

# FOG Grant Program

## Food Service Establishment Grease Intercepting Equipment Grant Program

### Introduction

The Wastewater Treatment Plant Sewer Capacity Management Operation and Maintenance (CMOM) program, in part, defines best management practices the City can employ to increase the reliable operation of the sewer collection system. One practice is to reduce and eliminate the discharge of fats, oils, and grease (FOG) into the sewer system. Recognizing that the installation of FOG interceptors is expensive, the City has established a fund from which grants can be made to property owners that meet eligibility criteria.

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### Purpose

Provide a source of funds to offset the purchase and installation of FOG equipment in eligible food service establishments where no or inadequate FOG interceptors are present.

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### Definitions

*Food Service Establishment* - Restaurants, hospital kitchens, cafeterias, and other public kitchens are regulated and are required to install grease traps that must be cleaned periodically.

*Fats, oils, and grease (FOG)* - Items used when cooking, or the by-products of cooking, such as cooking oil, butter, or leftover grease from cooking bacon or other meats.

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### Administration

The purpose of this grant program is to provide funds to assist in the purchase and installation of grease intercepting equipment. The total grant of City funds cannot exceed 50% of the purchase and installation cost of the equipment or \$5000, whichever is lower. Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis and limited funding is available so the City reserves the right to reject applications due to lack of grant funds.

Disbursement of the funds will be made directly to the installation contractor after sufficient documentation demonstrating complete installation and the cost of installation has been provided and approved.

The City of Bangor prohibits discrimination. No person shall on the ground of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or familial status, or physical or mental disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under this program.

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## **Grant Approval**

Approval of the grant will be contingent upon:

- a. Grant application properly filled out;
  - b. Infrastructure Committee's affirmative vote;
  - c. Proof of ability to provide necessary funds to complete the installation of the FOG equipment;
  - d. verification that all property taxes, water/sewer fees, and all other city assessments are current; and
  - e. grant funds are available.
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## **Eligibility**

In order to qualify for a grant, both the applicant and the property to be assisted must meet the minimum eligibility criteria as set forth in these guidelines.

To qualify for a grant an applicant must:

1. Provide proof of ownership -- a signed purchase and sale agreement or a lease agreement;
2. Meet income eligibility guidelines;
3. Meet seating guideline;
4. Have paid in full all City property taxes, water/sewer fees, and /or any other assessed fees;
5. Demonstrate the capability to fund and complete the installation and maintenance plans for the FOG equipment;
6. Submit plumbing plans as requested by Code Enforcement to ensure compliance with the Maine Uniform Plumbing Code and the Bangor Sewer Use Ordinance;
7. Provide personal and business tax returns and personal financial information to determine financial capacity as deemed necessary by Community and Economic Development;

8. Demonstrate a record of compliance with the city of Bangor’s codes, ordinances, and policies and any other local, state, or federal rules and regulation that apply. Isolated violations will not be considered as a failure if addressed in a cooperative manner; and,
9. Provide a narrative demonstrating the need for this funding.

To qualify for a grant the property must:

1. Be located in the City of Bangor; and
2. Priority may be given to the Bangor Center Development District and LMI census tracts.

**Grant Amount Calculation**

The amount of the grant will be determined by the matrix below, but in no case exceed \$5000 per installation. Gross sales will be equal to the average of the last three years sales records.

*Grant Limitations*

No more than one grant will be processed at one time on behalf of an applicant. For the purpose of this section, grant processing will be considered complete when an application is disapproved or when a grant is dispersed to a contractor upon completion of the FOG equipment installation.

Grants are available for food service establishments with less than or equal to 100 seats.

**Funding Matrix**

Gross Sales	Grant Funding Maximum
0 to \$250,000	\$ 5,000.00
\$250,001 to \$500,000	\$ 4,000.00
\$500,001 to \$750,000	\$ 3,000.00
\$750,001 to \$1,000,000	\$ 2,000.00
\$1,000,001 to \$1,250,000	\$ 1,000.00

(Gross sales includes food and alcohol)