The Saskatchewan Targeted Mineral Exploration Incentive (TMEI), is a key component of the *Securing the Future: Saskatchewan’s Critical Minerals Strategy*. The TMEI, originally introduced in 2018, helps support the diversification of Saskatchewan’s mineral sector by promoting drilling on hard rock mineral exploration projects.

The TMEI program provides financial assistance in the form of a grant to exploration companies that undertake eligible drilling activities.

**Eligible Applicants**

1. A Holder of a Saskatchewan mineral claim that is registered in accordance with section 12 of *The Mineral Tenure Registry Regulations*, which is in good standing.
2. A Person or company that has been authorized to act as a designate by an eligible holder as per [*The Targeted Mineral Exploration Incentive Regulations*](https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/api/v1/products/92057/formats/109028/download).

**Eligible Projects**

1. For all minerals regulated under *The Mineral Tenure Registry Regulations at any location in the province.*
2. Is located on one or more mineral dispositions, not including mineral leases.
3. Work is directly related to drilling.
4. Work is completed within the eligible work period.
5. All activities are in compliance with all *Acts* and *Regulations* that govern mineral exploration in Saskatchewan.

**Eligible Expenses**

1. Eligible expenditures are those associated with direct drilling costs. Please refer to Section 13(1) of [*The Targeted Mineral Exploration Incentive Regulations*](https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/api/v1/products/92057/formats/109028/download).
2. Eligible expenditures must be incurred by the applicant on or after April 1st and before the March 31st deadline of the fiscal year in which the application is made.

**Verification of Work Expenditures**

1. Must be in electronic format.
2. Must be received by April 30th of the fiscal year following the year for which the application was approved, and work was completed.
3. Must include the following:
	1. Invoices of work directly related to drilling **and** proof of payment of those invoices.
	2. Complete drill logs in table format (e.g. .xls or .csv).
	3. Complete set of labelled core photos (meterage, core boxes or both) in .jpeg format.
	4. Signed complete and accurate Verification of Work form.

**Available Funding**

1. The overall program funding is $ 4 million annually and will be reviewed on an annual basis.
2. Eligible companies can receive a grant of **25% of direct drilling costs**:
	1. Up to a maximum of **$ 50,000 per year** for **uranium projects**, or

($ 200,000 worth of eligible expenditures to reach the maximum)

* 1. Up to a maximum of **$150,000 per year** for **all other hard-rock mineral projects**

($600,000 worth of eligible expenditures to reach the maximum)

1. Funding is subject to proration if uptake exceeds the over funding level for that fiscal year.

**Deadlines**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Fiscal Year** | **Application** | **Work Period** | **Notification of Work** | **Verification of Work** | **Payment** |
| April 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019 | On or before Dec 31, 2018 | Same as fiscal year | February 2019 | On or before Apr 30, 2019 | \*\* |
| April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020 | On or before Dec 31, 2019 | Same as fiscal year | February 2020 | On or before Apr 30, 2020 | \*\* |
| April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021 | On or before Dec 31, 2020 | Same as fiscal year | February 2021 | On or before Apr 30, 2021 | \*\* |
| April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022 | On or before Dec 31, 2021 | Same as fiscal year | February 2022 | On or before Apr 30, 2022 | \*\* |
| April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023 | On or before Dec 31, 2022 | Same as fiscal year:April 1, 2022 to March 31st, 2023 | February 2023 | On or before Apr 30, 2023 |  |
| **April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024** | **On or before Dec 31, 2023** | **Same as fiscal year:****April 1, 2023 to March 31st, 2024** | **February 2024** | **On or before Apr 30, 2024** | **\*\*** |
| \*\* Payment of incentive funds will be made after verification of work of all applicants has been completed and adjustments made for proration as required. |

**Common Questions and Answers**

1. **Can I submit multiple applications?**

**No**, only one application can be submitted per applicant per year and each disposition can be the subject of only one application per year. Multiple projects, if taking place on more than one disposition can be included in one application.

