



TURI Business Grant: Helping companies reduce hazards in their workplace

The Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI) supports Massachusetts businesses to successfully implement projects that protect their workers, communities and the environment by reducing use of toxic chemicals. TURI offers grants to help Massachusetts businesses research, evaluate, and/or adopt safer alternatives to toxic chemicals.

Eligibility

TURI has grants funding available to any for-profit business in Massachusetts that:

- Proposes process or product changes to reduce their use of toxics;
- Is considering a change that is relevant to other businesses; and
- Reduces the use of toxic chemical(s) covered by TURI's strategic priorities (see below) or other toxic chemicals listed in the Toxics Use Reduction Act of Massachusetts (TURA).¹

For the 2023-24 business cycle, TURI especially encourages applications on the following strategic priority issues:

- Reducing or eliminating the following halogenated solvents:
 - Trichloroethylene (TCE),
 - Perchloroethylene (perc),
 - Dichloromethane (DCM), also known as methylene chloride,
 - n-Propyl bromide (nPB), and
 - trans-Dichloroethane (tDCE)
- Supporting businesses to adopt PFAS-free products or processes, such as:
 - Metal finishing.
 - Textiles and apparel.
 - Refrigeration and cooling.
 - Food packaging.
 - Firefighting equipment.
 - Consumer products, particularly for children and other vulnerable groups.
- Supporting facilities that are free of toxic flame retardants, including:
 - Child gyms and other play spaces that adopt foam cubes/padding free of toxic flame-retardants; and
 - Facilities that seek to eliminate use of organohalogen flame retardants (OFR) in their current processes or products.

¹<https://www.mass.gov/doc/complete-list-of-tura-chemicals-april-2023>

Criteria for success

The successful project proposal will:

- Demonstrate quantifiable reductions in the amount of toxic chemical(s) used;
- Address ongoing adverse impacts on environmental justice communities or other underserved groups, including workers;²
- Have a clear plan to complete project implementation before June 30, 2024;³
- Illustrate relevance to other companies or sectors; and
- Have strong support from upper management.

How to apply

The application process is intended to be simple yet competitive. It begins with the submission of a brief online application that requests basic information about the proposed project (available at https://www.turi.org/Our_Work/TUR_Grants/Business_Grants). Following receipt of the initial application, a selection committee will evaluate proposals and may request additional information from potential awardees before making a final decision. This typically includes an on-site visit to better understand the proposed project and its potential benefits.

Applicants seeking larger award amounts (greater than \$20,000) are required to complete a secondary form that provides more in-depth information on the proposed process.

To apply for a business grant online, go to www.turi.org/grants. Deadline for submittal: **July 11, 2023**. For more information, please contact: info@turi.org. We anticipate notifying awardees around mid-August.

Demonstrating success

Because the overarching goal of this program is to disseminate information about successful examples of toxics use reduction widely throughout the Massachusetts manufacturing universe, facilities that receive a grant are encouraged to demonstrate their processes and share information about project elements that contributed to their success.

TURI will work with grantees to determine the optimal method of sharing information about the project and its success broadly. Typically, we will recommend one or more of the following methods:

- Crafting a case study that presents information about the project's goals, challenges, and outcomes. Case studies are designed by TURI, using company information gathered over the course of the project in collaboration with the grantee, and are published in downloadable format on our website (www.turi.org) and featured in social media posts.
- Creating a video that features relevant processes and interviews with key personnel to describe the changes implemented and the outcomes of that effort. Video production is contracted by TURI and filmed on site⁴ at a mutually agreed upon time.

² Massachusetts describes environmental justice here: <https://www.mass.gov/environmental-justice>

³ Applicants may re-apply if the project cannot be completed by June 30, 2024, however funding is guaranteed for no longer than 12 months.

⁴ Hosts may reserve the right to restrict access to sensitive areas of their facility.

- Conducting an on-site demonstration of the changes made. TURI will lead outreach to invite interested company personnel, consultants and, if appropriate, legislators, high-level environmental officials, and other dignitaries to tour the grantee operation, learning about the implementation process in real time. Grantees will host the tour⁴ and answer questions about their experience.

Applicants must be willing to demonstrate project success to be considered for funding.

Award amounts

Typical business grants are within the range of **\$15,000 - \$35,000**. Larger amounts can be negotiated depending on the impact of the project and other criteria described above. Smaller proposals are welcome. Grant funding is limited, and awards are contingent on funding received by TURI from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.