitality industries.



## Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/workforce-transportation-program>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

4

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

2 organizations that have received technical assistance, Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, and the HOPE Association (which is involved with Sunday River's grant funded project), fall into the tourism, travel, and hospitality category.

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

349

Number of individuals enrolling in an internship, apprenticeship, or pre-apprenticeship program \*

86

Number of newly employed or re-employed individuals \*

386. Sunday River noted that most of their trips have been for housekeeping staff and lift operators who do not own a vehicle or do not drive.

### Number of Grants Awarded

•MaineDOT is developing a communication and outreach program that will ask partners to share this opportunity with eligible applicants. There is no minimum number of awards, as projects will be selected based on merit and the availability of funding. MaineDOT anticipates a flexible \$750,000 cap that is subject to change based on need and volume of applications. MaineDOT's hope is that the program strikes an appropriate balance between encouraging and enabling applicants to apply for funds and safeguards that ensure funds are used appropriately and in a way that maximizes the return on investment across the state. The number of grants awarded will be an indication of whether funds are being applied for by appropriate applicants and for appropriate projects.

\*

The entire \$5M available to the Workforce Transportation Pilot initiative was awarded. Four grants totaling \$1.63M were awarded to organizations within the tourism, travel, and hospitality category (\$476,000 to the Kennebunk Kennebunkport Arundel Chamber of Commerce, \$387,200 to Sunday River, and \$488,130 to Saddleback Transportation Company, and \$277,600 to Sugarloaf Mountain ). Sunday River has completed its project and is returning \$43,811. MaineDOT will work with MJRP and ARPA officials to determine next steps for these funds.

## Diversity of Grant Applicants and Recipients

A goal of the program is to encourage discussions and project applications from diverse applicants across the state. Factors that may be considered in project evaluation include geography, applicant and project size, socioeconomic factors, and expected impact, particularly on communities hardest hit by COVID-19, including lower-income workers; black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) individuals; individuals with disabilities; justice-involved individuals; older adults; and younger (age 16 – 24) adults. The diversity of grant applicants and recipients will help to indicate if the program is successful in this regard. \*

Awards in this category were to Kennebunk Kennebunkport Arundel Chamber of Commerce (KKACC) (\$476,000), Saddleback (\$488,130), Sugarloaf (\$277,600), and Sunday River (\$387,200). The three ski areas are large year-round operations. Among the largest employers in their respective rural regions, and employing many people from both the local region and longer-distance communities, they are critical drivers of the local and regional economy. Approximately one-third of Sugarloaf's winter employees, for example, commute from an hour away. Many ski area employees are younger, seasonal employees who may work in Maine for just one season and often face challenges with transportation and housing. KKACC's grant, which pivoted from a fixed route service to a demand-response service, allows employers, including many small businesses in the seasonal tourism, travel, and hospitality sectors, to meet their workforce needs by tapping into a larger pool of workers and potential workers in and between the City of Sanford.

## Program Structure

- As noted, MaineDOT has worked with several state agencies to design this competitive grant program according to the parameters of the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan. MaineDOT will assess internally and with its partners whether the applicants for funds, project partners, the types of projects applied for and awarded, and the individuals benefitting from the projects are consistent with the intent of the Workforce Pilot as set forth in the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan and with other state priorities. This may include diversity of geography, applicant and project size, socioeconomic factors, and expected impact, particularly on communities hardest hit by COVID-19, including lower-income workers; black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) individuals; individuals with disabilities; justice-involved individuals; older adults; and younger (age 16 – 24) adults. \*

MaineDOT received grant applications from, awarded funds to, and had discussions with several tourism, travel, and hospitality organizations across the state for a range of creative workforce transportation solutions. As with the R. 67.1 piece, evaluation criteria were consistent with the overall goals for the program as set forth in the MJRP: projected impact, project partners, deliverability, sustainability, and local match. Other factors included a match greater than the required 20%; whether projects were replicable or could serve as an example for other efforts; whether projects addressed housing, childcare, and workforce development issues that affect workforce participation; whether projects encouraged greater use of all transportation modes, such as carpooling, transit, or bike sharing; diversity of geography, applicant, and project size, socioeconomic factors, and expected impact; impacts on disadvantaged communities; and sustainability beyond the life of the WTP funding. MaineDOT consulted with the Maine Department of Labor and Maine Department of Economic and Community Development as appropriate in evaluating proposals.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Similar to the R.67.1 grants, awards in this category were made over a 13-month period, from October 2022 to January of 2024. Some grantees have completed their projects, while others are ongoing. MaineDOT has worked with grantees to make adjustments that make the best use of resources and best meet program goals, such as Kennebunk Kennebunkport Arundel Chamber of Commerce pivoting from a partnership with the regional transit provider for fixed route bus service to an on-demand model connecting workers with local employers. The WTP pilot has allowed MaineDOT to provide financial support to several innovative projects and to engage with and provide technical support to a range of organizations to help identify potential solutions to workforce transportation challenges, which may not have occurred without the WTP project and funding support.



## Confined Aquatic Disposal Cell

### Project Information

Control Number \*

R.68.1

Funding Amount

\$10,000,000

Initiative Name

Confined Aquatic Disposal Cell

Project Name

Confined Aquatic Disposal Cell

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Portland Harbor Working Waterfront Rehabilitation Project (the Project) is fully permitted and is a collaboration between cities of Portland and South Portland, the Portland Harbor Commission, MaineDOT, and 30 private property owners working to improve the sediment and water quality and commercial marine economic growth for Portland Harbor. Historic, extensive build-up of contaminated sediment has made portions of the waterfront unusable resulting in a loss and degradation of vessel support infrastructures.

The Project proposes to dredge 47 locations in Portland Harbor owned by 32 public and private waterfront property owners. The Project will remove contaminated sediment from berthing and vessel support areas and construct Maine's first CAD cell to permanently sequester contaminated material. Dredging maintains a safe and functional water depth to support commercial and recreational vessel access, allowing loading and unloading, berthing, vessel service and repair, marine construction, and the transport of goods and people, ultimately securing Portland Harbor as a center for marine commerce.

Total project cost is estimated at \$32,000,000, with the balance of funds coming from a variety of local, state, and federal sources. The \$10,000,000 in MJRP funds will be prioritized for use in the first phase of the project, construction of the CAD Cell, scheduled for the 2023/2024 dredge season.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in .

Partners

The City of Portland is the project sponsor and the applicant for a federal Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/dredging-portland-harbor>

## Key Performance Indicators

Volume of material removed to create the CAD cell disposal site \*

379,870 cubic yards as finalized CAD excavation volume.

Linear feet of berthing regained/improved/maintained. For commercial piers serving the fishing and other marine industries, pier capacity is measured in linear feet of usable pier edge (berthing.) Preconstruction estimates of berthing have been performed and will be compared to post construction performance. Berthing expansion will be achieved where current water depths are unusable at low tides, but will be fully functional berths post construction. Improvements will allow currently usable, but shallow, areas to accommodate larger vessels post construction. Other areas will be maintained for their current use, but will be maintainable in the future due to the removal of contaminated sediments (the current barrier to maintenance.) \*

State Pier and Ocean Gateway berths were dredged to maintained depth in order for larger vessels and support boats to more safely negotiate navigation and docking maneuvers. Usable linear feet of pier may not have increased, but the safety margins captains face certainly has.

Number of recreational berthing slips regained/improved/maintained. Recreational berths at Project marinas will see benefits comparable to commercial berths described above. While commercial berths are typically measured with linear feet, recreational berths are generally described as individual "slips" with each slip providing berthing for a single vessel. \*

None until the next phase of the project commences in Fall/Winter of 2025

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

CAD cell completion has made the possibility of large scale dredging in Portland Harbor tangible to the myriad pier owners and interested parties along the waterfront. Environmental groups, commercial fishermen, pier owners and municipal partners are all in lockstep and enthusiastic of the coming inter pier and berthing dredges to come.

## Municipal Wastewater - Treatment

### Project Information

Control Number \*

S.69.1

Funding Amount

\$9,507,397

Initiative Name

Municipal Wastewater & infrastructure Projects

Project Name

Municipal Wastewater - Treatment

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.1-Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment

### Project Overview

Project Description

The projects to be funded with the FY 2022 allotment include: a Regional Per/Polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) Treatment Facility, secondary wastewater treatment facility upgrades, and the purchase of a sewer vacuum truck. Projects to be funded with the FY 2023 allotment will align with US Treasury Expenditure Category 5.1.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in February 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 01/06/2022.

Partners

Projects from the FY 2022 allotment will involve the following state agencies and external organizations:

Maine Department of Environmental Protection Clean Water State Revolving Fund - co-funding of projects

USDA Rural Development - co-funding of projects

HUD Community Development Block Grants - co-funding of projects -

State agencies and external organizations involved with the projects from the FY 2023 allotment could be members of the group listed above and/or also include: Northern Borders Regional Commission - co-funding

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/municipal-wastewater-infrastructure-grants>

### Key Performance Indicators

Please describe how the project contributes to addressing climate change and/or advances the Justice40 initiative

\*

Maine DEP CWSRF program satisfies all EPA's guidance using an affordability criteria (Medium Household Income (MHI), Poverty Rate, Unemployment Rate, 10-year Population trend, Sewer Rate as a percent of the MHI) which are compared to the State of Maine averages. Funding has been awarded to those that rank highest on the affordability criteria matrix which in turn helps those communities that need the most assistance. This has proven to be successful and more than 40% of the awarded projects are also located in the EPA developed CEJST mapping tool for potential designated disadvantaged communities or partially disadvantaged communities.

Projects contribute to the climate change initiative during the design phase. All projects are reviewed in accordance with the Technical Report 16 (TR-16) Guidance for the design of wastewater treatment works, which states, "All New pump stations, new facilities within a treatment plant and new wastewater treatment plants should (1) provide for uninterrupted operation of all units during conditions of a 100-year (1% annual chance) flood and (2) be placed above, or protected against, the structural, process, and electrical equipment damage that might occur in an event that results in a water elevation above the 100-year (1% annual chance) flood. The level of protection depends on how critical a component of the facility is to operation of the facility. Specifically, critical equipment of these facilities should be protected against damage up to a water surface elevation that is 3 feet above the 100-year flood elevation. Non-critical equipment should be protected against damage up to a water surface elevation that is 2 feet above the 100-year flood elevation." All CWSRF Project Engineers complete the design review with this standard and also incorporate the EPA's Executive Order for Federal Flood risk management and the Maine Won't Wait initiative to the best of their abilities before approval.

Miles of water or sewer infrastructure repaired or built \*

There are 10 awards and 9 have reached final contract stage with approximately 87% spent. All the contracts are in various stages of design and construction and at this time none are fully complete and all contracts are co-funded with multiple agencies to get the project done at a cost affordable to the community.

The Department will monitor construction design activity and timeliness. \*

All construction designs are reviewed and approved prior to bidding by the Maine DEP Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) assigned Project Engineer. Currently, there are 10 construction contracts in various stages (Preliminary Design, 75-90% Design Review, 100% Design) of design. All have completed the design process and are all in construction phase with 6% remaining.

The Department will monitor bidding and construction award activities to ensure a public process and award to lowest responsible and responsive bidder. \*

Grantees procure construction and/or equipment services through a competitive bidding procurement process, thus insuring a fair and reasonable cost. All construction bidding and construction awards are completed publicly and given to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder. All bid awards must be approved by the Maine DEP CWSRF assigned Project Engineer before construction can begin.

The Department will monitor the construction time utilized and compare it to the construction funds expended to assure project is on schedule. This data will be collected, generally monthly, at construction meetings and from grant payment requests. \*

During construction, monitoring is completed on a monthly basis, however, it will be increased as needed if the subrecipient's personnel changes substantially and/or the contractors productivity decreases, which will be determined by the DEP CWSRF Project Engineer. At each monthly meeting, a review is completed, which includes; the last month's work, upcoming work, review of the construction schedule, review of the payment application, change orders, shop drawings, and any other items of concern.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A



## Municipal Wastewater - Collection & Conveyance

### Project Information

Control Number \*

S.69.2

Funding Amount

\$8,474,615

Initiative Name

Municipal Wastewater & infrastructure Projects

Project Name

Municipal Wastewater - Collection & Conveyance

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.2-Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Collection and Conveyance

### Project Overview

Project Description

The projects to be funded with the FY 2022 allotment include: River Crossing Sewer Force Mains, Sewer Collection System Replacement, and Wastewater Pumping Station Upgrades. Projects to be funded with the FY 2023 allotment will align with US Treasury Expenditure Category 5.2.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in February 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 01/06/2022.

Partners

Projects from the FY 2022 allotment will involve the following state agencies and external organizations:  
MaineDepartment of Environmental Protection Clean Water State Revolving Fund - co-funding of projects  
USDA Rural Development - co-funding of projects  
HUD Community Development Block Grants - co-funding of projects  
MaineDepartment of Transportation - co-funding of project -  
State agencies and external organizations involved with the projects from the FY 2023 allotment could be members of the group listed above and/or also include: Northern Borders Regional Commission - co-funding -

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/municipal-wastewater-infrastructure-grants>

### Key Performance Indicators

Please describe how the project contributes to addressing climate change and/or advances the Justice40 initiative

\*

Maine DEP CWSRF program satisfies all EPA's guidance using an affordability criteria (Medium Household Income (MHI), Poverty Rate, Unemployment Rate, 10-year Population trend, Sewer Rate as a percent of the MHI) which are compared to the State of Maine averages. Funding has been awarded to those that rank highest on the affordability criteria matrix which in turn helps those communities that need the most assistance. This has proven to be successful and more than 40% of the awarded projects are also located in the EPA developed CEJST mapping tool for potential designated disadvantaged communities or partially disadvantaged communities.

Projects contribute to the climate change initiative during the design phase. All projects are reviewed in accordance with the Technical Report 16 (TR-16) Guidance for the design of wastewater treatment works, which states, "All New pump stations, new facilities within a treatment plant and new wastewater treatment plants should (1) provide for uninterrupted operation of all units during conditions of a 100-year (1% annual chance) flood and (2) be placed above, or protected against, the structural, process, and electrical equipment damage that might occur in an event that results in a water elevation above the 100-year (1% annual chance) flood. The level of protection depends on how critical a component of the facility is to operation of the facility. Specifically, critical equipment of these facilities should be protected against damage up to a water surface elevation that is 3 feet above the 100-year flood elevation. Non-critical equipment should be protected against damage up to a water surface elevation that is 2 feet above the 100-year flood elevation." All CWSRF Project Engineers complete the design review with this standard and also incorporate the EPA's Executive Order for Federal Flood risk management and the Maine Won't Wait initiative to the best of their abilities before approval.

