**Monitoring montana waters funding application**

# description of Funding Support & ELIGIBILITY

Monitoring Montana Waters (MMW) offers two different types of financial support to watershed groups that have had SAPs and SOPs approved by MMW or Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). These funds are available to provide support for sample analyses costs (including shipping of samples), as well as the purchase of sampling gear.

Laboratory Analyses Funding

Laboratory analyses funding provides groups with up to $7000 per calendar year to support the costs of shipping and analyzing water quality samples. Paid shipping labels will be provided for groups to send samples to the Flathead Lake Biological Station’s Freshwater Research Lab (FRL). For analyses that cannot be run in-house, such as metals analysis, samples will be outsourced from FRL.

Groups applying for Laboratory Analyses Funding must commit 50% cost match to be eligible. Cost match must be provided during the calendar year of the MMW funding, and documentation must be provided to MMW. Cost match may be comprised of personnel time (volunteer or staff), travel expenses or actual dollars spent. Personnel time can include time spent collecting samples plus time spent traveling to and from sites. Volunteer time uses the national standard rate of $33.49/hour per person (or whatever the current Federal rate is at the time of the application; staff should use their actual rate). Travel expenses may be documented at a rate of $0.67 per mile traveled. The number of miles, as well as a description of the locations traveled to, must be documented. If dollars are to be used, the amount and purpose of match in dollars must be listed.

Data will be provided to groups within 8 weeks of the samples arriving at the lab.

Gear Funding

Gear funding supports purchase of sampling gear (e.g., recommended meters, specialized gear or consumable supplies like filters). The purpose of these funds is to assist new groups in obtaining sampling gear needed to start a program, to help groups replace failed gear (e.g. water quality meters, tape measures, etc), or purchase consumable supplies like filters. Groups can apply for gear funding once every 3 years. To receive gear funding, watershed groups must provide documentation of 100% matching funds in dollars. A maximum of $1500 may be awarded per application per group for gear (once every 3 years).

Eligibility & Requirements

For 2025, funding applications and draft SAP/SOPs are due by March 1st. In order to receive Laboratory analysis funds groups must complete an approved SAP, sign a MOU, agree to share data with FLBS (it will be uploaded to the FLBS database upon analysis completion), complete a short final report, upload all of their data to the MT DEQ EquIS Water Quality Exchange (MT-eWQX) database, and provide MMW with a copy of their final EDD document by February 28th, 2026. Funding applications must be emailed to [mmw@flbs.umt.edu](mailto:mmw@flbs.umt.edu) by the deadline. Groups will be notified of the application outcome in April.

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**2025 APPLICATION**

**Due by 5pm March 1, 2025**

Applicants must submit all application materials electronically via email to Monitoring Montana Water’s Program Leader, Dr. Rachel Malison, at [mmw@flbs.umt.edu](mailto:mmw@flbs.umt.edu). She can be reached by phone at 406-872-4518. For more information, please visit the MMW Program website at [Monitoring Montana Waters (MMW) - FLBS (umt.edu)](https://flbs.umt.edu/newflbs/monitoring/mmw/monitoring-montana-waters-mmw/).

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| **Applicant Contact Information** | |
| Applicant - Organization Name | Click here to enter text. |
| Applicant - Contact Person Name | Click here to enter text. |
| Address | Click here to enter text. |
| Email | Click here to enter text. |
| Phone | Click here to enter text. |
| Tax ID number | Click here to enter text. |
| Waterbody/Sampling Location | Click here to enter text. |
| Requested laboratory funding amount ($7,000 maximum; must match budget table) | Click here to enter text. |
| Requested gear funding amount ($1,500 maximum) | Click here to enter text. |
| Application Date | Click here to enter text. |

Please check this box if you have also applied for DEQ Volunteer Monitoring Lab Analysis Support. If checked, describe how the use of MMW funds will differ from use of DEQ funds. A detailed description, including which sites and how many visits you will make using each funding source is required.

Click here to enter text.

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| **Type of MMW funding being applied for (check one or both):** |

Laboratory Analyses Funding

Gear Funding

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| **Project Information** |

1. **Project title and location:**

Click here to enter text.

