

Community Health Center Decarbonization Planning Pilot Program

Guidelines

January 2025

Program Goals:

The goal of the Community Health Center Decarbonization Planning (CHCDP) Pilot Program is to provide [Massachusetts licensed community health centers](#) (“CHCs”) with technical assistance to plan and design interventions that enable them to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by the year 2050 or sooner. Interventions can include physical plant improvements, equipment upgrades, and operational changes, among other decarbonization strategies. Program participants will receive custom decarbonization “roadmaps” created by MassDevelopment’s third-party partner, [PowerOptions](#). No matching funds are required to receive an award.

This technical assistance will provide CHCs with the information needed to address the generational challenge of decarbonizing the built environment and will identify resources for implementation. Project awards are in two phases described below:

1. *Phase 1: Decarbonization Roadmap Development:* Awardees will enter into a Technical Assistance Agreement with MassDevelopment which will then authorize PowerOptions to work directly with the CHC to begin the roadmap work. This phase will involve collecting information about historic energy usage, current energy systems and equipment, any previous or planned efforts to reduce carbon footprints and any other information needed to analyze existing conditions and draft a roadmap. The analysis will include:
 - Calculation of current emissions
 - Determination of an energy usage baseline by which to measure the impact of energy and carbon reduction proposals
 - Identification of appropriate energy efficiency measures, electrification, and solar installations for buildings
 - Establishment of a measurable and realistic carbon reduction target for a CHC’s building(s) based on achievable energy reductions and alignment with budget and risk tolerance

The outcome of this phase will be an individualized “roadmap” which includes suggested timelines to implement recommendations, estimated project costs and estimated incentives and savings.

2. *Phase 2: Roadmap Implementation Support*

Once the roadmap has been developed, CHCs which are ready for implementation will be eligible to receive technical assistance for project implementation, which would include:

- Identification of funding mechanisms
- White glove support through the contractor’s procurement programs
- Energy management advisory support
- Support for coordinating steps of the implementation plan in collaboration with the CHC’s internal teams.

Program Timeline (2025)

Important Dates:

January 24	Application Released
February 7	Submitted questions due
February 12	Answers to submitted questions posted
February 28	Application Due by 11:59 p.m.
March 21	Technical Assistance Award Notifications
March 21 – May 2025	Contracting with Roadmap Grantees
March - May 2025	Roadmap Development
May 2025	Notification of Phase II Awards
June 2025	Contracting with Phase II Implementation Awardees
July 2025	Implementation Development