Miles of water or sewer infrastructure repaired or built \*

There are 9 contracts that have been awarded thus far and approximately 100%.

The Department will monitor construction design activity and timeliness. \*

All construction designs are reviewed and approved prior to bidding by the Maine DEP Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) assigned Project Engineer. Currently, there are 9 construction contracts in various stages (Preliminary Design, 75-90% Design Review, 100% Design) of design. Half have completed the design process and are preparing for the bidding and construction phase.

The Department will monitor bidding and construction award activities to ensure a public process and award to lowest responsible and responsive bidder. \*

Grantees procure construction and/or equipment services through a competitive bidding procurement process, thus insuring a fair and reasonable cost. All construction bidding and construction awards are completed publicly and given to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder. All bids and awards must be approved by the Maine DEP CWSRF assigned Project Engineer before construction can begin.

The Department will monitor the construction time utilized and compare it to the construction funds expended to assure project is on schedule. This data will be collected, generally monthly, at construction meetings and from grant payment requests. \*

During construction, monitoring is completed on a monthly basis, however, it will be increased as needed if the subrecipient's personnel changes substantially and/or the contractors productivity decreases, which will be determined by the DEP CWSRF Project Engineer. At each monthly meeting, a review is completed, which includes; the last month's work, upcoming work, review of the construction schedule, review of the payment application, change orders, shop drawings, and any other items of concern.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Municipal Wastewater - Combined Sewer Overflows

### Project Information

Control Number \*

S.69.3

Funding Amount

\$4,017,988

Initiative Name

Municipal Wastewater & infrastructure Projects

Project Name

Municipal Wastewater - Combined Sewer Overflows

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.4-Clean Water: Combined Sewer Overflows

### Project Overview

Project Description

The project to be funded with the FY 2022 allotment is a pumping station upgrade to abate Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs). Projects to be funded with the FY 2023 allotment will align with US Treasury Expenditure Category 5.4.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in February 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 01/06/2022.

Partners

Projects from the FY 2022 allotment will involve the following state agencies and external organizations:  
MaineDepartment of Environmental Protection Clean Water State Revolving Fund - co-funding of projects  
State agencies and external organizations involved with the projects from the FY 2023 allotment could be listed above and/or also include:  
USDA Rural Development - co-funding of projects  
HUD Community Development Block Grants - co-funding of projects  
Northern Borders Regional Commission - co-funding

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/municipal-wastewater-infrastructure-grants>

### Key Performance Indicators

Please describe how the project contributes to addressing climate change and/or advances the Justice40 initiative

\*

Maine DEP CWSRF program satisfies all EPA's guidance using an affordability criteria (Medium Household Income (MHI), Poverty Rate, Unemployment Rate, 10-year Population trend, Sewer Rate as a percent of the MHI) which are compared to the State of Maine averages. Funding has been awarded to those that rank highest on the affordability criteria matrix which in turn helps those communities that need the most assistance. This has proven to be successful and more than 40% of the awarded projects are also located in the EPA developed CEJST mapping tool for potential designated disadvantaged communities or partially disadvantaged communities.

Projects contribute to the climate change initiative during the design phase. All projects are reviewed in accordance with the Technical Report 16 (TR-16) Guidance for the design of wastewater treatment works, which states, "All New pump stations, new facilities within a treatment plant and new wastewater treatment plants should (1) provide for uninterrupted operation of all units during conditions of a 100-year (1% annual chance) flood and (2) be placed above, or protected against, the structural, process, and electrical equipment damage that might occur in an event that results in a water elevation above the 100-year (1% annual chance) flood. The level of protection depends on how critical a component of the facility is to operation of the facility. Specifically, critical equipment of these facilities should be protected against damage up to a water surface elevation that is 3 feet above the 100-year flood elevation. Non-critical equipment should be protected against damage up to a water surface elevation that is 2 feet above the 100-year flood elevation." All CWSRF Project Engineers complete the design review with this standard and also incorporate the EPA's Executive Order for Federal Flood risk management and the Maine Won't Wait initiative to the best of their abilities before approval.

Miles of water or sewer infrastructure repaired or built \*

There are 3 contracts awarded and 100% obligated. All the communities that are working hard to complete these Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) projects are competed to removing wastewater from the waterbodies of the State.

The Department will monitor construction design activity and timeliness. \*

All construction designs are reviewed and approved prior to bidding by the Maine DEP Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) assigned Project Engineer. Currently, there are 3 construction contracts in various stages (Preliminary Design, 75-90% Design Review, 100% Design) of design. All have completed the design process and only 15% left to send.

The Department will monitor bidding and construction award activities to ensure a public process and award to lowest responsible and responsive bidder. \*

Grantees procure construction and/or equipment services through a competitive bidding procurement process, thus insuring a fair and reasonable cost. All construction bidding and construction awards are completed publicly and given to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder. All bids and awards must be approved by the Maine DEP CWSRF assigned Project Engineer before construction can begin.

The Department will monitor the construction time utilized and compare it to the construction funds expended to assure project is on schedule. This data will be collected, generally monthly, at construction meetings and from grant payment requests. \*

During construction, monitoring is completed on a monthly basis, however, it will be increased as needed if the subrecipient's personnel changes substantially and/or the contractors productivity decreases, which will be determined by the DEP CWSRF Project Engineer. At each monthly meeting, a review is completed, which includes; the last month's work, upcoming work, review of the construction schedule, review of the payment application, change orders, shop drawings, and any other items of concern.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Septic Repair & Replacement

### Project Information

Control Number \*

S.70.1

Funding Amount

\$3,000,000

Initiative Name

Septic Repair & Replacement

Project Name

Septic Repair & Replacement

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.3-Clean Water: Decentralized Wastewater

### Project Overview

Project Description

This initiative repairs or replaces small sub-surface wastewater septic systems. The Clean Water State Revolving Fund defines these as Decentralized Systems, thus making them eligible under Expenditure Category 5.3 Clean Water: Decentralized Wastewater in the US Treasury SLFRF Compliance and Reporting Guidance.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in February 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 01/07/2022.

Partners

Department of Environmental Protection coordinates this activity with municipal and county officials.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/municipal-wastewater-infrastructure-grants>

### Key Performance Indicators

The Department will monitor construction design activity and timeliness. \*

The Maine DEP assigned Project Engineer will assist the community through all phases from the design, bidding, construction and payment applications needed to correct the existing failing disposal system. The Project Engineer assists the community through a detailed Project Milestone Checklist which can be found on the website above giving approvals along the way. This keeps the project moving and the timeline is easily monitored and adjusted if necessary.

The Department will monitor bidding and construction award activities to ensure a public process and award to lowest responsible and responsive bidder. \*

Grantees procure construction and/or equipment services through a competitive bidding procurement process, thus insuring a fair and reasonable cost. All construction bidding and construction awards are completed publicly and given to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder. All bids and awards must be approved by the Maine DEP CWSRF assigned Project Engineer before construction can begin.

In addition, the Department will collect project-level information including:

- \* Projected and actual construction start date,
- \* Projected and actual initiation of operations date, and
- \* National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Number are not applicable to these projects. EPA does not license subsurface wastewater disposal. \*

All project data and timelines are documented for each systems repair using the Project Milestone Checklist.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

Miles of water or sewer infrastructure repaired or built \*

All contracts are setup and 45 in the process with nearly 75% spent. Subsurface wastewater disposal systems fail for a variety of reasons and need to be replaced. These funds are being used for the State of Maine citizens that have an income of less than \$40,000 per year. More information can be found on the website located <https://www.maine.gov/dep/water/grants/scgp.html>.



## Public Water Systems - Drinking Water Treatment

### Project Information

Control Number \*

S.71.1

Funding Amount

\$3,406,797.9

Initiative Name

Public Water System Improvements

Project Name

Public Water Systems - Drinking Water Treatment

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.10-Drinking water: Treatment

### Project Overview

Project Description

Through its Drinking Water Program, the Maine CDC will expand efforts to address imminent risks to public health through investments in the safety of public water infrastructure. This portion of funding will be used to upgrade drinking water treatment systems, to remove natural and synthetic contaminants that threaten public health, including perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), arsenic, radon, bacteria and algal toxins, consistent with US Treasury Expenditure Category 5.10 Drinking Water-Treatment.

Expense Category: 5.10 Drinking Water: Treatment  
\$5M total

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/01/2022.

Partners

- Maine Municipal Bond Bank assists with funding allocation
- Maine Rural Water Association assists with communication and coordination
- Maine Water Utilities Association assists with communication and coordination

The Maine Municipal Bond Bank is the Drinking Water Program's partner in the State Revolving Fund infrastructure improvement program, but will not be involved with the ARPA fund distribution.

The Maine Rural Water Association and the Maine Water Utilities Association will assist the Drinking Water Program in reaching out to potential fund recipients to make them aware of this opportunity, and to assist them in applying for the funds.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/drinking-water-infrastructure-improvement>

## Key Performance Indicators

Population served by infrastructure improvements. \*

82,831

Percentage of funds allocated to disadvantaged communities. \*

37%

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

Funds allocated to public water systems on an annual basis, by community. \*

|                  | 2022      | 2023      | 2024      |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Caribou          | \$0       | \$0       | \$532,000 |
| Ellsworth        | \$0       | \$300,000 |           |
| Grand Isle       | \$0       | \$0       | \$860,000 |
| Kennebunk        | \$0       | \$0       | \$84,000  |
| Kennebunkport    | \$0       | \$0       | \$84,000  |
| Wells            | \$0       | \$0       | \$85,000  |
| Parsonfield      | \$0       | \$140,000 | \$950,000 |
| Sanford          | \$0       | \$29,000  |           |
| Stonington       | \$0       | \$0       | \$950,000 |
| Limerick         | \$284,100 | \$0       |           |
| Bath             | \$486,600 | \$0       | \$300,000 |
| Southwest Harbor | \$79,200  | \$0       |           |

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

12

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

At this time no funds have been spent on technical assistance. Currently reviewing the identified metric to determine if still applicable and/or if it should be updated for next annual reporting cycle

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

172

## Public Water Systems - Transmission & Distribution

### Project Information

Control Number \*

S.71.2

Funding Amount

\$21,567,910.93

Initiative Name

Public Water System Improvements

Project Name

Public Water Systems - Transmission & Distribution

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.11-Drinking water: Transmission & Distribution

### Project Overview

Project Description

Through its Drinking Water Program, the Maine CDC will expand efforts to address imminent risks to public health through investments in the safety of public water infrastructure. This portion of funding will be used to repair and replace aging drinking water transmission mains and distribution piping to ensure reliable and safe delivery of drinking water to homes, schools and businesses, consistent with US Treasury Expenditure Category 5.11 Drinking Water-Transmission & Distribution.

Expensive Category: 5.11 Drinking Water: Transmission & Distribution  
\$20M total

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in January 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 02/01/2022.

Partners

- Maine Municipal Bond Bank assists with funding allocation
- Maine Rural Water Association assists with communication and coordination
- Maine Water Utilities Association assists with communication and coordination

The Maine Municipal Bond Bank is the Drinking Water Program's partner in the State Revolving Fund infrastructure improvement program, but will not be involved with the ARPA fund distribution.

The Maine Rural Water Association and the Maine Water Utilities Association will assist the Drinking Water Program in reaching out to potential fund recipients to make them aware of this opportunity, and to assist them in applying for the funds.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/drinking-water-infrastructure-improvement>

Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

42

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

At this time no funds have been spent on technical assistance. Currently reviewing the identified metric to determine if still applicable and/or if it should be updated for next annual reporting cycle.

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

652

Miles of water or sewer infrastructure repaired or built \*

20

Funds allocated to public water systems on an annual basis, by community. \*

|                 | 2022        | 2023      | 2024        | 2025      |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| Bangor          | \$2,223,600 | \$0       | \$0         | \$0       |
| Calais          | \$976,000   | \$0       | \$0         | \$0       |
| Dixfield        | \$201,900   | \$0       | \$404,250   | \$0       |
| Milbridge       | \$251,800   | \$0       | \$0         | \$0       |
| Searsport       | \$559,200   | \$0       | \$0         | \$0       |
| Stonington      | \$411,750   | \$0       | \$757,050   | \$0       |
| Vinalhaven      | \$0         | \$506,100 | \$0         | \$0       |
| Berwick         | \$0         | \$247,000 | \$0         | \$0       |
| Brewer          | \$0         | \$201,000 | \$554,050   | \$0       |
| Caribou         | \$0         | \$66,000  | \$0         | \$0       |
| Clinton         | \$0         | \$165,000 | \$0         | \$0       |
| Dexter          | \$0         | \$21,000  | \$0         | \$0       |
| Ellsworth       | \$0         | \$157,000 | \$567,000   | \$0       |
| Fort Kent       | \$0         | \$300,000 | \$0         | \$0       |
| Augusta         | \$0         | \$642,000 | \$0         | \$0       |
| Gray            | \$0         | \$23,000  | \$0         | \$0       |
| Damariscotta    | \$0         | \$542,000 | \$950,000   | \$0       |
| Houlton         | \$0         | \$166,000 | \$0         | \$0       |
| Limerick        | \$0         | \$26,000  | \$0         | \$0       |
| Lincoln         | \$0         | \$69,000  | \$0         | \$0       |
| Madawaska       | \$0         | \$31,000  | \$0         | \$0       |
| Mars Hill       | \$0         | \$133,000 | \$0         | \$0       |
| Monmouth        | \$0         | \$49,000  | \$0         | \$0       |
| Newport         | \$0         | \$74,000  | \$0         | \$0       |
| Norridgewock    | \$0         | \$158,000 | \$0         | \$0       |
| Old Town        | \$0         | \$121,000 | \$0         | \$0       |
| Pittsfield      | \$0         | \$109,000 | \$0         | \$0       |
| Portland        | \$0         | \$958,000 | \$0         | \$0       |
| Sanford         | \$0         | \$205,000 | \$950,000   | \$0       |
| Winthrop        | \$0         | \$31,000  | \$0         | \$333,000 |
| Wiscasset       | \$0         | \$150,000 | \$0         | \$0       |
| Yarmouth        | \$0         | \$195,000 | \$0         | \$0       |
| Brunswick       | \$0         | \$198,000 | \$0         | \$0       |
| Kennebunk       | \$0         | \$482,600 | \$0         | \$0       |
| Livermore Falls | \$0         | \$383,000 | \$560,000   | \$0       |
| Solon           | \$0         | \$175,000 | \$0         | \$0       |
| Baileyville     | \$0         | \$0       | \$895,500   | \$0       |
| Waterville      | \$0         | \$0       | \$1,122,500 | \$0       |
| Arundel         | \$0         | \$0       | \$194,000   |           |
| Camden          | \$0         | \$0       | \$919,000   |           |
| Freeport        | \$0         | \$0       | \$161,000   |           |

Population served by infrastructure improvements. \*

395,309

Percentage of funds allocated to disadvantaged communities. \*

24.53%

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## State Parks Maintenance & Capital Projects

### Project Information

Control Number \*

T.72.1

Funding Amount

\$41,541,501.62

Initiative Name

Civil Engineers to Improve State Parks & Tourism

Project Name

State Parks Maintenance & Capital Projects

Sub-Expenditure Category

3.5-Public Sector Capacity: Administrative Needs

### Project Overview

Project Description

Maine State Parks experienced record levels of use during the pandemic, breaking visitation records in both 2020 and 2021. This heavy usage contributed to further deterioration of facilities and structures that were already overdue for maintenance or renovation. The Bureau of Parks and Lands has developed a list of approximately 300 maintenance, repair, restoration, and improvement projects necessary to provide a quality visitor experience. These projects include:

- long-planned maintenance initiatives to address facilities impacted by heavy use (e.g., repairs and upgrades to bathhouse plumbing Wifi enhancements),
- structural renovation projects that will facilitate greater public use (e.g., redesign of park entrance stations and administrative offices to allow physical distancing and improve air flow), and
- many other projects would allow State Parks to handle more visitors safely (e.g., improvements to bridges, roads, picnic shelters, playgrounds, and other facilities).

