

For questions, please call Suzi at 406-587-3113 or email swhite@prosperamt.org

Program Name	Category	High Level Description
Workforce Training:		
Incumbent Worker Training Grant (IWT) More info	Job Training Subsidies	A grant funding resource, helping to off-set a portion of skills-based training costs for incumbent. Grant caps are tiered, based on the number of hours an eligible employee works: 20-34 hours a week year-round \$1000, 35+ hours a week year-round \$2000.
Montana Apprenticeship More info	Tax Credit	This state tax credit provides businesses financial incentive to launch new, or expand their current training programs through the Montana Registered Apprenticeship unit at the Montana Department of Labor & Industry. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$750 tax credit for each new apprentice, or; • \$1,500 tax credit for each new apprentice that is a veteran; • Tax credit takes effect once apprentice has completed probationary period or after 6 months, whichever is earlier; The tax credit may be applied for each qualified apprentice's training program for length of training program or up to five years.
Job Creation:		
Big Sky Trust Fund Job Creation Grant More info	Grant	The maximum grant or loan award is up to \$5,000 for each eligible new job created. Match required is \$1 for every \$1 awarded (1:1). Must apply through Prospera.
New or Expanded Industry Credit (Manufacturing) More info	Tax Credit	The New or Expanded Industry Credit is for businesses creating new manufacturing jobs in Montana.
Program related:		
Big Sky Trust Fund Planning Grant More info	Grant	Planning funding is awarded for economic development planning activities in Montana for the following activities: support for business improvement districts including architectural and engineering fees; central business district redevelopment; industrial development; feasibility studies; preproduction costs for film or media. Up to \$27,000. Match required is \$1 for every \$1 awarded (1:1). Must apply through Prospera.
Montana SBIR/STTR Matching Funds Program More info	Grants	The SBIR/STTR Matching Funds Program assists technology-based Montana companies by providing additional funding that can be used for technology development or other uses during the time that the company is working on a

		Small Business Innovation Research or Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) project with a federal agency. For eligible companies working on a project for a federal agency, Montana offers up to \$60,000 matching grant funds for Phase I and Phase II.
Montana Women's Business Center Impact Grant More info	Grants	Any women owned business >51% ownership can apply for this grant of up to \$6,000.
USDA Rural Energy for America Program Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Improvement More Info	Grants and Loans	The goal is to provide funds to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements. Agricultural producers may also apply for new energy efficient equipment and new system loans for agricultural production and processing. Open to small businesses in rural communities as well.
Montana Bioscience Cluster Initiative Grant More Info	Grants	The Montana Bioscience Cluster Initiative is offering funding to provide direct assistance to Montana bioscience entrepreneurs, startups, and small businesses in need of money for travel to key conferences, small equipment purchases, or temporary staff assistance in relation to proposal development, etc. This fund is designed for maximum flexibility in support of new and established businesses and entrepreneurs in the bioscience industry. The fund will provide grants of \$250 to \$5,000. In exceptional circumstances the fund may consider larger applications. Grants may be awarded in phases (e.g. \$1,000 initially with additional \$1,000 on achieving specific milestone).
Contractor's Gross Receipt Credit More info	Tax Credits	Credit for people and businesses doing work under public contracts and paying the Contractor's 1% Gross Receipts Tax (CGR). This credit can offset the tax liability of individual income, corporate income, or alternative corporate income taxes and can be carried forward up to five years.
Energy Conservation Investments Deduction More info	Tax Abatements	Tax abatement for capital investment in a building for an energy conservation purpose that is not financed by state, federal, or private grant funds for energy conservation. A deduction up to \$3,600 for nonresidential buildings may be available.
Historic Buildings Preservation Credit More info	Tax Credits	An individual or business restoring a historic building (listed on the National Register) they own or lease in Montana. Up to 25% of the federal credit allowed. Credit is non-refundable and may be carried forward up to seven years.
Infrastructure User Fee Credit More info	Tax Credits	Eligible businesses paying a local government infrastructure user fee financed through the Board of Investments. The total credit may not exceed the amount of the loan and the credit may be carried back three years then carried forward seven.
Qualified Endowment Credit More info	Tax Credits	Credit available for people and businesses making charitable donations to a qualified endowment. 20% of a direct charitable gift made to qualified endowments or 40% of the present value of a planned gift, up to \$10,000. An endowment is a financial asset created by a donation made to a non-profit group or institution in the form of investment funds or other property that has a stated purpose at the bequest of the donor. Most endowments are designed to

