

Program Guidelines

Municipal Enforcement Support Program

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Municipal Enforcement Support Program provides municipalities with financial and other supports to enable successful local enforcement of public health orders related to COVID-19. This program recognizes that one of municipalities' primary purposes is to maintain safe communities, and that local leaders are well placed to take meaningful action to protect their residents during a public health emergency.

Municipalities may use third-party enforcement contractors as part of this program.

This program will provide municipalities with access to:

- funding support for any existing or new personnel that are enforcing public health orders
- accelerated training for enforcement personnel on how to enforce public health orders
- access to a provincial coordination network to guide enforcement officers' efforts and enhance their effectiveness
- enforcement tools, including guidelines, operating procedures, identification vests and ticket books

Participating municipalities will also be entitled to receive 100 per cent of the ticket revenue from any tickets properly issued in good faith to violators of public health orders. Fines for failure to comply with a public health order are \$1,296 for individuals and \$5,000 for corporations.

The program will run until the end of February 2021.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible, your municipality must:

- have one or more personnel who are available to enforce public health orders on a part- or full-time basis
- provide confirmation that the anticipated financial impacts of the pandemic exceed funding already made available through the federal Restart program
- have submitted the program intake form and received approval from the province to proceed

HOW TO JOIN THE PROGRAM

Complete the attached intake form and submit it by email to mrmca@gov.mb.ca by Friday, December 11 to participate in the program's first intake. A supporting council resolution is required.

Intake forms will be assessed as received on a weekly basis, with training for by-law enforcement officers available at the next scheduled opportunity.

HOW IT WORKS

Once the intake form is submitted, the province will review and respond to confirm whether the municipality is approved under the program.

Once a municipality's participation is confirmed, their personnel will be provided with accelerated training and an identification vest, and will be connected with a provincial coordination network to support their efforts.

Program Funding Support and Reporting Requirements

This program recognizes that COVID-19 has had financial impacts on municipalities and that many municipalities may not have the capacity within existing budgets to increase enforcement capacity. Municipalities will be asked to provide a high-level estimate of their COVID-related financial impacts for 2020 to substantiate the need for financial support to strengthen enforcement.

Funding support will be provided for enforcement personnel who dedicate time to the enforcement of public health orders related to COVID-19, and is retroactive to October 22, 2020 for approved municipalities who are already undertaking enforcement activities.

Funding support will be provided at a rate of \$35/hour, to a maximum of \$1,400 per week (40 hours) per enforcement person, for each hour spent in enforcement of public health orders. Municipalities may redeploy existing staff, and may engage new personnel, including third party contractors.

Municipalities will be provided with a standard template to use to provide a brief summary each week of enforcement activities carried out.

Municipalities will also be required to report on the number of hours that are eligible for reimbursement at the end of December and the end of February. The province will flow funding support payments to municipalities at those times.

QUESTIONS?

Please email questions to mrmca@gov.mb.ca.