In addition, ARPA funds will be used to hire two term-limited positions to oversee and implement this work: a Senior Planner and a Civil Engineer II.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 04/25/2022.

Partners

Bureau of Parks and Land (BPL) frequently collaborates with land trusts and municipalities on infrastructure improvements (e.g., the Town of Phippsburg and Fort Popham pier and parking improvements. The Bureau works with partners to operate and maintain state-owned facilities (e.g., Fort Knox/Friends of Fort Knox, Camden Hills/Tanglewood 4H Camps, Scarborough Beach/Black Point Associates). The Bureau will collaborate with these partners in the planning and implementation of projects at these locations.

BPL will work closely with Department of Administrative and Financial Services to ensure review and approval of contracting procedures. For road work, there will likely be opportunities for collaboration with Maine Department of Transportation (e.g., coordinating on pavement projects when crews are in the vicinity of parks). BPL frequently works with the Maine Office of Outdoor Recreation and the Maine Office of Tourism to coordinate outreach on recreational use. That office will likely assist with messages regarding park construction and associated limitations.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/maintain-maine-state-parks>

## Key Performance Indicators

Numbers of miles of State Park roads resurfaced \*

Completed (Miles of road repaved):

1. Mount Blue State Park (2.3 Miles)
2. Rangeley Lake State Park (2.6 Miles)
3. Sebago Lake State Park (5.4 Miles)
4. Ferry Beach State Park (0.6 Miles)
5. Crescent Beach State Park (0.6 Miles)
6. Kettle Cove State Park (0.1 Miles)
7. Bradbury Mountain State Park (0.6 Miles)
8. Two Lights State Park (0.3 Miles)
9. Lily Bay State Park (2.3 Miles)
10. Cobscook Bay State Park (1.2 Miles)
11. Lamoine State Park (1.0 Mile)
12. Camden Hills State Park (1.2 Miles)
13. Peaks-Kenny State Park (3.0 Miles)
14. Fort Point State Park (1.3 Miles)
15. Moose Point State Park (0.6 Miles)
16. Swan Lake State Park (0.8)

Total: (23.9 total miles)

In addition to paving roads, 5 Maine State Parks projects to roads and parking lots are funded for construction. The Camden Hills State Park Mt. Battie Access Road Reconstruction Project and the Two Lights State Park Entrance Road Widening and Pedestrian Access Lane Project are complete.

Number of electrical hook-up stations added \*

BPL's intent was to add water and electrical hook-ups for RVs to non-island Maine State Park campgrounds. RV hook-ups were designed for campsites, where practical. Due to high construction bids many of the designed hook-ups did not proceed to construction.

8 electric and water hook-ups are designed. 2 projects are funded for construction. 1 electric and water hook-ups project is complete.

Construction phase:

1. Cobscook Bay State Park Campground Electric and Water Hook-ups

Construction complete:

1. Camden Hills State Park – Water Hook-ups only



Number of restroom/shower facilities renovated \*

13 restroom/shower facility projects are designed. 6 restroom/shower facility projects are funded for construction. 1 restroom/shower facility project is complete.

Construction phase:

1. Cobscook Bay State Park Bathhouse
2. Range Pond State Park Bathroom
3. Wolfe's Neck Woods State Park Bathroom
4. Swan Lake State Park Bathroom
5. Aroostook State Park Bathhouse

Construction complete:

1. Lake St. George Day-use Bathroom Repairs and Upgrades

Number of State Park entrance booths improved or replaced \*

11 entrance station projects are designed. 6 entrance station projects are funded for construction. 2 entrance station projects are complete.

Construction phase:

1. Sebago Lake State Park Day-use Entrance Station
2. Lamoine State Park Entrance Booth Renovations
3. Wolfe's Neck Woods State Park Entrance Station
4. Cobscook Bay State Park Entrance Booth Heat Pumps

Construction complete:

1. Reid State Park Entrance Station
2. Two Lights State Park Entrance Station

Number of other State Park structures (e.g., offices, residences) renovated or replaced \*

36 park structure renovation/replacement projects were designed. 11 park structure renovation/replacement projects are funded for construction. 3 park structure renovation/replacement projects are complete.

Construction phase:

1. Reid State Park Manager's Residence and Todd's Point Bathroom Roof Replacements
2. Swan Lake State Park Replacement Footbridge
3. Rangeley Lake State Park Manager's Residence Renovation
4. Cobscook Bay State Park Pole Barn A
5. Cobscook Bay State Park Pole Barn B
6. Lamoine State Park Barn Renovations
7. Quoddy Head State Park Roof Replacements
8. Quoddy Head State Park Lighthouse Renovations

Construction complete:

1. Reid State Park Griffith's Head Bridge Replacement
2. Fort Point State Park Dolphin Piling Installation
3. Fort Point State Park Barn and Shop Electrical Upgrades

Number of new equipment items purchased \*

Maine State Parks has received the following new equipment under T.72.1:

- 53 UTVs
- 12 Tractors
- 3 Outboard Motors
- 1 Snowblower
- 4 Track Loaders
- 2 Excavators

Approximately \$20,000 in smaller equipment was purchased with ARPA funds. This equipment included power pruners, electric tool kits, plasma cutters, saws, and other similar tools.

Number of boat access improvements \*

4 boating access projects are designed. 6 boating access projects are funded for construction. 3 boating access projects are complete.

Construction phase:

1. Sebago Lake State Park Campground Boat Launch Resurfacing
2. Rangeley Lake State Park Bulkhead Replacement and Boat Launch Improvements

Construction complete:

1. Rangeley Lake State Park Wave Boom Attenuators
2. Aroostook State Park Boat Launch Upgrades
3. Fort Point State Park Boat Launch Upgrades

Number of septage disposal facilities improved or replaced \*

8 septic disposal facility projects are designed. 7 septic disposal facility projects are funded for construction. 2 septic disposal facility projects are complete.

Construction phase:

1. Mount Blue State Park Trailer Service Station Improvements and Leach Field Replacement
2. Rangeley Lake State Park Trailer Service Station Improvements
3. Cobscook Bay State Park Trailer Service Station and Leach Field
4. Swan Lake State Park Bathroom Leach Field
5. Aroostook State Park Trailer Service Station and Leach Field

Construction complete:

1. Penobscot River Corridor State Park - Horserace Septic Replacement
2. Sebago Lake State Park Trailer Service and Campground Leach Field Replacements

Number of projects that enhance or improve access for those with disabilities \*

All new public buildings are being built to ADA standards to improve accessibility for employees and the general public. Examples include accessible entrance stations, single-entry accessible restrooms and shower rooms, accessible trailer service stations, parking areas, building ramps, and widened road shoulders for accessible pedestrian use. ARPA funds were used to design multiple accessible playgrounds, but due to funding limitations, Maine State Parks only awarded one construction contract that includes playground equipment at Cobscook Bay State Park.

In addition to paving park roads, ARPA funds are being used to repave or expand paved areas to increase accessibility and connectivity between accessible facilities. As part of this effort, many existing ADA parking spaces are receiving new striping and signage, and in some locations, new parking areas and paved pathways are being added.

ARPA Funds were used to purchase ADA beach mats for 7 Maine State Parks.

Number of state parks (or %) of parks or historic sites addressed by ARPA funding \*

27 Maine State Parks have benefited from ARPA funding. Historic Sites are not eligible for ARPA funding. The list of parks funded using ARPA includes:

- Allagash Wilderness Waterway
- Aroostook State Park
- Bradbury Mountain State Park
- Camden Hills State Park
- Cobscook Bay State Park
- Crescent Beach State Park
- Ferry Beach State Park
- Fort Point State Park
- Holbrook Island Sanctuary
- Lake Saint George State Park
- Lamoine State Park
- Lily Bay State Park
- Moose Point State Park
- Mount Blue State Park
- Peaks-Kenny State Park
- Penobscot River Corridor
- Popham Beach State Park
- Quoddy Head State Park
- Range Pond State Park
- Rangeley Lake State Park
- Reid State Park
- Sebang Lake State Park
- Swan Lake State Park
- Two Lights State Park
- Warren Island State Park
- Wolfe's Neck Woods State Park
- Laudholm Beach State Park

Successful hiring and implementation of two term-limited positions \*

Two term-limited Senior Planner positions were occupied during the reporting period July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 to support project management, contract administration, and ARPA reporting functions. On June 24, 2024, one of the two term-limited Senior Planner positions was vacated. BPL filled the vacancy on September 30, 2024. Both positions were occupied September 30, 2024 – June 30, 2025.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

BPL encumbered all but ~\$600,000 of the available ARPA funding. The ~\$600,000 spending shortfall was due to multiple appeals during a bidding process for watercraft, and there was not a sufficient amount of time to resolve the appeal and encumber the watercraft prior to the ARPA encumbrance deadline of December 31, 2024. Any funds remaining to be obligated by the 12/31/2024 were reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives pursuant to Public Law 2023, Chapter 643 Part- D .

Currently, many projects are in the construction phase and are on track for completion by June 30, 2026. Some projects have been completed and made operational. Many projects that were designed with ARPA funding were not funded for construction due to funding limitations.

In addition to projects described in response to the reporting criteria above, significant improvements to park utilities, heating and cooling, and other mechanical systems were designed and constructed using ARPA funding at Maine State Park.

In addition to utility improvements and mechanical improvements that took place as part of new building projects, the following utility improvements and mechanical upgrades were independent projects that included underground electrical, underground data upgrades, water system improvements, installation of heat pump water and air heating and cooling units, and other mechanical equipment improvements.

1. Lake St. George State Park Electrical and Water Utility Upgrades
2. Lake St. George State Park Generators and Heat Pumps
3. Range Pond State Park Underground Electrical and Communication Utility Improvements
4. Rangeley Lake State Park Well Pump House and Water System Upgrades
5. Camden Hills State Park Water System Upgrades
6. Swan Lake State Park Utility Upgrades
7. Quoddy Head State Park Back-up Power Generator
8. Peaks Kenny State Park Well Drilling
9. Bradbury Mountain State Park Water System Upgrades

All of the projects listed above were designed and constructed using ARPA funding.

The projects listed below were not funded for construction:

1. Mount Blue State Park Underground Power Upgrades
2. Mount Blue State Park Well Development
3. Bradbury Mountain State Park Well Pumphouse

## State Parks Maintenance and Operations - Economic

### Project Information

Control Number \*

T.72.3

Funding Amount

\$1,489,460.27

Initiative Name

Civil Engineers to Improve State Parks & Tourism

Project Name

State Parks Maintenance and Operations - Economic

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.35-Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

### Project Overview

Project Description

Maine's state parks are a lynchpin of the state's tourist economy. State parks have a lengthy list of infrastructure needs, ranging from plumbing and road repairs to replacement and renovation of critical structures. These funds support the purchase of additional equipment items that are critical to the ongoing maintenance and operation of state parks, including mowers, trailers, generators, boats, and other items.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved as an adjacent project to T.72.1 that was approved through Maine's internal documentation process June 2022, activities are ongoing as of 9/6/2023.

Partners

Bureau of Parks and Lands frequently collaborates with land trusts and municipalities on infrastructure improvements. The Bureau works with partners to operate and maintain state-owned facilities. The Bureau will collaborate with these partners in the planning and implementation of projects at these locations. The Bureau will work closely with Department of Administration and Financial Services to ensure review and approval of contracting and purchasing procedures.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/maintain-maine-state-parks>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of new equipment items purchased \*

Maine State Parks has purchased the following under T.72.3:

- 1 Tracked Groomer
- 18 Tractors
- 17 Snowmobiles
- 42 mowers
- 5 Generators
- 3 Snowmobile Trailer, 4 places
- 1 snowmobile Trailer, 2 places
- 2 Enclosed Equipment Trailer
- 6 Dump Trailers, 14-ft
- 20 Canoes
- 3 Pacific Skiffs, 19ft, with trailers
- 12 Outboard boat motors
- 1 SnoDog Groomer

Numbers of miles of State Park roads resurfaced \*

Please refer to the T.72.1 business case. T.72.3 is an adjacent business case that supports the long-term maintenance of improvements made under business case T.72.1

Number of electrical hook-up stations added \*

Please refer to the T.72.1 business case. T.72.3 is an adjacent business case that supports the long-term maintenance of improvements made under business case T.72.1

Number of restroom/shower facilities renovated \*

Please refer to the T.72.1 business case. T.72.3 is an adjacent business case that supports the long-term maintenance of improvements made under business case T.72.1

Number of State Park entrance booths improved or replaced \*

Please refer to the T.72.1 business case. T.72.3 is an adjacent business case that supports the long-term maintenance of improvements made under business case T.72.1

Number of other State Park structures (e.g., offices, residences) renovated or replaced \*

Please refer to the T.72.1 business case. T.72.3 is an adjacent business case that supports the long-term maintenance of improvements made under business case T.72.1

Number of boat access improvements \*

Please refer to the T.72.1 business case. T.72.3 is an adjacent business case that supports the long-term maintenance of improvements made under business case T.72.1

Number of septage disposal facilities improved or replaced \*

Please refer to the T.72.1 business case. T.72.3 is an adjacent business case that supports the long-term maintenance of improvements made under business case T.72.1

Number of projects that enhance or improve access for those with disabilities \*

Please refer to the T.72.1 business case. T.72.3 is an adjacent business case that supports the long-term maintenance of improvements made under business case T.72.1

Number of state parks (or %) of parks or historic sites addressed by ARPA funding \*

Please refer to the T.72.1 business case. T.72.3 is an adjacent business case that supports the long-term maintenance of improvements made under business case T.72.1

Successful hiring and implementation of two term-limited positions \*

Please refer to the T.72.1 business case. T.72.3 is an adjacent business case that supports the long-term maintenance of improvements made under business case T.72.1

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Please refer to the T.72.1 business case. T.72.3 is an adjacent business case that supports the long-term maintenance of improvements made under business case T.72.1

## Improve Effluent at 8 Fish Culture Facilities

### Project Information

Control Number \*

U.73.1

Funding Amount

\$3,179,105

Initiative Name

Improve Fish Hatcheries & Effluents

Project Name

Improve Effluent at 8 Fish Culture Facilities

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.1-Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment

### Project Overview

Project Description

Four of the (8) existing fish culture facilities have installed infrastructure to mechanically remove suspended solids (and associated phosphorus). Similar investments are needed at the remaining 4 facilities along with potential tertiary at all locations. Additional reductions in phosphorus will require use of much more refined and expensive technologies, including the likely use of chemicals to precipitate phosphorus. Additionally, more rigorous phosphorus standards are being proposed by Maine DEP that will require additional investments. The goal of these investments will be to maintain existing fish production of high quality, disease-free fish, as well as to improve and potentially introduce efficiencies and modernization of antiquated infrastructure to potentially increase fish production, and remain/obtain compliance with our wastewater discharge licenses.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in October 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 06/06/2022.