1. **Can I update or amend an application?**

**Yes**, it is understood that the initial application is an “intent” to do work and that programs can change. If the changes include applicant, claims, or project changes, please submit those as soon as possible for review. Please do not assume that the approval of a TMEI application means a guarantee of funding if your application information changes.

1. **If I have a joint venture with a company but do not have ownership on that claim, can I submit an application form?**

**Yes**, if you have incurred expenditures directly related to drilling on that claim. Since a claim can be the subject of only one application per fiscal year for work incurred in that year, you are required to get written authorization from the claim holder as per the Schedule of Dispositions found in both the Application and Verification of Work forms.

Two companies cannot apply for the incentive on two different claims within the same project.

1. **What kind of expenditures are considered direct drill costs?**

Eligible expenditures directly related to drilling include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Drilling, including but not limited to casing, cementing, testing, reaming, wedging and orientation;
2. Labour, including but not limited to site preparation, skid work, cat work, sump maintenance and foreman;
3. Travel and transportation costs of personnel, equipment and supplies used in the work with respect to the approved application to a maximum of 40% of the total cost of the approved application;
4. Equipment and consumables, including but not limited to rentals, drill steel, muds, lubricants, fuel, and helicopters;
5. Other items, such as moves between drill sites and standby;
6. Any other approved direct drilling expenditure approved by the Minister.
7. **What kind of expenditures are NOT considered direct drill costs?**

Expenditures that are not considered direct drill costs for the TMEI program include but are not limited to:

1. Sampling
2. Analytical work (mineral assays, etc.)
3. Downhole tests/surveys (with the exception of hole orientation surveys)
4. Core logging or geotechnical work
5. Administrative costs
6. **Why are there 2 applications?**

The **TMEI** **Application form** is like a letter of intent to do the work that allows Ministry staff to verify regulatory requirements and to acquire a preliminary budget. This first application deadline is **December 31st** of the ***current* TMEI work year**, see the “Deadlines” table above.

The **TMEI Verification of Work form** is your declaration and proof of work and is due **April 30th** ***after*** **the TMEI work year**. See the “Deadlines” table above.

1. **How do we submit the Application Form, Verification of Work Form, and accompanying data?**

Please submit all documents in electronic format by the April 30th deadline. You can send by email, request a file transfer, or send via your own transfer (please note we ***cannot*** accept files through DropBox).

**TMEI Program**

Ministry of Energy and Resources

Saskatchewan Geological Survey

610-1945 Hamilton Street

Regina, SK S4P 2C7

1. **How will proration be handled?**

Proration will **ONLY** occur if the uptake and work expenditures exceed the amount of funding available for a given fiscal year. In the case that the TMEI is not fully subscribed, proration will not be utilized to maximize the funding. An applicant cannot receive a grant that is more that set out in the *Targeted Mineral Exploration Incentive Regulations.*

In this sample the total funding level for the year is $500,000 (figures, funding and percentages are an example only):

