



Diverse Radio for Minnesota's Communities

Association of Minnesota Public Educational Radio Stations General Fund Request HF 1409/ SF 1514

Ampers is requesting an increase of \$357,000 for community service grants for the FY2024 – 2025 biennium and a one-time request of \$2.2 million for emergency equipment, cyber security, and broadcast technology.

Item	FY 2024	FY 2025	Difference from FY22-23 biennium
Community Service Grants*	\$750,000*	\$750,000*	\$357,000*
One-time emergency equipment, cyber security, & broadcast technology	\$2,200,000	\$0	\$2,200,000

***To reduce administrative costs for the Department of Administrations and the stations, we are proposing combining our Community Service and Equipment grants. The Department of Administration supports this change.**

Rationale:

- State grants support 17 of Ampers' 18 independent diverse community radio stations throughout the state.
- Three Ampers stations suffered cyber attacks in 2022. It's believed Russian hackers were responsible.
- Most of the stations do not have backup generators at their studios, transmitters, or both, rendering them useless to their communities if they lose power.
- Several stations are working with automation systems that are more than 20 years old preventing them from accepting and airing important programming like Ampers' MDH COVID-19 programming.
- The Community Service base grant increase ends up being less than \$8,000 per year per station (after the Department of Administration's administrative fees).
- The stations are not trying to get the latest and greatest toys. Their infrastructure is incredibly outdated and failing.
- We have a detailed list of specific equipment and upgrades needed that total the \$2.2 million.

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Where Can I Listen to Ampers Stations?

City	Station	Dial Position
Bagley/Bemidji	KBXE-FM	90.5 FM
Bois Forte/Nett Lake	KBFT-FM	89.9 FM
Duluth	WDSE-FM	103.3 FM
Fond du Lac/Cloquet	WGZS-FM	89.1 FM
Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/ Grand Portage	WTIP-FM	90.7 FM/89.1 FM/90.1 FM
Grand Rapids/Brainerd/Ely	KAXE-FM	91.7 FM/89.9 FM/103.9 FM
Leech Lake/Cass Lake/Bemidji	KOJB-FM	90.1 FM/105.3 FM
Mankato/Austin	KMSU-FM/KMSK-FM	89.7 FM/91.3 FM
Minneapolis/St. Paul	KBEM-FM (Jazz 88)	88.5 FM
Minneapolis/St. Paul	KFAI-FM	90.3 FM
Minneapolis/St. Paul	KMOJ-FM	89.9 FM
Minneapolis/St. Paul	KUOM-AM/FM (Radio K)	770 AM/100.7 FM/104.5 FM
Morris	KUMM-FM	89.7 FM
Rochester	KRPR-FM	89.9 FM
St. Cloud	KVSC-FM	88.1 FM
Thief River Falls	KSRQ-FM	90.1 FM
White Earth/Callaway	KKWE-FM	89.9 FM
Winona	KQAL-FM	89.5 FM

You can also listen online at www.ampers.org

The Association of Minnesota Public Educational Radio Stations (Ampers) is not affiliated with nor does it receive funding from Minnesota Public Radio (MPR)