Partners

Maine Department of Environmental Protection: Commissioner  
Sportsman's Alliance of Maine: Fish Hatchery Advisory Committee,

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/fish-hatchery-infrastructure-revitalization>

### Key Performance Indicators



Maintain compliance with DEP wastewater discharge license with existing or expanded fish production levels in place. Facility staff collect water samples monthly to be tested for a number of components in the wastewater discharge license for the facility. These samples are tested by the Health and Environmental Testing Lab in Augusta. Test results are reported to the Hatchery Division and Maine DEP. \*

1. Engineering plans for upgrading effluent treatment at Grand Lake Stream Hatchery are 100% complete. Project is out to bid with construction contract award projected for September 2023.
2. Engineering plans for upgrading effluent treatment at the New Gloucester Hatchery are 90% complete.
3. Engineering Contract has been issued (July 2023) to create design plans for effluent upgrades at the remaining (6) DIFW hatchery facilities. This contract is just under \$1M.
4. Bid received 2023 from only 1 contractor over Engineers Budget.
  - a. Project rebid in June of 2024 with a bid date of July 18, 2024
  - b. Bid date extended to August 15, 2024, due to lack of bidders.
2. Effluent treatment at the New Gloucester Hatchery currently out to bid with a bid date of August 15, 2024.
3. Effluent upgrade designs at the remaining 6 DIFW hatchery facilities are currently at 95%.
5. Effluent treatment at Grand Lake Stream part of larger project # 3289
  - a. Bid Opening- October 4th, 2024
  - b. Low Bidder- Doten's Construction- \$12,237,000
  - c. Contract Award Date: November 20th, 2024
  - d. Project Commencement Date: April 21st, 2025
  - e. Substantial Completion Date: December 31, 2025
  - f. Final Completion Date: June 30th, 2026
6. Effluent treatment at New Gloucester Hatchery part of larger project # 3289
  - a. Bid Opening- August 28, 2024
  - b. Low Bidder- Ganneston Construction-\$10,829,350
  - c. Contract Award Date: September 27th, 2024
  - d. Project Commencement Date: October 28th, 2024
  - e. Substantial Completion Date: November 30th, 2025
  - f. Final Completion Date: May 31st, 2026
7. Emden Hatchery effluent treatment project #3289 (Installation of clarifier and sludge storage tank)
  - a. Bid Opening- October 28th, 2024
  - b. Low Bidder- APEX Construction-\$2,369,750
  - c. Contract Award Date: November 17th, 2024
  - d. Project Commencement Date: April 28th, 2025
  - e. Substantial Completion Date: December 31st, 2025
  - f. Final Completion Date: June 30th, 2026
8. Final engineering designs for effluent treatment (chemical dosing system) at (5) remaining hatcheries completed in 2024.

Measure oxygen levels leaving facility(w/ bulk o2) using monthly avg O2 concentration (also tied to discharge compliance @ 7.5 mg/l min)- Data collected weekly by on-site staff, reviewed monthly by facility manager and DEP \*

1. Engineering plans are 100% complete and project is out to bid for bulk oxygen installation at Grand Lake Stream Hatchery.
2. Engineering plans are 90% complete for including bulk oxygen installation as part of the complete rebuild of the New Gloucester Hatchery.
3. Bid received 2023 from only 1 contractor over Engineers Budget.
  - a. Project rebid in June of 2024 with a bid date of July 18, 2024
  - b. Bid date extended to August 15, 2024 due to lack of bidders.
4. Bulk Oxygen system at New Gloucester Hatchery currently out to bid with a bid date of Augusts 15,2024
5. Bulk Oxygen at Grand Lake Stream part of larger project # 3289
  - a. Bid Opening- October 4th, 2024
  - b. Low Bidder- Doten's Construction- \$12,237,000
  - c. Contract Award Date: November 20th, 2024
  - d. Project Commencement Date: April 21st, 2025
  - e. Substantial Completion Date: December 31, 2025
  - f. Final Completion Date: June 30th, 2026
6. Effluent treatment at New Gloucester Hatchery part of larger project # 3289
  - a. Bid Opening- August 28, 2024
  - b. Low Bidder- Ganneston Construction-\$10,829,350
  - c. Contract Award Date: September 27th, 2024
  - d. Project Commencement Date: October 28th, 2024
  - e. Substantial Completion Date: November 30th, 2025
  - f. Final Completion Date: May 31st, 2026

Measure monthly average lbs/day and monthly average concentration (mg/L) of total suspended solids discharged from each facility with effluent improvements Data collected at least monthly by on-site staff, analyzed by HETL, reviewed monthly by facility manager and DEP. \*

The monitoring of total suspended solids discharged from each facility is part of the current compliance with DIFW's wastewater discharge license with DEP. Once additional upgrades are made as part of this MJRP Project we hope to enhance suspended solids removal across the entire hatchery system.

Answer unchanged from 2023

Measure monthly average lbs/day and monthly average concentration (mg/L) of total phosphorous discharged from each facility with effluent improvements Data collected at bi-weekly by on-site staff (some only June-Sept), analyzed by HETL, reviewed monthly by facility manager and DEP. \*

The monitoring of total phosphorus discharged from each facility is part of the current compliance with DIFW's wastewater discharge license with DEP. Once additional upgrades are made as part of this MJRP Project we hope to enhance compliance with total phosphorus discharge solids across the entire hatchery system.

Answer unchanged from 2023

Measure (in gallons) amount of solids ( semi-solids) removed from effluent annually for facilities with added micro-screening and solids storage improvements. Data collected annually by on-site staff or when waste is removed, reviewed by facility manager and Superintendent of Hatcheries. \*

The monitoring of solids (semi-solids) removed from each facility with micro-screening and solids storage improvements is part of the current compliance with DIFW's wastewater discharge license with DEP, for facilities having such systems. Once additional upgrades of micro-screening and solids storage improvements are made to facilities that currently do not have this technology as part of this MJRP Project we hope to enhance removal of solids (semi-solids) across the entire hatchery system.

Answer unchanged from 2023

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

U.73 is one initiative that was broken out into 3 separate projects ( business cases) U.73.1, U.73.2, and U.73.3. This project covers the effluent treatment for 8 fish hatcheries, this includes Grand Lake and New Gloucester sites. These two sites also have business cases (U.73.2 and U.73.3) for additional infrastructure improvements. Due to this there will be some overlap of the two sites between their respective business cases and U.73.1.

Answer unchanged from 2023

## Rebuild New Gloucester Fish Hatchery

### Project Information

Control Number \*

U.73.2

Funding Amount

\$11,669,216.36

Initiative Name

Improve Fish Hatcheries & Effluents

Project Name

Rebuild New Gloucester Fish Hatchery

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.1-Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment

### Project Overview

Project Description

New Gloucester is the last state hatchery facility to use earthen raceways to raise fish. The raceway banks are collapsing, and control dams are at risk of catastrophic failure. 25% of fish production is lost annually due to wildlife predation and are more susceptible to fish disease threats in this system. Proposed investments will ensure continued fish production, improve removal of phosphorus from effluent, manage fish pathogens, and reduce production losses. All brown and rainbow trout produced by the Department's hatchery system originate at this facility, which also produces 40% of the brown trout stocked. Planned investments include construction of 16 (20' diameter) covered round tanks, a new bulk oxygenation system to improve water quality, and dredging sediment from the inlet to eliminate sediment discharge into the hatchery.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in October 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 06/03/2022.

Partners

Maine Department of Environmental Protection: Commissioner  
Sportsman's Alliance of Maine: Fish Hatchery Advisory Committee,

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/fish-hatchery-infrastructure-revitalization>

### Key Performance Indicators

Maintain compliance with DEP wastewater discharge license with existing or expanded fish production levels in place. Facility staff collect water samples monthly to be tested for a number of components in the wastewater discharge license for the facility. These samples are tested by the Health and Environmental Testing Lab in Augusta. Test results are reported to the Hatchery Division and Maine DEP. \*

1. Engineering design for a state-of-the-art effluent treatment system for the complete rebuild of the New Gloucester Hatchery is 90% complete. Estimate for completing construction plans for the bid process is September 2023.
2. Construction for a state-of-the-art effluent treatment system is currently out to bid with a bid date of August 15, 2024
3. Bid Opening- August 28, 2024  
Low Bidder- Ganneston Construction-\$10,829,350  
Contract Award Date: September 27th, 2024  
Project Commencement Date: October 28th, 2024  
Substantial Completion Date: November 30th, 2025  
Final Completion Date: May 31st, 2026

Measure oxygen levels leaving facility(w/ bulk o2) using monthly avg O2 concentration (also tied to discharge compliance @ 7.5 mg/l min)- Data collected weekly by on-site staff, reviewed monthly by facility manager and DEP \*

1. Engineering design for a bulk oxygen system for the complete rebuild of the New Gloucester Hatchery is 90% complete. Estimate for completing construction plans for the bid process is September 2023.
2. New Gloucester project is currently out to bid with bids due August 15, 2024
3. Bid Opening- August 28, 2024  
Low Bidder- Ganneston Construction-\$10,829,350  
Contract Award Date: September 27th, 2024  
Substantial Completion Date: November 30th, 2025  
Final Completion Date: May 31st, 2026

Measure annual loss of fish to predation (current avg. 25% loss from fish count in to count out) Data collected throughout the year by on-site staff, reviewed annually by facility manager and Superintendent of Hatcheries \*

1. Engineering design for a covered round tank system for the complete rebuild of the New Gloucester Hatchery is 90% complete. The covered tank system will reduce fish predation. Estimate for completing construction plans for the bid process is September 2023.
2. New Gloucester project is currently out to bid with bids due August 15, 2024
3. Bid Opening- August 28, 2024  
Low Bidder- Ganneston Construction-\$10,829,350  
Contract Award Date: September 27th, 2024  
Project Commencement Date: October 28th, 2024  
Substantial Completion Date: November 30th, 2025  
Final Completion Date: May 31st, 2026

Measure increases in annual production (lbs) against historical from this location Data collected throughout the year by on-site staff, reviewed annually by facility manager and Superintendent of Hatcheries. \*

This performance indicator will be assessed once the newly rebuilt hatchery reaches full production level.

Answer unchanged from 2023

Assess status of annual recreational fishing license sales as hatcheries play a large role in the success of the states recreational fishing program. \*

This performance indicator will be assessed once this newly rebuilt hatchery reaches full production level, and additional upgrades have been made across the statewide hatchery system.

Answer unchanged from 2023

Fishing license sales trends and demographics are checked periodically throughout the year and analyzed annually by the Department licensing director and review by the Commissioner and other bureau directors \*

1. Review of fishing license sales in 2023 are expected to remain higher than pre-covid but not continuing the steep rise that was seen during the covid years 2020/2021
2. For 2024, answer unchanged from 2023
3. For 2025, License sales spiked during covid 2020/2021 there was a decline in 2023 and a rebound in sales of licenses in 2024 of 3% over previous year. Over a ten-year period, license sales have increased 13%

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

1. Appear to be on track for construction during calendar year 2024. Construction costs are expected to be considerably higher than proposed we do not have an updated estimate at this time.
2. Current construction Estimate is \$9,400,000. Project currently out to bid with a bid date of August 15, 2024
3. Bid Opening- August 28, 2024  
Low Bidder- Ganneston Construction-\$10,829,350  
Contract Award Date: September 27th, 2024  
Project Commencement Date: October 28th, 2024  
Substantial Completion Date: November 30th, 2025  
Final Completion Date: May 31st, 2026

## Grand Lake Stream Hatchery Upgrade / Expansion

### Project Information

Control Number \*

U.73.3

Funding Amount

\$12,704,629.76

Initiative Name

Improve Fish Hatcheries & Effluents

Project Name

Grand Lake Stream Hatchery Upgrade / Expansion

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.1-Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment

### Project Overview

Project Description

Investments in Grand Lake Stream Hatchery will safeguard one of the last remaining distinct landlocked salmon populations while supplying our hatchery system with disease free salmon; this facility produces 70% of the salmon stocked statewide. Installing eight circular tanks will isolate feral brood fish from production stocks of brook trout and a line of genetically represented back-up salmon broodstock. Feral brood salmon eggs are collected from West Grand Lake where this endemic population is maintained by stocking due to loss of natural spawning habitat. This isolated system will allow for more fish health testing opportunities in response to a recent pathogen detection in feral fish without compromising the rest of the facility. A new bulk oxygen system will be installed to improve water quality along with an additional storage building. Increased fish production will result in a opportunity to raise more brook trout at this facility. Planned effluent treatment will address wastewater discharge requirements.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in October 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 06/03/2022.

Partners

Maine Department of Environmental Protection: Commissioner  
Sportsman's Alliance of Maine: Fish Hatchery Advisory Committee,

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/fish-hatchery-infrastructure-revitalization>

## Key Performance Indicators

Maintain compliance with DEP wastewater discharge license with existing or expanded fish production levels in place. Facility staff collect water samples monthly to be tested for a number of components in the wastewater discharge license for the facility. These samples are tested by the Health and Environmental Testing Lab in Augusta. Test results are reported to the Hatchery Division and Maine DEP. \*

Engineering design for an updated treatment system is 100% complete and the construction plans have been put out to bid, the bid opening is August 24, 2023.

