Volunteer Monitoring Laboratory Analysis Support Program (VMLASP)

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What is the VMLASP?

- A competitive funding opportunity

- Offsets analytical costs

- One component of DEQ's Volunteer Monitoring Support Program.
  - Financial Support
  - Technical Support
  - Lending Equipment
  - Forming partnerships with other entities in the state that also support volunteer monitoring.

Program Scope

- Applications can request up to $6,000

- Provides funding for **<u>only</u>** laboratory analysis and sample shipping costs.

DEQ
MONTANA

Call for Applications

- Eligibility

- Submission Requirements

- Final Reporting Requirements

- Program Timelines

- Terms and Conditions

- Selection Criteria

Call for Applications Link

Applicant Eligibility

- Applicants may include a variety of entities.

- Project is in MT

- Monitoring pertains to surface water quality

- Monitoring is not for profit and voluntary

- Project preferably incorporates one or more person monitoring in a volunteer capacity

Applicant Eligibility Cont.

- Project has broader, community benefit
- Applicant demonstrates capacity for project administration
- Clearly-defined monitoring objectives
- Monitoring aims to produce high quality, credible data intended for objective-driven data analysis
- Requests for funding are exclusively for costs of laboratory analysis and shipping

Application Requirements

- Complete Application

- Draft Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP)

- Lab Analysis Budget

- Submit via email to the Program Manager by 5:00PM on Friday, February 21st, 2025
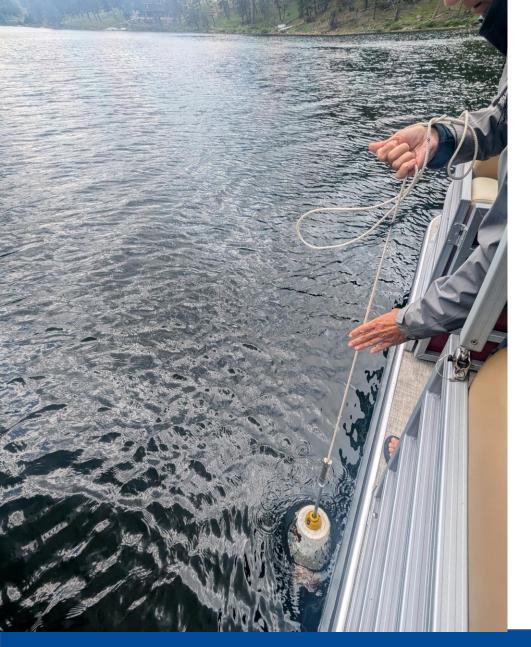
Application Review Process

- Program Manager – determines eligibility and reviews all application materials

- Technical Review Committee – provides written feedback on SAP and score final application materials

- Program manager will competitively award funding based on application scores and committee recommendations.

Scoring Criteria

- Scoring Criteria developed based on requirements outlined in the Call for Applications.

- Each application is scored independently.

- Scores are used to assist with final decision

VMLASP Application Score Sheet

Requirements for Awarded Funds

1. Finalize SAPs and budgets by incorporating feedback from DEQ and resubmit their final SAP to the Program Manager for signature approval.

2. Obtain the signed final SAP from DEQ.

3. Sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with DEQ.

Final Reporting Requirements

- Upload all data via an EDD to DEQ's MT-eWQX database

- Email confirmation of data upload to the Program Manager

- Submit final report to the Program Manager.

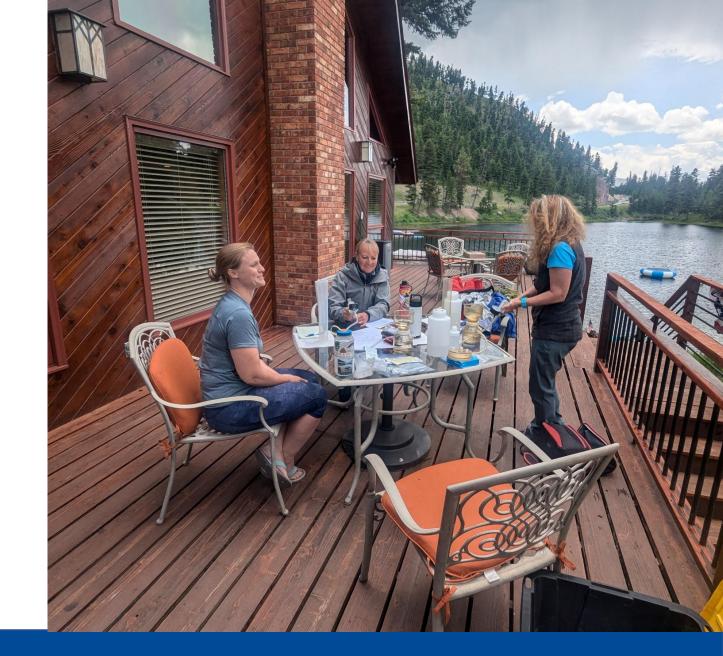EDD Submission Resources

2025 VMLASP Timeline

Event	Date
Call for applications	Tuesday, January 21, 2025
Application materials are due*	**5:00 PM, Friday, February 21, 2025**
DEQ notifies applicants of tentative funding award decisions (pending approval of final SAP) and sends comments on application materials	Tuesday, March 25, 2025
Final SAP approved by DEQ	Prior to first sampling event
MOU signed by DEQ and Awardee	
Final Report and confirmation of data submission to MT-eWQX database are due	No later than February 28, 2026

Resources

- Call for Applications
- Monitoring Lab Analysis Parameter Suite and Price List
- Budget Table Template
- SAP Template
- Monitoring Methods Selection Guide
- Volunteer Monitoring Planning Catalogue

[Volunteer Monitoring Webpage](#)

Volunteer Monitoring Laboratory Analysis Support Program

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Thank you!