		keep the principal amount intact while using the investment income from dividends for charitable efforts.
Recycling Credit More info	Tax Credits	Credit is for people and businesses collecting, manufacturing, and processing recycled materials.
Unlocking Public Lands Credit More info	Tax Credits	Businesses and people providing access to public lands. Must be enrolled in the Unlocking Public Lands Program with the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. Credit is refundable providing \$750 for each qualified access up to \$3,000.
Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) More info	Financing	Commercial property assesses clean energy (C-PACE) is a tool that can finance energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements on commercial property.
Research and Development More info	Tax Exemptions	A Research and Development firm organized to engage in business in the state of Montana for the first time is not subject to state corporate income taxes on net income during its first 5 taxable years of activity in Montana.
Northwestern Energy More info	Rebates	Natural gas, electric, lighting and Irrigation rebates as well as a E+ Business Partnership Program. Must be a NorthWestern Energy client.
Big Sky Film Grant More info	Grant	The Big Sky Film Grant Program builds and supports partnerships with filmmakers and production companies with the intention to create Montana film industry jobs. 50%+ of principal photography must be filmed in Montana.
Employee Retention Credit More info	Tax Credit	The purpose of the ERC was to encourage employers to keep their employees on payroll during the pandemic. Businesses have until December 31, 2022 to apply for this tax credit. Must have W2 employees.
<i>Agricultural Specific:</i>		
Growth Through Agriculture (GTA) More info	Grant and Loan Program	A program to strengthen and diversify Montana's agricultural industry through the development of new agricultural products and processes. Examples of eligible project activities involve equipment purchases, construction costs, advertising and promotion, and consultant services for engineering.
USDA Value Added Producer Grant (VAPG) More info	Grant	Helps agricultural producers enter into value-added activities related to the processing and marketing of new products. The goals of this program are to generate new products, create and expand marketing opportunities and increase producer income.
Specialty Crop Block Grant More info	Grant	This grant enhances the competitiveness of specialty crops in either domestic or foreign markets and benefit crops grown in Montana.
USDA Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG) More info	Grant and Loan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Populations less than 50,000 • Training and technical assistance, such as project planning, business counseling and training, market research, feasibility studies, professional or/technical reports or producer service improvements.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollution control and abatement. • The capitalization of revolving loan funds, including funds that will make loans for start-ups and working capital. • Distance adult learning for job training and advancement. • Rural transportation improvement. • Community economic development. • Technology-based economic development. • Feasibility studies and business plans. • Leadership and entrepreneur training. • Rural business incubators. • Long-term business strategic planning
Farm Labor Housing Direct Loans & Grants More Info	Grants and Loans	Provides affordable financing to develop housing for year-round and migrant or seasonal domestic farm laborers. Must be providing affordable rent to low-income tenants.
Exporting Specific:		
Montana Department of Commerce State Trade Expansion Program (STEP) More Info	Grant	<p>This program is intended to support Montana companies that export their goods or services. The State Trade Expansion Program (STEP) is a Federal grant administered by Export Montana. Montana exporters can apply for 75% reimbursement up to \$10,000 for eligible international marketing activities, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Trade Show Exhibition • Market Research & U.S. Commercial Service Programs • Foreign Language Translation • International Compliance Testing • International Intellectual Property Protection • International e-Commerce & Website Fees • International Digital Marketing • International Credit Insurance from EXIM Bank • International Travel Stipend <p>*Companies may receive up to \$30,000 in STEP awards per year.</p>