1. Bid received 2023 from only 1 contractor over Engineers Budget.
  - a. Project rebid in June of 2024 with a bid date of July 18, 2024
  - b. Bid date extended to August 15, 2024 due to lack of bidders.
2. Bid Opening- October 4th, 2024  
Low Bidder- Doten's Construction- \$12,237,000  
Contract Award Date: November 20th, 2024  
Project Commencement Date: April 21st, 2025  
Substantial Completion Date: December 31, 2025  
Final Completion Date: June 30th, 2026

Measure fish health status (biosecurity) of fish lots held at the facility with annual fish health testing (can compare between tank and raceway systems) \*

Engineering design for additional round tanks at Grand Lake Stream Hatchery to increase biosecurity is 100% complete, construction plans have been put out to bid, the bid opening is August 24, 2023.

1. Bid received from only 1 contractor over Engineers Budget.
  - a. Project rebid in June of 2024 with a bid date of July 18, 2024
  - b. Bid date extended to August 15, 2024 due to lack of bidders.
2. Bid Opening- October 4th, 2024  
Lob Bidder- Doten's Construction- \$12,237,000  
Contract Award Date: November 20th, 2024  
Project Commencement Date: April 21st, 2025  
Substantial Completion Date: December 31, 2025  
Final Completion Date: June 30th, 2026

Measure oxygen levels in the discharge waters from the facility(w/ bulk o2) using monthly avg O2 concentration (also tied to discharge compliance @ 7.5 mg/l min) \*

Engineering design for a bulk oxygen system at the Grand Lake Stream Hatchery is 100% complete, construction plans have been put out to bid, the bid opening is August 24, 2023.

1. Bid received from only 1 contractor over Engineers Budget.
  - a. Project rebid in June of 2024 with a bid date of July 18, 2024
  - b. Bid date extended to August 15, 2024 due to lack of bidders.
2. Bid Opening- October 4th, 2024  
Low Bidder- Doten's Construction- \$12,237,000  
Contract Award Date: November 20th, 2024  
Project Commencement Date: April 21st, 2025  
Substantial Completion Date: December 31, 2025  
Final Completion Date: June 30th, 2026



Assess status of annual recreational fishing license sales as hatcheries play a large role in the success of the states recreational fishing program. \*

This indicator will be assessed after the upgrades in the Grand Lake Stream Hatchery and the other (7) hatcheries have been completed.

Answer unchanged from 2023

Measure increases in annual production (lbs) against historical from this facility. This is measured annually by facility staff as the fish are stocked throughout the state. Statistics are reported to the hatchery manager and superintendent of hatcheries. \*

This indicator will be assessed once upgrades are completed at Grand Lake Stream Hatchery

Answer unchanged from 2023

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Award construction contract September 2023.

1. Bid received from only 1 contractor over Engineers Budget. (\$10.7M)
  - a. Project rebid in June of 2024 with a bid date of July 18, 2024
  - b. Bid date extended to August 15, 2024 due to lack of bidder
2. Bid Opening- October 4th, 2024  
Lob Bidder- Doten's Construction- \$12,237,000  
Contract Award Date: November 20th, 2024  
Project Commencement Date: April 21st, 2025  
Substantial Completion Date: December 31, 2025  
Final Completion Date: June 30th, 2026

## Improve Public Access to Recreation Facilities

### Project Information

Control Number \*

V.74.1

Funding Amount

\$1,565,000

Initiative Name

Improve Public Access to Recreation Facilities

Project Name

Improve Public Access to Recreation Facilities

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

Provides one-time funding to support energy efficiency improvements and improved public access to the ocean at the department's Boothbay Harbor facilities and improved public access at state facilities for recreational access to the ocean with rebuilt ramps, roadways and federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 compliant piers. The Department will construct a new launching ramp at the Boothbay Harbor lab, repave parking lots at the Boothbay Harbor laboratory, construct seasonal aquarium staff housing, install solar panels at the Boothbay Harbor laboratory and Burnt Island Education Center, and replace the pier, ramp and floats at the Burnt Island educational facility.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 06/30/2022.

Partners

We will be working closely with Bureau of General Services (BGS) to plan construction projects. We will need architects, engineers, construct multiple RFPs, and contract with vendors for each project.; Department of Environmental Protectionartment of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry is assisting in the design and partial funding of the Public Boat Launch. Thomas Linscott, point of contact. Department of Administrative and Financial Services (Department of Administrative and Financial Services), Bureau of General Services. We will need architects and engineers to help design Public Parking Improvement, Public Access to Pier Facilities, and Aquarium Seasonal Housing. Joseph Ostwald, point of contact.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/upgrade-boothbay-harbor-recreation-education-and-tourism-facilities>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

0

Project status: all projects in this business case are moving through procurement and the Bureau of General Services. None are contracted in FY2023.

FY2024 – No update

FY2025 – No update

The Department will monitor Maine State Aquarium attendance records and will submit direct comparisons to pre-pandemic attendance. The Department will survey visitors to the Maine State Aquarium to help determine additional demographic information, such as residency, return visitations, number in party etc.,. Information will be reviewed by Department Education program staff, who will use this data to assess access to the facility from towns across the county and nearby counties to understand if average income is impacting ability for schools to participate in Department programming. We will be able to disaggregate this information by community and recipient demographics.

\*

The Bureau of Marine Science plans to collect this data in future fiscal years. In FY2023, the aquarium was not open to the public due to pending renovations, with the exception of limited hours on three business days (June 28th-June 30th). The Department anticipates that projects completed through this business case will contribute to improved public access to the aquarium.

FY2024 – The Bureau of Marine Science plans to collect this data in future fiscal years. In FY2023, the aquarium was not open to the public due to pending renovations, with the exception of limited hours on three business days (June 28th-June 30th). In FY2024 the aquarium opened for the season on June 26, operating only a few days before the end of the current reporting period. The Department anticipates that projects completed through this business case will contribute to improved public access to the aquarium.

FY2025 - The aquarium reopened in June 2024 and the Bureau of Marine Science collected visitation data through the 2024 season. The Bureau of Marine Science will continue to track number of visitors to the aquarium in FY2026. The Department continues to anticipate that the projects completed in this business case will improve public access to Boothbay Harbor facilities including the aquarium and Burnt Island. As the aquarium operations have evolved post-pandemic, the Bureau of Marine Science does not plan to additional demographic data from aquarium visitation. However, the Bureau of Marine Science continues to provide educational curricula and opportunities through its offerings at the aquarium.

The Department will enumerate visitation logbooks on Burnt Island. The Department will survey visitors to the Burnt Island to help determine additional demographic information, such as residency, return visitations, number in party etc. Information will be reviewed by Department Education program staff. We will not be able to disaggregate this information by community and recipient demographics. \*

The Bureau of Marine Science plans to collect this data in FY2024. After a competitive RFQ process, the Department is currently working through the Architectural and Engineering contracting process with the Bureau of General Services and the selected firm for the Burnt Island Pier Improvements. Data collection will occur after the pier improvements.

FY2024 - The Bureau of Marine Science plans to collect this data in FY2025 due to a lengthier period of design work on the Burnt Island Pier. Data collection described in this indicator can commence after construction of the new pier. After a competitive RFQ process, DMR worked with the Bureau of General Services and the selected firm to contract Architectural and Engineering Services for Burnt Island Pier Improvements. The design was completed in June 2024 and will be bid out for construction at the beginning of FY2025.

FY2025 - The Bureau of Marine Science contracted with an architectural and engineering firm and completed the design of Burnt Island Pier improvements. DMR bid the design and contracted with the lowest bidder. Construction will begin in FY2026. Data collection will continue through pier improvements.

The Department will monitor State of Maine economic indicators to evaluate the post-pandemic response of tourism and recreation industries. The Department will survey users of the Public Boat Ramp to help determine additional demographic information, such as residency, return visitations, number in party etc. Information will be reviewed by Department Education program staff. We will not be able to disaggregate this information by community and recipient demographics. \*

The Bureau of Marine Science plans to collect this data in FY2024. The Department has secured cost-share from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF) Boating Facilities Fund for the boat ramp improvements. DACF administered the RFQ for this project and received two responses. DACF and the Department selected the lowest bid and entered into a cooperative agreement for the cost-shared portion of the project. The Department issued a notice of award to the selected contractor and will contract for the project in early FY2024. Data collection described in this indicator will occur after the project is complete.

FY2024 - The Bureau of Marine Science completed the boat ramp construction in FY2024 with cost share from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF) and is currently collecting this data.

FY2025 - the public boat launch was completed in early FY2025 with cost share from DACF. The Bureau of Marine Science may collect visitation data in future if necessary to augment data collection at the neighboring Aquarium or at Burnt Island in assessing trends and access.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## Economic Sustainability for State Fisheries

### Project Information

Control Number \*

V.75.1

Funding Amount

\$3,000,000

Initiative Name

Economic Sustainability for State Fisheries

Project Name

Economic Sustainability for State Fisheries

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Maine Department of Marine Resources will use Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan funding to support research and policy initiatives related to lobster fishery monitoring, addressing gaps in the understanding of the presence of North Atlantic right whales in the Gulf of Maine, and providing increased economic security for members of this important state legacy industry.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in March 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 03/20/2022.

Partners

Lobster Reporting:

1. Bluefin Data LLC – developer of harvester reporting application.
2. ACCSP – Data Depository for all data submitted through VESL app

Maine Lobster Fishery Economic Support and Research:

External partners will be determined by the funded RFP awards; For Maine Lobster Fishery Economic Support and Research, we also intend to seek to partner with Bigelow Labs.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/improve-fishing-industry-research-monitoring-and-sustainability>

### Key Performance Indicators

Lobster Reporting: Transition from paper to electronic reporting – The MEDMR will require 100% lobster harvesters to report electronically. Lobster reporting has traditionally occurred utilizing paper logsheets. MEDMR will require trip level harvester reports due by the 10th of the following month. These data will be collected through multiple electronic reporting options; however, MEDMR will be pushing for harvesters to utilize the two electronic options funded by MEDMR. These data will be audited monthly and any flagged data will be communicated directly with the industry member that reported it. Moving to 100% lobster reporting will open the door to further analytical work and remove many of the confidential data restrictions on a port level currently not possible with the current reporting levels. \*

Starting in January 2023, the Maine Department of Marine Resources (MEDMR) now requires 100% of all lobster harvesters to report electronically. This measure is still in process as the MEDMR are still onboarding harvesters that are just starting to fish this year. This measure will take until the end of the year or beyond 2023 to fully accomplish.

FY2024 – No update

FY2025 - Starting in January 2023, the MEDMR now requires 100% of all lobster harvesters to report electronically. This measure is still in process as the MEDMR are still onboarding harvesters that are just starting to fish this year. This measure will take until the end of the year or beyond 2025 to fully accomplish.

Lobster Reporting: Ability to audit all dealer and harvester records against each other to better quantify their accuracy. Currently, approximately only 10% of lobster harvesters are required to report. MEDMR compares what each harvester has reported and what each dealer has reported to find any discrepancies between pounds or vessels. These audits are vital for QA/QC purposes. Requiring 100% harvester reporting will allow this audit to expand to the entire lobster fishery. \*

This measure cannot be fully completed at this time. The MEDMR has started working on the accomplishment of this measure to help determine those that are actively fishing but have not reported. We anticipate this measure will be a continued process.

FY2024 – No update

FY2025 - No update

LFWSR: Research projects will be done to assess and mitigate the impacts of whale conservation regulations on the lobster fishery. These projects will include an assessment of economic implications of effort reduction in the fishery and habitat monitoring and modeling for right whales in the Gulf of Maine, including the spatial and temporal overlaps with the lobster fishery. These projects will be done through a combinations of Department staff and outside contracts with collaborating groups. The work will result in data products, reports, and published papers that will be available to the public on DMR's website, through releases direct to DMR's constituents, and through dedicated online portals. Results will also be made available to the regulatory and fishing communities through a series of meetings, including lobster zone council, research consortium, and take reduction team meetings. \*

Significant progress has been made towards characterizing fishing effort in the Maine lobster fishery and how new regulatory measures, such as effort reductions, may impact the fishery. This has been accomplished through a contract with the University of Maine and a publication is currently being drafted for submission to the peer-reviewed literature. Another contract with Bigelow Laboratories for Ocean Sciences has been executed to begin building new right whale models for the Gulf of Maine. Work has started collected relevant data sources and surveying stakeholders for model priorities. Work is also being done to collect and analyze passive acoustic data in the Gulf of Maine to include in the right whale habitat models being developed. This effort is supported by these funds, including the hiring of two new acoustic analysts, a contract with the University of Maine to catalogue whale vocalization, and additional contracts are planned to explore call densities and sound propagation using the datasets being collected.

FY2024 – Significant progress has been made towards characterizing fishing effort in the Maine lobster fishery and how new regulatory measures, such as effort reductions, may impact the fishery. This has been accomplished through a contract with the University of Maine and a publication is currently out for review. Another contract with Bigelow Laboratories for Ocean Sciences has been executed to begin building new right whale models for the Gulf of Maine. Work has started collected relevant data sources and surveying stakeholders for model priorities. Work is also being done to collect and analyze passive acoustic data in the Gulf of Maine to include in the right whale habitat models being developed. This effort is supported by these funds, including the hiring of two new acoustic analysts, a contract with the University of Maine to catalogue whale vocalization, and additional contracts to explore call densities and sound propagation using the datasets being collected. Work has begun on data analysis so that risk models can be generated from this dataset. Analysis work will be ongoing as deployments collect data continuously.

FY2025 - Significant progress has been made towards characterizing fishing effort in the Maine lobster fishery and how new regulatory measures, such as effort reductions, may impact the fishery. This has been accomplished through a contract with the University of Maine. A publication of the results came out on June 27, 2025 in ICES Journal of Marine Sciences and is available online. The publication will be shared on DMR's website, with the fishing industry, and the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team (the body that makes recommendations for right whale conservation measures). Another contract with Bigelow Laboratories for Ocean Sciences has been executed to begin building new right whale models for the Gulf of Maine. Work has started collected relevant data sources and surveying stakeholders for model priorities. Current priorities include classifying the occurrence of calanus plankton blooms on satellite imagery. Work is also being done to collect and analyze passive acoustic data in the Gulf of Maine to include in the right whale habitat models being developed. This effort is supported by these funds, including the salaries of two acoustic analysts, a contract with the University of Maine to catalogue whale vocalization, and additional contracts to explore call densities and sound propagation using the datasets being collected. Analysts have completed the first year of the passive acoustic dataset and has begun work on the second year of data. Risk models can be generated from this dataset. Analysis work will be ongoing as deployments collect data continuously.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The first manuscript for peer-reviewed publication from this work is currently in development for submission. MEDMR will develop and submit additional manuscripts with project partners pending further work and completion of research projects.

