



# SMALL MINER EXCLUSION & EXPLORATION LICENSES

## PLEASE NOTE:

1. The following Hard Rock Mining fees are effective as of July 1, 2025, as enacted under House Bill 69.
2. Small Miner Exclusion Statements and Exploration Licenses each require annual renewal.
3. The Annual Fee (including fees for revisions and minor amendments submitted within the previous 12 months) will be invoiced to the operator prior to the annual renewal.

## SMALL MINER EXCLUSION STATEMENT (SMES)

New SMES and Administrative Fee  
Submitted Annually with Written Agreement - 82-4-305, MCA. **\$100**

Late Fee – If Written Agreement and Administrative Fee are Not Submitted by March 1st of each year - 82-4-305, MCA. **\$100**

### NEW EXPLORATION LICENSE

To be paid at the time of Application –  
82-4-332, Montana Code Annotated (MCA)

#### FEE

Activities on the surface of land only	<b>\$1000</b>
Activities beneath the surface of the land	<b>\$2000</b>
Licenses including <i>both</i> surface and beneath the surface disturbance	<b>\$2000</b>

### EXPLORATION LICENSE MODIFICATIONS

To be paid with the Annual Renewal – 82-4-342, MCA

#### FEE

Each Minor Amendment or Revision	<b>\$100</b>
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### EXPLORATION LICENSE AMENDMENT

To be paid at the time of Amendment – 82-4-342, MCA

#### FEE

Activities only on the surface of the land	<b>\$250</b>
Activities beneath the surface of the land	<b>\$500</b>
Amendments including <i>both</i> surface and beneath the surface disturbance	<b>\$500</b>

### EXPLORATION LICENSE ANNUAL RENEWAL FEE

To be paid Annually – 82-4-331 and 82-4-342(2)(c), MCA

Activities only on the surface of the land only	<b>\$100*</b>
Activities beneath the surface of the land	<b>\$400*</b>
Renewals including <i>both</i> surface and beneath the surface disturbance	<b>\$400*</b>

\*Annual Renewal Fee plus (+) each Minor Amendment or Revision Fee from past 12-months.



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[deq.mt.gov/mining/Programs/hardrock](http://deq.mt.gov/mining/Programs/hardrock)