



The Small Business Technical Assistance (SBTA) grant program



Support Small Businesses in MA

The Small Business Technical Assistance Grant Program expands economic and entrepreneurial opportunity throughout the Commonwealth. In FY23, the SBTA program, through Mass Growth Capital Corporation (MGCC), awarded grants totaling \$7 million to 59 organizations in 27 communities that supported local entrepreneurs as they started, stabilized and/or grew their businesses. The program has a deep focus on BIPOC and other underserved businesses. The non-profit organizations that administer SBTA provide crucial one-on-one coaching and training, and access to capital and networks of support, to over 6,800 businesses last year.

What's happening?

The FY24 budget included a dramatically reduced amount of only \$5 million for SBTA. This represents a 27% cut in existing efforts and left no room for new applicants. MGCC had grant proposals totaling over \$9.5 million and had to turn away almost half of their qualified applicants. Small businesses across the Commonwealth are experiencing numerous stressors, including the high cost of housing, which makes it difficult for them to find and retain employees. SBTA providers are on the front lines of helping the small businesses in their communities find creative solutions to their business problems and ensuring that every entrepreneur has the capital and savvy they need to make their business thrive.

Our ask

We urge a **\$10 million appropriation in FY25**, so that we may begin digging into the backlog that last year's cut created. SBTA funds prevent unnecessary small business failures and the resulting loss of jobs and tax revenue. For every state dollar invested, the SBTA program leverages nearly \$10 in federal and private capital, and the additional economic activity and tax revenue produced in each of the businesses supported make this a crucial, high return investment in difficult revenue environments. The SBTA grant program is essential for the overall health and vitality of small businesses in the Commonwealth, and we cannot afford to let it continue to struggle.

Proven Impact

Since program inception, SBTA has:



Helped create

4,494
New businesses



Created or preserved nearly

43,000
Jobs



Served

33,000
Small
businesses



Invested an average of

\$817
Per job

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