

Frequently Asked Questions

LEAD IN DRINKING WATER REMEDIATION GRANT FOR SCHOOLS AND CHILD CARES

To provide equitable access to information about this grant opportunity MDH is providing this document to publicly share the answers to questions we have received. This contains questions submitted to MDH on the Dec. 13th Open-Call for Questions or by phone or email submitted on or before Dec. 15th, 2023 regarding the request for proposals (RFP) and application.

Applications are due January 12,2024 by 4pm.

Phoned/Emailed Grant Questions

- 1. Can applicants apply for WIIN and Remediation funding? **Answer:** Yes- these are separate resources.
- 2. If there is a Head Start Program located in the School can both submit their own applications? **Answer:** Yes, applications can be submitted separately. Most Head Start programs are classified as a child care center. Head Start locations are eligible to apply.
- 3. Does the school have to already have signed contracts for remediation before they apply or if cost estimates will be enough? **Answer:** *Estimates are enough for the application.*
- 4. Amount of Funding Available and per grant: **Answer:** This will depend on the number of applicants that are eligible please see the Table from RFP for estimates.: \$146,000 is available this Fiscal year (FY) that will be split into 6-15 grants between \$8,000-\$15,000.

Funding	Estimate
Estimated Amount to Grant	\$146,000 during FY 2024 \$239, 000 during FY 2025, 2026, 2027
Estimated Number of Awards	6-15 per year
Estimated Award Maximum	\$15,000
Estimated Award Minimum	\$8,000

Figure 1. Table from RFP

- 5. When would we need to finish our project? **Answer:** From the RFP the February 16, 2024 December 31, 2024.
- 6. Would filters be an eligible expense? **Answer**: *Yes*.

Dec. 13, 2023 Webinar Questions

7. Is there a minimum amount? **Answer:** The estimated minimum amount is \$8,000. Applications submitted that are lower than the minimum may not receive priority.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- 8. Is the amount per district or can a district submit projects for multiple buildings? Can the grant be used for district-wide projects? Must projects in a district be separated by buildings? **Answer:** The district can submit 1 application for district-wide projects or it may submit multiple applications for individual buildings. Every applicant is different and will want to consider the best route for their remediation needs. District wide projects may work best when individual building projects would not meet the minimum estimated award. While separate applications would be best for projects that that are greater than the minimum award. It is important that schools list the legal entity(district) responsible for purchasing and contracting in their applications even if they are submitting applications separately for individual buildings.
- 9. Is it a matching grant? **Answer:** No
- 10. If a school remediates something before February 16, 2024 will the grant cover costs retroactively? **Answer:** No. You must have a signed and executed grant agreement before projects can be started. Projects must be completed during the project period listed in the RFP.
- 11. Can schools that have not test for lead in water yet (or have not tested recently) apply proactively assuming they will have high levels and need funds for remediation? **Answer:**Yes, they can apply. However, priority is given to locations that have document elevated levels of lead. Applicants that apply without lead results will need to demonstrate that they have a need to remediate such as age of building/documentation of plumbing materials containing lead in order to receive full points during the review of applications.
- 12. Where can I get support to do lead testing? **Answer:** The WIIN Grant is available to provide schools and child cares with test kits and laboratory analysis. You can apply for this program separately from the remediation grant at <u>Minnesota Lead Testing in Schools and Child Care in Drinking Water</u>

 (https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/schools/mngrant.html).
- 13. Where can I download the application materials? **Answer**: All grant materials can be found at <u>Lead Remediation in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Settings Grant Program</u> (https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/com/leadremgrant.html).

Minnesota Department of Health Drinking Water Protection 651-201-4700 <u>HEALTH.WIIN Grant@state.mn.us</u> www.health.state.mn.us

12/18/2023

To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-4700