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Company** |  **Expenditures**  | **25% of expenditures** |  **Eligible For**  | **Prorated** |
| 1 |  $ 450,000.00  |  $ 112,500.00  |  $ 50,000.00  |  $ 35,455.47  |
| 2 |  $ 1,250,325.00  |  $ 312,581.25  |  $ 50,000.00  |  $ 35,455.47  |
| 3 |  $ 198,654.32  |  $ 49,663.58  |  $ 49,663.58  |  $ 35,216.91  |
| 4 |  $ 326,000.00  |  $ 81,500.00  |  $ 50,000.00  |  $ 35,455.47  |
| 5 |  $ 2,275,000.00  |  $ 568,750.00  |  $ 50,000.00  |  $ 35,455.47  |
| 6 |  $ 432,600.00  |  $ 108,150.00  |  $ 50,000.00  |  $ 35,455.47  |
| 7 |  $ 743,500.00  |  $ 185,875.00  |  $ 50,000.00  |  $ 35,455.47  |
| 8 |  $ 180,550.00  |  $ 45,137.50  |  $ 45,137.50  |  $ 32,007.43  |
| 9 |  $ 567,000.00  |  $ 141,750.00  |  $ 50,000.00  |  $ 35,455.47  |
| 10 |  $ 828,000.00  |  $ 207,000.00  |  $ 50,000.00  |  $ 35,455.47  |
| 11 |  $ 645,500.00  |  $ 161,375.00  |  $ 50,000.00  |  $ 35,455.47  |
| 12 |  $ 789,600.00  |  $ 197,400.00  |  $ 50,000.00  |  $ 35,455.47  |
| 13 |  $ 225,000.00  |  $ 56,250.00  |  $ 50,000.00  |  $ 35,455.47  |
| 14 |  $ 65,682.26  |  $ 16,420.57  |  $ 16,420.57  |  $ 11,643.98  |
| 15 |  $ 175,552.54  |  $ 43,888.14  |  $ 43,888.14  |  $ 31,121.49  |
| **15** |  **$ 9,152,964.12**  |  **$ 2,288,241.03**  |  **$ 705,109.79**  |  **$ 500,000.00**  |
| **Amount in excess of available funds = $ 205,109.79** | **Percentage of $ 500,000.00 = 71%** |
|  |  |

Total Available Funding / Total Eligible Amount = % of funding

$500,000.00 / $705,109.79 = 71%

Take the amount Eligible \* 0.71 = Prorated

1. **When will TMEI funding be paid out to approved applicants?**

Payment of the TMEI for a given fiscal year will not be made until ***after* the April 30th deadline** for verification of work and, if necessary, after calculation of proration.

1. **Can the expenditures for this work still be submitted for mineral assessment requirements under *the Mineral Tenure Registry Regulations (MTRR)?***

**Yes**, application for the TMEI does not affect your ability to submit for assessment work, however, please ensure you follow the requirements set out in the *Mineral Tenure Registry Regulations*.

**Process / Steps to Take for the 2023-2024 TMEI year.**

1. Read and understand information contained in this document as well as [The Targeted Mineral Exploration Incentive Regulations](https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/api/v1/products/92057/formats/109028/download) and [The Targeted Mineral Exploration Incentive Amendment Regulations, 2023](https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/api/v1/products/121552/formats/140742/download).
2. Apply for the incentive using the [TMEI Application Form](http://publications.saskatchewan.ca:80/api/v1/products/91964/formats/108902/download) by the **December 31st, 2023 deadline**.
3. Conduct drilling work for the fiscal year (**April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024**).
4. Provide notification of program status (**February 1st, 2024**).
5. Complete the [TMEI Verification of Work Form](http://publications.saskatchewan.ca:80/api/v1/products/91968/formats/108906/download) along with required documents as set out in the *TMEI* Regulations and as noted above.
6. Submit Verification of Work Form and supporting documents by the **April 30th, 2024 deadline** by:

**Useful Links**

Request a secure file

transfer link from contacting tmei@gov.sk.ca

Mail:

TMEI Program

Ministry of Energy and Resources

Saskatchewan Geological Survey OR

610-1945 Hamilton Street

Regina, SK S4P 2C7

**All questions regarding any steps of the process can be directed to** **tmei@gov.sk.ca****.**

[The Targeted Mineral Exploration Incentive Regulations](https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/api/v1/products/92057/formats/109028/download)

[The Targeted Mineral Exploration Incentive Amendment Regulations, 2023](https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/api/v1/products/121552/formats/140742/download)

[TMEI Application Form](http://publications.saskatchewan.ca:80/api/v1/products/91964/formats/108902/download)

[TMEI Verification of Work Form](http://publications.saskatchewan.ca:80/api/v1/products/91968/formats/108906/download)