FY2024 – The first manuscript for peer-reviewed publication from this work is currently out for peer review. MEDMR will develop and submit additional manuscripts with project partners pending further work and completion of research projects.

FY2025 - A manuscript entitled "Fleet-wide stability masks change in the Maine lobster fishery (2008–2022)" was published on June 27, 2025 in ICES Journal of Marine Sciences (Vol 82 issue 6). MEDMR will develop and submit additional manuscripts with project partners pending further work and completion of research projects.



## Fisheries Connectivity & Habitat Restoration

### Project Information

Control Number \*

V.76.1

Funding Amount

\$7,635,000

Initiative Name

Fisheries Connectivity & Habitat Restoration

Project Name

Fisheries Connectivity & Habitat Restoration

Sub-Expenditure Category

5.6-Clean Water: Stormwater

### Project Overview

Project Description

The "Fisheries Connectivity and Habitat Restoration Program" will address community water infrastructure and climate challenges by enhancing water quality and providing jobs through construction of cost-effective, priority fish passage and habitat restoration projects. Infrastructure projects funded under this Program will improve water quality and fisheries habitat, create jobs, provide long-term socioeconomic benefits, and support enhanced ecosystem services for the benefit of people and the environment. Benefits will include improved critical water infrastructure, improved public safety, increased flood protection, enhanced opportunities for commercial and recreational fishing, and enhanced nature-based tourism opportunities.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in July 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 07/08/2022.

Partners

Department of Marine Resources is the primary organization involved in planning this Program. The agency has gathered initial ideas about priority projects through its Stream Connectivity Work Group, surveys and other outreach to restoration partners, including state agencies, towns, land trusts and other conservation organizations. Department of Marine Resources plans to solicit advice from key partners to help refine project prioritization.; Department of Marine Resources BSRF and the Coastal Program have led or participated in more than 20 partner calls, have conducted weekly internal coordination meetings and traveled to inspect potential sites. These meetings have included anticipated federal agency partners (NOAA, USFWS), state agency partners (Department of Transportation, IFW, Department of Environmental Protection, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry /MGS, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry /BPL), more than 10 non-governmental partners and municipalities. Restoration opportunities have also been discussed at meetings of the Maine Stream Connectivity Network (a statewide network of restoration practitioners and resiliency experts), and the Coastwise Tidal Practitioners group (a coastwide network of restoration and resiliency practitioners). NGO partners include the Nature Conservancy, Downeast Salmon Federation, Atlantic Salmon Federation, Maine Coast Heritage Trust, Project Share, Maine

Rivers, Casco Bay Estuary Partnership, the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve, Friends of Scarborough Marsh, and Friends of the Weskaeg River. University collaborators include the University of Maine/Sea Grant Program and the University of New Hampshire. The municipalities of Bradley, Bucksport, Lisbon, Sabattus, Meddybemps, Trenton, South Thomaston, Thomaston, Scarborough, Phippsburg, Old Orchard Beach, Rockland, Cape Elizabeth, and Addison have participated in project planning discussions. Due to the lengthy list of partners, contact information for each organization is readily available upon request from ME Department of Marine Resources.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/improve-fishing-industry-research-monitoring-and-sustainability>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

FY2024 - Cumulative 4

FY2025 - Cumulative 8

Number of water infrastructure projects that demonstrate the use of green infrastructure techniques. These data cannot be disaggregated. \*

FY2024 - 14 projects are using "best practices for habitat restoration projects" within the limits of available funding and stakeholder cooperation. Two sites use certified methodologies known as "Coastwise" and "Stream Smart" for engineering guidance.

FY2025 - Cumulative 12 projects used "best practices for habitat restoration projects" within the limits of available funding and stakeholder cooperation. Six sites use certified methodologies known as "Coastwise" and "Stream Smart" for engineering guidance and implementation. An additional two sites are using certified methodologies just in the design phase.

Number of projects that demonstrate a marked improvement in water quality and attainment of biological criteria. These data cannot be disaggregated. \*

At the close of FY2023, MEDMR anticipates that all twelve contracted projects will provide either biological gains or water quality improvements. Please see additional contextual information on the anticipated outcome of each project.

FY2024 - Please see additional contextual information on the anticipated outcome of each project.

FY2025 - Please see additional contextual information on the anticipated outcome of each project.

Number of completed projects that demonstrate a reduction in flooding. These data can likely be disaggregated. \*

FY2024 - 4: Mill Street (Nature-Like Fishway) and Old Ferry Marsh have had water level changes modeled. Lower Penobscot culverts should be resilient to large storm runoff. Walton Mills updated an old dam with new control structures and fishway.

FY2025 - 19: Nature-Like Fishways (NLF) are fish passage features resilient to large storm runoff events. 12 projects were organized around NLFs: 6 projects designed NLFs and 6 projects implemented NLFs. 7 projects were designed or design and implemented to maximize stream channel width at road crossings and thus reduce potential for flooding. 5 projects were implemented, and two projects were designed according to these criteria.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Thirty individual design and/or implementation tasks were funded, 20 are complete and 10 are in progress. Incomplete projects are in design phase to prepare projects for implementation when funding is available.

Meddybemps – For fish passage design, with no immediate bearing on water quality and attainment data (AA status as of 2006). Provides fish passage improvements at the former power site in Meddybemps and fish passage designs for the Chain Lakes project in Machias.

Walton Mills – Dam removal should provide biological gains (B status as of 2020).\* Project removes the Walton's Mills Dam in Farmington and completes additional remediation in the former headpond.

Seal Cove Pond - Nature Like Fishway should provide biological gains.\* \*\* Project develops two nature like fishways, grading, and provides permit support.

Lower Penobscot Culverts – Culvert replacements may provide biological gains(B status as of 2021). Project will replace two culverts with single arch culvert spans that incorporate "Stream Smart" and "Stream Simulation" principles.

Blackman Stream – Dam modifications and roll dam removal may provide biological gains(B status as of 2021). Project will repair a dam and conveyance structure, improve the fishway, build a water control structure, and remove a roll dam upstream.

Center Pond – Project is for fish passage implementation with no immediate bearing on water quality and attainment data\*\*Project will replace an ageing fishway for fish passage improvements in Phippsburg.

Project Share – Large Wood Debris additions may provide biological gains. Other projects create designs with no immediate biological gains.\*\* Project conducts surveys and design activities in Columbia, Pleasant River Lake and Marion, replaces a bridge near the outlet of Pleasant River Lake, andimplements in-stream habitat restoration projects.

St. Croix Fishways – Project creates designs for fish passage with no immediate biological gains (C status as of 2006).\* Pre-project data does exist to evaluate and post-project data collection planned. Project develops Woodland Dam (Baileyville) final designs and Grand Falls Dam (Kellyland) conceptual designs.

Mill Street NLF - Dam removal may provide biological gains (not in attainment of B status as of 2018).\* Includes a design and bid package for fish passage restoration in Lisbon.

Little Medomak culvert – Project creates designs for fish passage with no immediate biological gains (A status as of 2004). Under proposed 2024 attainment criteria to include native fish passage this project would help meet attainment. Project included surveys and designs for fish passage projects in Vassalboro and Washington. Project will implement StreamSmart culvert replacement in FY25.

Branch Pond - Fishway may provide biological gains (not in attainment of AA status as of 2021).\* Project provides funds for fishway construction in Palermo.

Old Ferry Marsh - Culvert replacements may provide biological gains. This location has no DEP biological assessment site. Project helped replace one culvert with single arch culvert span that incorporates "Coastwise" principles in Wiscasset.

Central Interior Bioregion – Scope and design projects that will increase aquatic connectivity in the Midcoast and Kennebec watersheds.

Mill Remnant Removal – Removed an old, derelict dam in Sabattus Maine and regraded the retaining wall. Project will improve aquatic connectivity in the Sabattus River and reduce the likelihood of flooding .

Atlantic Salmon Habitat Connectivity – Supported acquisition of two unlicensed hydro projects, one in Lemon Stream, Sandy River and the other in Sabattus Stream, Androscoggin River. Both dams, with the same owner, prevent fish passage to high quality anadromous fish habitat upstream. Lemon Stream was in attainment of B status as of 2022. Sabattus Stream was in

attainment of C status as of 2018.\*

Sewall Pond Assessment – Complete, supported an options analysis to improve fish passage at Sewall Pond in Arrowsic. There is no immediate bearing on water quality and attainment data.\*\*

3-Mile Stream/Whitehouse Rd. culvert – Project created designs for fish passage with no immediate biological gains. There is no immediate bearing on water quality and attainment data.\*\*Project will implement StreamSmart culvert replacement.

Sheepscot Large Wood Addition Design – Project created designs for habitat additions to the Atlantic salmon habitat Sheepscot River Salmon Habitat Resource Unit (near Whitefield, not in attainment of AA status as of 2021).

Damariscotta Mills Fishway Repairs – Complete, supported repair and maintenance of the Damariscotta Mills fish ladder in Nobleboro. There is no immediate bearing on water quality and attainment data.\*\*

\*Under proposed 2024 attainment criteria to include native fish passage, project will help meet attainment.

\*\* This location(s) has no DEP biological assessment site.

## Improved Public Health Monitoring

### Project Information

Control Number \*

V.77.1

Funding Amount

\$474,960.1

Initiative Name

Improved Public Health Monitoring

Project Name

Improved Public Health Monitoring

Sub-Expenditure Category

2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

### Project Overview

Project Description

The need for expanded testing capabilities are related to the industry's increased need for flexibility related to harvesting and marketing product due to the COVID-19 pandemic related crisis. During the COVID-19 declaration of emergency, many shellfish industry members faced a complete upset of their normal distribution chain. Maine's ex-vessel revenues for the overall seafood sector averaged \$654M annually from 2015-2019, and dropped to \$517M in 2020, a loss of 21% across the sector, but the shellfish sector suffered particular harm. In three months (February through April) of 2020, revenues from soft clams (the second most valuable commercial fishery in the state) were down 49%, hard clams 22%, and mussels 37% over the same period the prior year. Industry was faced with the need to respond to changing market demands that required quickly filling small orders. This transition meant they could not harvest volume in advance of anticipated sales and buffer their risk associated with harvest area closures related to public health risks. The purchase of the equipment will provide several key services to the shellfish industry and to the public, avoiding closures or shortening closure times by providing quick results for reopening, and providing the opportunity to develop new, faster and more accurate testing methods for a variety of marine biotoxins to increase harvest opportunities while protecting public health.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022. SLFRF program expenditures are fully complete as of 12/31/2024.

Partners

Other partners will include the shellfish industry in Maine especially aquaculturists, and wild harvesters in eastern Maine. External partners will include the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference (Executive Director, Keith Skiles) and the US Food and Drug Administration.

Link to Project Website

## Key Performance Indicators

DMR will track the number of priority samples from Washington county that are run for PSP in the Lamoine facility. This will indicate the number of improved management decisions resulting from quick results that would have otherwise taken 48-72 hours. DMR will further document the number of samples collected from the areas in Cobscook and Passamaquoddy Bays that will reflect improved service to the Passamaquoddy Tribe. These data are entered into DMR databases established to collect biotoxin results for the entire state and provide a central location for decades of toxicity scores. Toxicity scores are reviewed daily by shellfish sanitation program supervisors for immediate management action. Data used to track trends and the success of this project will be collated at the end of the year and analyzed by the Growing Area Program Supervisor (Marine Resource Scientist IV). Because toxicity scores are related to a specific sample location it will be easy to assess the impact Washington County and Cobscook and Passamaquoddy Bays specifically. \*

A total of 206 samples have been collected and processed for Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP) from Washington County. These samples are available more rapidly than in previous years when it took an additional 24 hours due to transport to the Boothbay Harbor Laboratory and processing at Bigelow Laboratories. Of the 206 total samples collected in Washington County, 76 were from Cobscook and Passamaquoddy Bays. To date, all samples have shown low levels of toxin or no toxicity and closures have not been required.

FY2024 – No update

FY2025 – No update

DMR will track the number of Vibrio samples processed and evaluate the number of harvesters and growers within the sample areas that are served by this new initiative. The results will provide baseline data that can be used in the event of an illness outbreak to establish reopening criteria. These data will be entered into a new project within our existing DMR database structure (MARVIN). Because samples are collected with locational data, the sample numbers, results and impact will be easy to determine through spatial analysis. Data used to track trends and the success of this project will be collated at the end of the year and analyzed by the Growing Area Program Supervisor (Marine Resource Scientist IV). This is a new sampling initiative and therefore long-term monitoring trends will not be available for years. However, in the event of an illness outbreak we will have tools available for immediate management decisions. \*

DMR has purchased two Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) machines to process Vibrio samples. DMR anticipated only being able to purchase one machine with the approved funds, but staff were able to locate the machine used for the approved FDA method at a reduced rate. Because of this savings, an additional unit was able to be purchased. This additional unit is a droplet PCR machine which will be used to advance Vibrio method development within the National Shellfish Sanitation Program. Staff are still purchasing primers and other materials needed to start running the PCR machines and testing for Vibrio. One staff member is enrolled in a Masters program at the University of Maine and is establishing a Vibrio sampling baseline study in Maine to evaluate Vibrio levels in important Growing Areas for the aquaculture oyster industry. This project began in June 2023.

FY2024 – No update

FY2025 – No update

DMR will submit new biotoxin methods to the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference for consideration as an approved method. The data generated through this effort will be summarized in a method validation proposal to the ISSC. This is a through process that is peer reviewed by the Laboratory Methods Review Committee. The DMR lab lead (Microbiologist Supervisor) is part of that committee and with be the principal investigator responsible for developing the analysis of new methods and drafting the validation proposal. \*

Development of new biotoxin methods will begin once Liquid Chromatography- Mass Spectrometry (LCMS) and PCR machines are operational and staff have achieved proficiencies. DMR anticipates submission of new biotoxin methods to the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference in FY2025 at the earliest.

FY2024 – No update

FY2025 – No update

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

Approximately 500 shellfish harvesters and 50 dealers in eastern Maine. Source Information from: Department of Marine Resources (DMR) Public Health labs in Lamoine and Boothbay Harbor, ME.