1. **Describe who will conduct the monitoring (indicate if volunteer or not):**

Click here to enter text.

1. **Describe the monitoring objectives that you will address with the data you are seeking funding for:**

Click here to enter text.

1. **Briefly summarize your study design, selected analytes, and intended data analysis for 2025. Explain why these are suitable to reach the objectives stated in response #3 above. The study design description must list site names and the number of sampling events. If MMW and DEQ funds are both requested list here which sites/visits are to be covered by each funding source.**

Click here to enter text.

1. **Describe how the results of the project will be used in efforts to protect or improve water quality:**

Click here to enter text.

1. **Describe how this monitoring project fits into larger watershed scale planning and monitoring efforts:**

Click here to enter text.

1. **Describe how you will communicate results and conclusions of this project to appropriate audiences:**

Click here to enter text.

1. **Describe steps that you have taken to ensure this project can be successfully implemented in 2025:**

Click here to enter text.

1. **List training, technical resources, equipment, or other factors (e.g., permission from landowners to sample on private lands) that you will need to obtain in order to implement the project in 2025:**

Click here to enter text.

1. **If applying for gear funding, describe the specific gear needed, why it is needed and the estimated cost/supplier**

Click here to enter text.

1. **Draft Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) is attached?** Check box to confirm: **Yes**

**\***if you apply for DEQ and MMW funds it is highly recommended that one SAP is completed that covers all project efforts (funded by both groups).

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| **Laboratory Analyses Funding Budget** |

Please provide a budget table which reflects the type, quantity, and cost of parameters for which funding is being requested. See the FLBS Freshwater Research Lab Suite and Pricing Guide on the MMW website (<https://flbs.umt.edu/newflbs/outreach/mmw/>) for available analytes and costs.

\*If you have applied for both MMW funding and DEQ Volunteer Laboratory Analysis Support you must include a three-part budget here or attach one in excel (preferred option so that edits can be made if needed). Part A will list all sites and the number of sampling events for all monitoring being conducted in 2025. Part B should specify the number of sites and sampling events requested of DEQ and Part C should specific the number of sites and sampling events requested of MMW.

Suggested format (add rows as needed):

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Analyte** | **Price per Analyte** | **Number of Sites** | **Number of visits per site** | **Number of routine samples** (number of sites x number of visits per site) | **Number of field blanks** (often one per sampling event) | **Number of field duplicates** (often ~10% of the total number of routine samples) | **Total number of samples** (routine + duplicates + blanks) | **Total Cost** (Total number of samples x cost per parameter) |
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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Total cost of all samples** |  |

\*include a line for shipping, if applicable

\*include a line of consumables if needed (syringes = $1.00 each, filters = $1.00 each)

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| **Cost Match – Laboratory Analyses Funding – check all that apply** |

Personnel Time

Mileage

Dollars

1. **Briefly describe the estimated composition of the proposed 50% cost match.**

**Click here to enter text.**

1. **If using mileage as match, describe the sampling route and indicate total mileage (to match details in Cost Match Table).**

**Click here to enter text.**

Please enter cost match details in the table below. Ensure the total match is at least 50% of the total budget. Add rows as needed to each section of the table.

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| **Match - Personnel (Volunteer or Staff) Time** | | | | | | |
| **Name of Personnel** | **# of Sites** | **# hrs per site** | **# of visits per year** | **Total # Hrs** | **Cost match per hour ($33.49/hr or staff rate)** | **Total match per individual** |
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| **Matching Mileage** | | | | | | |
| **Site Name or Names** | **Mileage** (round trip to/fr site) | **Number visits per year** | **Total mileage** |  | **Cost match per mile ($0.67)** | **Total match per site/s** |
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| **Matching Dollars** | | | | | | |
| **Description of use** |  |  |  |  |  | **Total Dollar Match** |
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| **Cost Match – Gear Funding** |

1. **Describe the gear to be purchased, and what will be covered by matching funds (in dollars).**

**Click here to enter text.**