

Key Points TSEP (*Treasure State Endowment Program*)

Intro: TSEP is a state-funded program designed to help local governments to finance public facilities construction projects, preparation of preliminary engineering plans, and emergency projects.

➤ Programs funded

1. Drinking water systems
2. Wastewater treatment facilities
3. Sanitary or storm sewer systems
4. Solid waste disposal and separation systems
5. Bridges

➤ Eligibility

1. Incorporated cities and towns
2. Counties
3. Consolidated governments
4. Tribal governments
5. County or multi-county water, sewer, or solid waste districts

➤ Application Process

Eligible entities apply to the Montana Department of Commerce on specified deadlines. Free workshops are offered to assist local government and tribal officials, staff, engineers, and others interested in using the TSEP program. Department of Commerce staff and outside professional engineers rank project proposals according to scoring criteria, and recommend projects for funding. Final funding approval comes through the State legislature.

➤ Deadlines

Please see the table on the next page for deadline and program information on all three types of funding.

➤ Resources for more information

For more information about the TSEP program or copies of the publications, call Jim Edgcomb at (406) 841-2770 or email jedgcomb@mt.gov.

Internet address is http://comdev.mt.gov/CDD_TSEP.asp

<u>Type of TSEP Grant</u>	<u>Maximum Grant Amount</u>	<u>% Match Required</u>	<u>Application Deadline</u>	<u>Activities Funded</u>
Construction Grants	\$750,000	100% (dollar for dollar except in cases of extreme financial hardship where a 75% match may be acceptable)	Typically in May of even numbered years (2002, 2004, 2006 etc.)	Construction of drinking water systems, wastewater treatment facilities, sanitary or storm sewer systems, solid waste disposal and separation systems, and bridges
Preliminary Engineering Grants	\$15,000	100% (dollar for dollar and other state grant funds may not be used towards the required match)	No deadline*, applications are accepted in odd numbered years	Preparation of plans, studies, analyses or research required to complete a preliminary engineering plan, and the assessment of the condition of bridges in the applicant's jurisdiction.
Emergency Grants	Typically \$30,000	Applicant must contribute as many financial and other resources as possible and must exhaust all other means of funding the emergency	No application form is required. Emergencies will be assessed on a case-by-case basis	Remediation of conditions that present an imminent threat or actual occurrence of a disaster causing immediate peril to life, property or the environment, which with timely action can be averted or minimized.