



Town of Needham, Massachusetts Media Release

Office of the Town Manager
Town Hall, 1471 Highland Ave, Needham, MA 02492

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Assistance Available Now for Eligible Homeowners in Need of Funds to Make Small Home Repairs, Improvements

Grants of up to \$5K available to make home improvements, modifications

NEEDHAM – Monday, December 18, 2023 – The Town of Needham has launched another round of funding for the Small Repair Grant Program, a local program that makes funds available for qualifying seniors aged 60 or over and those with disabilities to make health and safety improvements to their homes.

Grants of up to \$5,000 per applicant are available. Completed applications for this funding round must be received by **Friday, January 12, 2024** and will be reviewed by the end of January.

Grant funding can cover a wide variety of home repairs and modifications including small jobs and/or contractor work such as plumbing, carpentry, window repairs, gutters or downspouts, door repair or replacement, step or porch repair, lock repair or replacement, cement work or masonry repair, tiling, plaster patching, sheet-rock repair, smoke/CO2 detectors, weather stripping, electrical, heating, interior painting, floors, installation, masonry, siding, roofing, and the like.

Funds can also be applied to make certain adaptations including bathroom grab bars, raised toilets or toilet seats, hand-held shower heads, tub transfer bench, tub seats/rails, bed transfer bars, railings throughout the house, change doorknobs to levers, hookup bells to light switches, hook-up flashing light to phone, install various phone volume control devices, intercom entryway buzzer system, light switch height, etc.

Applications will be evaluated and prioritized based on program funding, health and safety considerations, and the financial need of the applicant. These grants are provided on an unsecured basis; there is no repayment required unless the grant recipient does not comply with program terms or transfers the home within one year.

Applicants must meet the following requirements to be eligible:

1. The property is in Needham, is owned by the applicant, is the primary residence of the

- applicant, and the applicant intends to remain a resident of Needham for the next 12 months.
2. At least one household member is age 60 or older or disabled.
 3. Household income is not higher than 80% of the Area Median Income (\$118,450 for a family of 4).
 4. The property assessment is below the Town of Needham average assessed value for a single-family home of \$1,197,575.
 5. The applicant agrees to sign the Grant Agreement and to notify the Needham Affordable Housing Trust prior to selling or listing the home for sale within the 12 months following payment under this program.

Applications are due by January 12, 2024. To obtain an application, contact Community Housing Specialist Karen Sunnarborg at (781) 455-7550 ext. 220 or at ksunnarborg@needhamma.gov.

Information is also available on the Town's Housing [webpage](#).

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