Commercial Property:		
Remodeled or Expanded Commercial Property More Info	Exemption	<p>Property may be eligible if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The property couldn't be used in any business for at least six months before applying for the exemption.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The remodeled, reconstructed, or expanded property value is at least 5% higher than before the remodel; and • The exemption is approved by the local government.
New Market Tax Credits More Info	Tax Credit	This program incentivizes community development and economic growth through the use of tax credits that attract private investment to distressed communities.
Montana Property Tax Credits More Info	Tax Credit	Tax Credits for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abandoned Mobile Homes • Agricultural Processing Facilities • Ammunition manufacturing • Business Incubator • Remodeled or Expanded Commercial property (see above) • Fiber Optic
Data Center Building More Info	Tax Credit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class 17 Property tax classification for qualifying data centers: 25,000 square feet of new or expanded area, where the total cost of land, improvements, personal property, and software is at least \$50 million invested during a 48-month period. • Data centers' property tax liability may be reduced by 75% or 50% of their taxable value in the first five years after a construction permit is issued.
Brownfields More Info	Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA's Brownfields Program provides grants to facilitate the leveraging of public resources, EPA's Brownfields Program collaborates with other EPA programs, other federal partners, and state agencies to identify and make available resources that can be used for brownfield activities. • Assessment Grants provide funding for brownfield inventories, planning, environmental assessments, and community outreach. • Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants provide funding to capitalize loans that are used to clean up brownfield sites. • Cleanup Grants provide funding to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites owned by the applicant. • Multipurpose (MP) Grants provide funding to conduct a range of eligible assessment and cleanup activities at one or more brownfield sites in a target area. • Job Training (JT) Grants provide environmental training for residents impacted by brownfield sites in their communities. • State and Tribal Response Program Grants provide non-competitive funding to establish or enhance State and Tribal Brownfields response programs.
NorthWestern Energy More info	Rebates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebates, E+ Program

Bozeman Specific:		
City of Bozeman Commercial Rebates More info	Rebates	Does your business receive water from the City of Bozeman? If so, upgrade to high efficiency indoor fixtures and appliances and we'll reward you with a cash rebate (not to mention lower bills) for helping conserve water! Rebates for toilets, washing machines, shower heads and sprinkler systems are available.
Bozeman's Downtown Urban Renewal District (URD) More info	Grants	Must be in the Downtown Bozeman Urban Renewal District. Grants for fiber, streetscape, fire suppression and safety code, and Residential building units
Business Professional Women (BPW) Small Business Grants for Women More info	Grants	Grants for educational use.
Greater Gallatin United Way More info	Grants	The Community Investment Fund provides financial and additional support to direct service agencies as one strategy to positively change lives in Gallatin, Madison, Meagher, and Park Counties. The fund's Impact Areas are Basic Needs, Child and Youth Success, Behavioral Health and Mental Well-Being, and Senior Stability.

Other Grants		
Grants.gov More info	Various	A database of federally sponsored grants, including grants for small businesses. To apply, you must obtain a Unique Entity ID for your business (a 12-character alphanumeric identification number), register to do business with the U.S. government through its System for Award Management (SAM) website and create an account at Grants.gov.T
Amber Grants for Women More info	Grants	In 1998, we gave our first Amber Grant in honor of 19-year old Amber Wigdahl, who died before fulfilling her business dreams. Today, we award two \$10,000 Amber Grant each month. And two of our 24 monthly winners get an additional \$25,000 Year-End Amber Grant. It is an easy grant but VERY competitive, there is a \$15 application fee.
Cartier Women's Initiative Awards More info	Grants	Cartier awards three grants to women-owned businesses in nine different regions around the world. The Cartier Women's Initiative Awards program is designed to support early-stage businesses that are focused on a range of social, economic and environmental development issues. The first-place business is awarded a \$100,000 grant, second place receives \$60,000 and third place gets \$30,000. Winners also receive executive coaching

		and the opportunity to participate in a variety of training workshops. Very competitive.
FedEx Small Business Grant More info	Grant	FedEx awards from \$10,000 - \$50,000 to 15 small businesses annually. Winners also receive money to use toward FedEx Office print and business services. The application requires an explanation of your business, how you'd use the money, photos of your business and — this part is optional — a short video explaining your business. To be eligible, you must operate a for-profit business with fewer than 99 employees and at least six months of operating history.
National Association for the Self-Employed Growth Grant More info	Grant	This nonprofit trade association awards \$4,000 per month in growth grants to small businesses that can be used for a variety of business needs, including marketing, advertising and hiring employees. To apply for this grant, you must be a NASE member in good standing for at least three months. Annual members can apply at any time.
Founded Outdoors Embark Program for Outdoor Brand Entrepreneurs More info		Embark, a program developed in collaboration between REI Co-op Path Ahead Ventures and Founded Outdoors, is the place to launch your outdoor brand. Embark is a virtual, 3-month program designed to fuel new and aspiring entrepreneurs from Black, Indigenous, Latina/o/x, and Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities as you build a path forward by offering the resources and guidance to turn early-stage ideas into viable businesses. Receive up to \$10,000 in grant funding for your brand.

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