FY2024 – No update

FY2025 – No update

## Marine Patrol Infrastructure

### Project Information

Control Number \*

V.78.1

Funding Amount

\$3,324,999.59

Initiative Name

Marine Patrol Infrastructure

Project Name

Marine Patrol Infrastructure

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

This funding will support research and policy initiatives at Maine's Department of Marine Resources related to fishery monitoring and enforcement. The Department will invest in Maine Marine Patrol equipment and facility repairs at Rockland, Boothbay Harbor, and Lamoine facilities to better serve and protect Mainers who make their living from the sea. These upgrades are vital for creating conditions that foster safety as well as long-term resource stability and economic viability for an important legacy industry.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in May 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 05/09/2022.

Partners

The identified projects do not involve other state agencies, with the exception of coordination of work schedules with the MDepartment of Transportation – Maine State Ferry Service for the Rockland dock infrastructure project and the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry – Parks & Lands for the Lamoine Field Office infrastructure project.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/improve-fishing-industry-research-monitoring-and-sustainability>

### Key Performance Indicators



Budget to actual cost assessment for offshore Patrol vessel construction. This will be assessed at each billing cycle by the project manager. We will not be able to disaggregate by community and recipient demographics. \*

In April 2022, the Department of Marine Resources budgeted \$3 million for this project through this business case. The Department of Marine Resources entered into a contract for the build phase of this project for \$2,400,000 in April 2023. Marine Patrol anticipates contracting for additional phases of this project in FY2024 including purchase of the electronics package and additional required components.

FY2024 - No Updates

FY2025 - No Updates

Number of vendors who apply for procurement opportunities at Rockland facilities as an indicator of equity in access to project access. Will be assessed at point of procurement. We can disaggregate by vendor community. \*

One company responded to the March 2023 Request for Proposal for piling replacement in Rockland. The Department of Administrative and Financial Services procured bids of supplies for in-house construction of floating docks in Rockland through the Requisition process. Marine Patrol is currently working with Building General Services on a Request for Quotation of the Architectural and Engineering services for heating system upgrades at the Rockland Watercraft Facility.

FY2024 - Cumulatively: 1) Rockland pile replacement - one firm responded to the RFP for pile replacement and was contracted. 2) Rockland watercraft facility upgrades - one vendor responded to the RFQ for Bureau of General Services Architectural and Engineering Services. That firm was contracted to provide AE services. A request for construction bids is currently open. Firm response will be reported in the 2025 annual report.

FY2025 - One bidder responded to construction bid solicitation for HVAC replacement at Rockland watercraft facility. DMR rebid and received the same results. DMR contracted with the sole bidder in December 2024. In CY2025, DMR and the Bureau of General Services are working with this contractor and Central Maine Power to ensure that the scope of work complies with executive orders for HVAC and maximizes the efficiency of the project.

Number of vendors who apply for procurement opportunities at Lamoine facilities as an indicator of equity in access to project access. Will be assessed at point of procurement. We can disaggregate by vendor community. \*

Through interagency coordination in May 2023, the Department of Marine Resources and Department of Administrative and Financial Services agreed to include this project in a broader Request for Quotation package of renovations at several Department of Administrative and Financial Services facilities. These include renovation and construction of other infrastructure at Lamoine State Park. Request for Quotation responses were due on June 2, 2023. Seven companies responded. Four firms were invited to interview in June 2023 and one firm was selected for contract in early FY2024.

FY2024 - Cumulatively: DACF is leading the procurement for Lamoine facilities. DACF interviewed four firms that responded to the RFQ for Bureau of General Services Architectural and Engineering Services. Construction is not yet out to bid. Firm response will be reported in the 2025 annual report.

FY2025 - DACF contracted with the lowest bidder for the construction portfolio in Lamoine, which includes the DMR office scope of work.

Number of vendors who apply for procurement opportunities at Boothbay Harbor facilities as an indicator of equity in access to project access. Will be assessed at point of procurement. We can disaggregate by vendor community. \*

Marine Patrol has not yet initiated a procurement process for the replacement of floats and electricity upgrades at Boothbay Harbor. Building General Services staff determined in November 2022 in coordination with the Department of Marine Resources staff that this project does not meet the criteria for Building General Services involvement. Marine Patrol will ensure that it proceeds through all applicable procurement policies and procedures once the project is underway likely during the next fiscal year.

FY2024 - Cumulatively: DMR requested and received approval for a budget amendment to increase the scope of the Boothbay Harbor float and electricity upgrade project to general pier upgrades. The Bureau of Marine Patrol advertised an RFQ for Architectural and Engineering Services in partnership with the Bureau of General Services for this new scope. No responses were received. With Bureau of General Services approval, DMR approached a pre-qualified vendor already working on a pier project under V.74.1. At the close of the reporting period, DMR was working with that vendor on a supplemental to an existing contract for the Architectural and Engineering services for this project. Firm response to construction bid solicitation will be reported in the 2025 annual report.

In FY2025, DMR completed a supplemental agreement with the architectural and engineering firm to the Burnt Island Pier project in V.74.1 to include design of floats and piling configuration at the Boothbay Harbor pier. This approach allowed the project to proceed within the Treasury timeframe despite receiving no responses to the RFQ. It also allowed DMR to bid out the scope of work for both piers in one bid package and maximize cost effectiveness. DMR solicited construction bids in FY2025 and received four responses. DMR contracted with the lowest bidder for the scope of work of both piers - Burnt Island (V.74.1) and Boothbay Harbor (V.78.1).

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/a

## Economic Impact Grants

### Project Information

Control Number \*

W.79.1

Funding Amount

\$8,000,000

Initiative Name

Electricity Grid Upgrades

Project Name

Economic Impact Grants

Sub-Expenditure Category

6.1-Provision of Government Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Department of Economic and Community Development in coordination with the Governor's Energy Office will provide funding to support improved electricity grid access for economic development projects in heritage industries and other sectors central to Maines' recovery, such as food systems, forestry, and manufacturing and housing. The program will offer grants for grid upgrades, such as extension of polyphase service, with an emphasis on rural communities. Priority will be given to projects where public and private capital are identified and that support achievement of the state's emissions reduction and clean energy requirements.

The program will also offer grants for planning and technical assistance to support expanded economic activity in communities throughout the state by characterizing existing available or potential electrical capacity. The program will support identification and characterization of areas within the state where substantial electrical capacity for new economic activity exists, such as previous industrial sites where utility infrastructure is still available.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in August 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 04/01/2023.

Partners

Department of Economic and Community Development will work with other state agencies such as the Department of Energy in ensuring that projects spur economic development and restore revenues impacted by COVID-19 pandemic. Department of Economic and Community Development and the Governor's Energy Office will identify and prioritize investments to achieve the maximum economic impact for funds expended.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/electricity-grid-upgrades-economic-development>

Key Performance Indicators

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving economic assistance \*

6

Number of businesses or community organizations receiving technical assistance \*

2

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided \*

TBD

Number of new businesses started \*

2

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

All awardees were either new businesses or companies expanding and needing three phase power and added capacity.

## Improve Air Quality & Energy Efficiency

### Project Information

Control Number \*

X.80.1

Funding Amount

\$10,000,000

Initiative Name

Improve Air Quality & Energy Efficiency

Project Name

Improve Air Quality & Energy Efficiency

Sub-Expenditure Category

1.14-Other Public Health Services

### Project Overview

Project Description

Capital investment in a public facility, specifically, the Cultural Building housing Maine State Archives, Library and Museum, to meet pandemic operational needs through a physical plant improvement to the mechanical system. The project replaces a failed 50-year old system in order to provide healthy indoor air via improved ventilation, filtration, and air cleaning.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in March 2022. SLFRF Program expenditures are completed as of 5/15/2024.

Partners

The Maine State Archives, Maine State Library and Maine State Museum are key partners in planning and executing this initiative. The designer is Wood LLC, architects and engineers located in Portland, Maine. Maine IT is a key partner due to the need to remove the web of wires and cables that had accumulated above the ceilings for 50 years, and the need to redesign a new system. Asbestos abatement is designed by Bangor-based Haley Ward. Phase 1 work was awarded to EnviroVantage. Phase 2 work will be bid in 2022.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/improve-accessibility-safety-and-efficiency-public-buildings>

### Key Performance Indicators

Number of new jobs created, or job losses avoided: \*

To date there have been 62 jobs created and no jobs lost.

The following jobs will be created:

- Asbestos Abatement including demo - 35 to 45 people
- Mechanical - 12 people
- Electrical - 8 people
- Building Envelope - 10 people
- Controls Technicians - 2 people
- Commissioning Agents - 2 people
- Design Team – 10 people\*

Number of jobs created to date on project at 50% completion:

- Asbestos Abatement including demo - 35
- Mechanical - 6 people
- Electrical - 4 people
- Building Envelope - 3 people
- Controls Technicians - 2 people
- Commissioning Agents - 2 people
- Design Team – 10 people

The project is a capital improvement to a public facility to meet pandemic operational needs, specifically it is a ventilation improvement to mitigate Covid-19. The construction outcome measures are maintaining budget and schedule, paying the contractor (and hence workers) timely and in accordance with mandatory wage rates, maintaining a safe and healthy work site, and initiating operations timely. Mechanisms are in place to measure adherence to budget and schedule. Project management staff work with architects and engineers to ensure that project milestones are met; they work with finance personnel to ensure timely payments to the contractor, proper recording of requisition payments, and timely submission to service center finance personnel who arrange payment. Safety is carefully monitored, with mandatory reporting of jobsite injuries. The Bureau's established procedures track completion dates and will require schedule recovery plans for any schedule slippages. \*

#### Maintaining budget and schedule

Asbestos removal and demolition of interior walls led to discovery of unforeseen conditions (particularly additional asbestos and degraded plumbing, electrical and telecommunications systems) in this 50-year old building. The result is an extended schedule for completion of all elements of the project, other than the abatement that was done prior to MJRP-funded scope. Project management is working with the contractor to develop a recovery schedule to minimize the additional amount of time required to complete the work. Additional scope has led to increased project costs which have been funded through a variety of sources. Contractual amounts will not be exceeded for the MJRP funded work.

#### Paying the contractor (and hence workers) timely and in accordance with mandatory wage rates

Contractors have been paid timely following uniform procedures in accordance with wage rates issued for the project.

#### Maintaining a safe and healthy work site

Contractor has maintained a safe and healthy work site. At the current stage of the project, with more trades on site, the contractor is adding more safety inspections and audits.

#### Initiating operations timely

As discussed, the project schedule has been extended, however the contractor reports it is still in draft form as efforts are being made to expedite work and shorten the completion date.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

The portion of the "Improve Air Quality and Energy Efficiency" portion of this project is complete. Commissioning of the new HVAC system has been completed, However, during the course of this project, several other necessary projects were required to achieve completion. Although all MJRP/ARPA funds have been expended at this time, the project is ongoing. Due to additional unforeseen conditions, our completion day will extend to late summer 2025.

## Improve Delivery of Digital Service to Citizens

### Project Information

Control Number \*

X.81.1

Funding Amount

\$10,000,000

Initiative Name

Improve Delivery of Digital Service to Citizens

Project Name

Improve Delivery of Digital Service to Citizens

Sub-Expenditure Category

3.4-Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

### Project Overview

Project Description

Maine's Department of Administrative and Financial Services will modernize state technology and digital service delivery for Maine citizens, businesses, and public employees. It will enable Mainers to more seamlessly interact with and receive services across state government with fewer in-person transactions and simpler navigation of complex state agency processes. This portion of these funds will go towards purchasing a digital government citizen identity tool, a services delivery portal, and for the professional services that are required to plan for and implement the system.

This initiative develops a single constituent login that begins the prioritized transition of services into a one-stop structure for State Government services to allow Maine citizens to find and navigate the State's digital presence through a single login.

The proposed portal will have these important functions:

- Provide citizens with a straight-forward single access point to engage with State Government services:
- Guide citizens to appropriate services proactively and consistently
- Connect to and support other important systems such as social programs eligibility, licensing authorizations, access to educational opportunity and grant programs
- Collect, manage, and report important data to gauge our effectiveness and provide citizens transparent access to State Government

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 03/01/2023.

Partners



Department of Administrative and Financial Services internal partners:

- Procurement Services
- Human Resources

Agency Partners

- SOS
- Department of Economic and Community Development
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Others as application integration continues

Vendor partners

- Microsoft

Other partners

- InforME Board
- Maine Municipal Association

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/modernize-digital-delivery-public-services>

## Key Performance Indicators

Number of applications for access to the single sign on portal of two types:

Citizens

Businesses

Nonprofits \*

- Contract awarded end of 2024 to three vendors: Tyler, Pulse Marketing, Protiviti. Work kicked off January 2025.
- Portal vetted via MaineIT Architecture Review Board has been completed
- Established tier level identities for authentication

The number of services accessible to citizens through the portal. \*

- No significant data to update at the time of this report

Count the number of service provision agreements established with State agencies. \*

- Working with two applications for initial integration

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

- Established branding domain, logo, tagline, and persona
- Minimal viable product is stood up with registration flow in place
- Finalized privacy and consent policy for the overall Portal at registration.
- Working on establishing the Executive Steering Committee for the Constituent Portal.

## Modernize Digital & Physical Technology

### Project Information

Control Number \*

X.82.1

Funding Amount

\$20,000,000

Initiative Name

Modernize Digital & Physical Technology

Project Name

Modernize Digital & Physical Technology

Sub-Expenditure Category

3.5-Public Sector Capacity: Administrative Needs

### Project Overview

Project Description

The Covid 19 pandemic forced Maine State Government to shift much of its workforce to remote work. In a short period 86% of the Executive Branch workforce transitioned to running Government from home. This resulted in a shift of load from systems designed for on prem workforce to systems designed for more intermittent use. Additionally, the citizens of Maine still required access to Government services and due to the pandemic, these services had to transition to being delivered digitally.

With funding from the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, the Department of Administrative and Financial Services will modernize state technology and digital service delivery for Maine's public employees through the creation of a Remote Technology Portfolio. This will help increase the effectiveness of remote work for state employees, and support more public health-conscious workplace environments.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 11/21/2022.

Partners

Department of Administrative and Financial Services internal partners:

- Procurement Services
- Human Resources
- Bureau of General Services
- Office of the State Controller
- Department of Administrative and Financial Services Deputy Director of Finance

State partnerships

- NetworkMaine

Vendor partners

- Presidio

- Microsoft
- Checkpoint
- Oracle
- Cisco
- Connectivity Point

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/modernize-digital-delivery-public-services>

## Key Performance Indicators

Uptime of available systems/configuration of systems in a highly available/redundant manner. \*

Teams have successfully built out Equinix presence for dedicated next of cloud connectivity. Redundant circuits between Augusta and Equinix are in the build and testing phase with our vendor partner.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Teams have built out enterprise level landing zones for both Azure and Oracle clouds. These will provide necessary services need to support applications and the State of Maine. Pilot applications have been identified for test migrations. Coming out of the foundation work the creation of a governance and standards document has been created as baseline guidance for requirements to move to the cloud.

