

MONTANA

BOARD OF INVESTMENTS

Montana Down Payment Assistance Loan Program

Continuing Guidance

Last updated: August 13, 2024

This document has been created to provide additional guidance into the process of applying for and receiving funds from the Montana Board of Investments (BOI) for the Montana Down Payment Assistance Loan Program. It is updated frequently with answers to questions and responses to concerns.

1. Does the business have to occupy 100% of a property?
 - a. No, but it must occupy at least 51% of the subject property, which may include leases for at least 51% of the subject property between the primary operating company and real estate holding company.
2. Will the BOI participate in the construction loan, or will it be permanent financing after construction is completed?
 - a. The BOI is not able to participate in the construction loan. If the construction project is not completed before the commitment expiration the Lender can advance the remaining available funds into a controlled account to complete the project. The 30% note would be modified to repayment over the term and sold to the BOI with servicing retained.

Example: Assume the BOI note is for \$250,000 and only \$50,000 has been advanced prior to BOI funding. The Lender would advance the remaining \$200,000 into a controlled account and complete the modification and sale of the note to BOI. The Lender would advance the remaining \$200,000, from the controlled account, to complete the project.

3. Will Ag producers be allowed to participate in the program?
 - a. Businesses who file a Schedule F for tax purposes are ineligible.
4. Can the Lenders 65% loan be participated with the BOI Coal Tax Participation Loan Program?
 - a. Yes.
5. Will the BOI subordinate to an SBA 504 loan?
 - a. No, the BOI will only subordinate to the Lender.
6. How does the BOI determine the 1.25-to-1 debt service coverage?

- a. Minimum debt service coverage (DSC) is 1.25-to-1 based on the global average historical cash flow or projected cash flow from established businesses based upon an additional or new production line. Global DSC is defined as cashflow coverage provided by the obligor and guarantors.
7. Is there a prepayment penalty on the BOI Loan?
 - a. No, there is no prepayment penalty on the BOI loan. The Lender must notify the BOI 15 days prior to the payoff.
 8. Can a tenant purchase the building they currently rent with program funds?
 - a. Generally, no, however, if the business is a Montana-based business and meets any one or more of the criteria below, the project is eligible:
 - Grow wages of existing employees, or
 - Increase number of employees or net revenues, or
 - Increase the Montana tax base.
 9. Will the BOI subordinate to another Lender?
 - a. No, the BOI will not subordinate to another Lender.

All loans must lead to direct growth of the Montana economy.