# Business Continuity Plan for Information Technolog

## Project Information

Control Number \*

X.83.1

Funding Amount

\$6,000,000.04

Initiative Name

Business Continuity Plan for Information Technolog

Project Name

Business Continuity Plan for Information Technolog

Sub-Expenditure Category

3.5-Public Sector Capacity: Administrative Needs

## Project Overview

Project Description

The demand for virtual government service delivery during the pandemic has heightened an urgent need for improved cybersecurity for state systems. This initiative will modernize the State's cybersecurity program, making investments that support the further development of business continuity plans for the state's information and technology operations inside public agencies. By providing critical technology infrastructure supports and addressing the highest-risk cybersecurity areas, all branches and functions of government will benefit - particularly with a continued reliance on a remote workforce to deliver essential services. Additionally, the funding will ensure systems and networks supporting public health and economic recovery remain secure and free from disruption.

As the risks continue to increase to our remote workforce, the State of Maine must be prepared to execute plans for the continuity of government. DAFS will use funding to enhance the state's ability to safeguard and to provide the highest quality services to our constituents and ensure the public is served.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 03/20/2023.

Partners

Department of Administrative and Financial Services internal partners:

- Procurement Services
- Human Resources

Vendor Partners – Name - Contact Information

- Presidio
- Splunk
- Microsoft
- Checkpoint

#### Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/state-cybersecurity-program>

### Key Performance Indicators

Training, Testing and Exercises associated with Contingency Plans. Training, Testing and Exercises are used to determine the effectiveness of contingency plans and the readiness to execute. The results of these events will be documented in an After-Action Review Report for review by the Chief Information Security Officer, Chief Information Officer, and Deputy Director of OIT Finance on an as needed basis. \*

MaineIT procured security training tools to strengthen subject matter experts skills.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

MaineIT has procured a number of services and products to strengthen the security posture and aided in the business continuity of the State of Maine

Completion of Contingency Plans. MaineIT is federally mandated to develop contingency plans as part of an overall program for achieving continuity of operations for organizational mission and business functions. Entities designated for the completion of the MaineIT BIA, BCP and DRP will report out on their percentage of completion and routinely reported to the Chief Information Security Officer and Deputy Director of OIT Finance on an as needed basis. \*

The State of Maine has hired a Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Officer. The Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Officer is developing the Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Plan with an outside vendor for the State of Maine.

Implementation of Technologies. The implementation of specific technologies will be support continuity of government plans and operations. This will be collected using reports provided by project managers. These reports will be reviewed monthly by the Chief Information Security Officer and Deputy Director of OIT Finance on an as needed basis. \*

MaineIT has procured subject matter expertise and hired personnel to assist implementing Technologies and improving information security program of the State of Maine.

## Effective Remote Work Capabilities

### Project Information

Control Number \*

X.84.1

Funding Amount

\$3,439,100

Initiative Name

Effective Remote Work Capabilities

Project Name

Effective Remote Work Capabilities

Sub-Expenditure Category

3.5-Public Sector Capacity: Administrative Needs

### Project Overview

Project Description

With funding from the MJRP, DAFS will modernize state technology and digital service delivery for Maine's public employees through the creation of a Remote Technology Portfolio. This will help increase the effectiveness of remote work for state employees, and support more public health-conscious workplace environments.

This initiative will add systems, support, processes, and enhancements to existing tools that will increase the effectiveness of remote work capability by creating a Remote Technology Portfolio that will improve the opportunities for a highly capable hybrid remote workforce. The program will focus on ensuring State employees have what they need to be effective working remotely and in a hybrid format. Having a comprehensive Remote Technology Portfolio will ensure the State's pandemic response programs are not hampered by employees working remote or hybrid during this time of increase in demand for government services. Returning to the degree of collaboration and effectiveness exhibited pre-pandemic is one of the focuses of this initiative.

The program will adopt and embrace remote capabilities and collaboration infrastructure, define strategies, and provide services to enable anytime anywhere collaboration that are both easy to implement, modern, sustainable, and well understood by State employees. Adopting a holistic approach through a suite of tools and processes will balance a wide range of collaboration channels with best practices and will guide organizational units to improve productivity, achieve greater efficiencies, and jumpstart employee confidence around remote work and collaboration techniques.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022 and program activities are ongoing as of 08/22/2022.

Partners

Department of Administrative and Financial Services internal partners:  
•Procurement Services – Jaime Schorr, Joseph Zrioka, Thomas Howker

- Human Resources – Aimee Norko
- Bureau of General Services – Elaine Clark
- Office of the State Controller – TBD
- Department of Administrative and Financial Services Department of Environmental Protectionuty Director of Finance
- Vendor partners
- Gartner
- Microsoft

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/modernize-digital-delivery-public-services>

## Key Performance Indicators

The number of employees requesting remote work opportunities. \*

11,645 requests

The number of employees who use the training available in the Learning Management systems for remote technology portfolio. These reports are available as part of the base systems and will be reviewed yearly by the remote technology portfolio program manager. \*

- Internal LMS is live in Production
- Efforts to onboard agencies to the internal site is ongoing with 13 agencies in progress
- External Site is being developed and a pilot agency is aiming to go live in Production soon

The number of employees reserving hoteling space through the hoteling solution. These reports are available as part of the base systems and will be reviewed quarterly during the first year of post implementation and yearly thereafter. \*

Contiuing from 2024, foundational work has been completed in 2025 and several areas were identified where the State of Maine/Project Management Office working the selected vendor/Tyler. A project plan was updated and promptly validated requirements. The vendor, Tyler has initiated the building of our Software catalogue/marketplace offering. With the resources coming to the project, the timeline for delivery of this product with Tyler is anticipated to be in production prior to the end of 2025 for Executive Branch Employees.

The number of employees viewing and viewing tools available via MaineIT internal app store application. These reports will be built into the application and reviewed quarterly during the first year of post implementation and yearly thereafter. \*

"1048 employees with access to hoteling (DOE, GGSC, DHHS & MaineIT/PMO).  
2913 Reservations for previous 6 months.  
A total of 322 workstations are currently in the hoteling system."

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

84 have completed training via the LMS

# State Cybersecurity Program

## Project Information

Control Number \*

X.85.1

Funding Amount

\$8,173,402

Initiative Name

State Cybersecurity Program

Project Name

State Cybersecurity Program

Sub-Expenditure Category

3.4-Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

## Project Overview

Project Description

Amid the Coronavirus pandemic, cyber-attacks against public sector entities have proliferated. Malicious actors seeking to cause harm and disrupt the delivery of essential services have capitalized on fears associated with COVID-19; these sophisticated cyber actors leverage vulnerabilities caused by an aging IT infrastructure, combined with the widespread shift from an on-premise to remote workforce.

DAFS will use Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan funding to enhance the state's ability to safeguard the confidentiality, availability, and integrity of citizen data. The major activities that will occur includes:

- Harden-the-Network (\$4,141,366.28) This initiative will improve security at the perimeter, remote locations, and in between to secure all the communications that makes the State of Maine government function. Data breach costs rose from \$3.86 million to \$4.24 million during the pandemic.
- Monitor-the-Network (\$3,086,711.80) OIT needs to be able to monitor the entire network to secure our communications before an adversary can cause irrevocable harm. Companies that contain a breach in less than 30 days save more than \$1 million in comparison to those who take longer.
- Empower and Secure End User Actions (\$400,000): provides the funds necessary to improve access control, training, and awareness of our users. Employees are the main source of breaches and 94% of malware is delivered via email.
- Support and Hosting (\$545,323.92) Infrastructure costs.

This initiative both continues the CRF cybersecurity measures energized with funding from the CARES Act and builds on this momentum to further mature the cybersecurity program. A single, successful cyber-attack against the State would be disastrous.

Schedule / Timeline



The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in June 2022. SLFRF program expenditures are completed as of 6/30/2024.

Partners

Department of Administrative and Financial Services internal partners:

- Procurement Services
- Human Resources

Vendor Partners:

- Presidio
- Splunk
- Microsoft
- Checkpoint

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/state-cybersecurity-program>

Key Performance Indicators

Attempted cyber intrusions \*

Successfully blocked 18 billion attacks and probes

Information security training delivered: Metrics on security training completion and phishing exercises. This will be collected using reports provided by KnowBe4 Software. These reports will be reviewed monthly by the Chief Information Security Officer. \*

The state cybersecurity program deploys multiple layers of security controls and defenses to protect information and resources based on the State of Maine Defense in Depth Strategy. These metrics are confidential due to the nature of the defenses.

Incident response metrics \*

Successfully blocked 18 billion attacks and probes

Defense in depth metrics \*

The Information Security Office delivers phishing exercises to approximately 12,000 employee monthly. The Information Security Office delivers the individual metrics to the agency partners for awareness and feedback to the staff to improve secure behavior.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

N/A

## ARPA Financial Management Oversight

### Project Information

Control Number \*

Y.86.1

Funding Amount

\$6,010,736.51

Initiative Name

ARPA Financial Management Oversight

Project Name

ARPA Financial Management Oversight

Sub-Expenditure Category

7.1-Administrative Expenses

### Project Overview

Project Description

The funding allocated to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services (DAFS), American Rescue Plan Audit, Controller and Program Management program will be used, in conjunction with the \$3 million allocated as part of Public Law 2021, chapter 78, to support all aspects of financial management oversight of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. This includes the distribution of funding to the Non-Entitlement Units. Funds will be used throughout the eligibility period to supplement staffing within DAFS Offices through both limited period positions and contracts supporting accounting, budgeting, reporting, procurement, and human resources. Additionally, the funds will be used for project management, information technology to assist in the management and flow of data required to assess allowability of plans and facilitate federal and public reporting, sub-recipient monitoring, and reporting.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in October 2021 and program activities are ongoing as of 11/03/2021.

Partners

Coordination with the Maine Municipal Association on communication and outreach strategies for the non-entitlement unit Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/oversight-american-rescue-plan-act-funds>

## Key Performance Indicators

Percentage, number of and dollar amount of NEU disbursements made by 9/3 \*

Metrics and outcomes for Y.86.1 are the same as for 78.A.1, funding for this in conjunction with 78.A.1.  
No change since 2023 Annual Report:  
Tranche 1 By 9/3- 1.07%/ \$643,197 total NEU disbursements were released.  
Additionally, by 12/30/2021 100% of Tranche 1 NEU disbursements was released totaling \$59,611,882.26.  
Tranche 2 payments released 6/22/2022 totaling \$59,611,881.74.  
Total of NEU payments: 119,223,764.00

Number of Business Cases completed (112 items in PL21, c.483) \*

Metrics and outcomes for Y.86.1 are the same as for 78.A.1, funding for this in conjunction with 78.A.1.  
At the time of this report 153 business cases have been processed through the approval process. Following the Fall 2024 obligation review it was determined that there were 4 projects that had received approvals, but had not yet started. Utilizing the authority of Public Law 2023 Chapter 643 Part D those the funds for those projects, along with the other remaining unobligated funds and subsequently, reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives. At the time of this report 149 business cases remain and are at varying phases of program implementation, including completed.

Number and dollar value of Business Cases determined eligible for SLFRF \*

Metrics and outcomes for Y.86.1 are the same as for 78.A.1, funding for this in conjunction with 78.A.1.  
6/30/2025 149 Business Cases remain active totaling \$997,495,130 of approved SLFRF dollars. Of the approved funds it was determined that \$ 59,285.55 were unobligated by the December 31, 2024 deadline. Those funds were returned to UST per instructions provided.

If applicable, please provide any other information to provide context to project status or to help reader interpret results \*

Metrics and outcomes for Y.86.1 are the same as for 78.A.1, funding for this in conjunction with 78.A.1.  
In April 2024 Supplemental Budgets passed with effective dates of April 22, 2024, for PL 2023 chapter 645 and August 9, 2024 for PL 2023 chapter 643. The passing of these created a pathway for state agencies to fund anticipated payroll costs through December 2026 following the updated UST guidance on the Obligation Interim Final Rule. Through Public Law 2023 chapter 643, Part D the Legislature provided authorization to adjust allocations in order to maximize the use of funds for projects that may have come in underspent or are otherwise unable to be obligated before the December 2024 deadline. Utilizing the authority of Public Law 2023, Chapter 643, Part D a review was conducted in Fall 2024 to determine funds that would not be obligated for reasons including but not limited to: funds remained for a program that had been completed, contracts were unable to be executed in accordance with the States procurement policies on or before the December 2024 deadline, and SLFRF funded staff vacancies were unable to be filled. Funds that were determined to be unable to be obligated on or before the December 2024 deadline were subsequently swept from their projects budgets and reallocated to other legislatively approved initiatives. Specific project updates including but not limited to: cancelled projects, budget increases or decreases, and new projects are noted in the attached Project Inventories. In total dollars, \$ 997,495,130 (100%) of the total State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds received by the State of Maine was processed through the business case approval process and approved to deploy. Of the approved funds it was determined that \$ 59,285.55 were unobligated by the December 31, 2024 deadline. Those funds were returned to UST per instructions provided.

## Certain Legal and Admin Costs - ARPA Financial Management Oversight

### Project Information

Control Number \*

Y.86.2

Funding Amount

\$5,098,305.83

Initiative Name

ARPA Financial Management Oversight

Project Name

Certain Legal and Admin Costs - ARPA Financial Management Oversight

Sub-Expenditure Category

7.3-Costs Associated with Satisfying Certain Legal and Administrative Requirements of the SLFRF Program After December 31, 20

### Project Overview

Project Description

Provides funding for certain legal and administrative costs to be incurred on behalf of initiative Y.86.1 ARPA Financial Management Oversight from 1/1/2025 through 12/31/2026.

Schedule / Timeline

The Jobs Plan was approved by the Legislature in July 2021 and the legislation enacting the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan took effect October 18, 2021. This program was approved by the state's internal documentation process in October 2021 and program activities are ongoing as of 11/03/2021.

Partners

Coordination with the Maine Municipal Association on communication and outreach strategies for the non-entitlement unit Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.

Link to Project Website

<https://www.maine.gov/jobsplan/program/oversight-american-rescue-plan-act-funds>

### Key Performance Indicators

Provide any other information to provide context to project status .

Provides funding for certain legal and administrative costs to be incurred on behalf of initiative Y.86.1 ARPA Financial Management Oversight from 1/1/2025 through 12/31/2026. Performance metrics are reported in Y.86.1