

Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy (R&E) is a joint powers board that works on behalf of Ramsey and Washington counties on solid waste programming and operations. R&E works to improve the recovery and management of solid waste, recyclable materials, and food scraps/organic waste materials, to help the counties meet the 75% recycling goal set by the state of Minnesota.

R&E offers grants to businesses and non-profits to implement projects that will advance R&E's mission to enhance public health and the environment by creating value from waste through partnerships.

The Bin-Only Grant is available to small businesses and non-profits to start or improve recycling and/or organics (food scraps) collections.

Visit [BizRecycling.com](https://bizrecycling.com) to learn how businesses in Ramsey and Washington counties have successfully implemented recycling and food scrap collections which have saved their businesses money and improved operating efficiency.

### **Available Funding**

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Funding for a Bin-Only Grant is as follows:

- One-time grant of up to \$2,500 of trash, recycling, and organic bins and equipment from the BizRecycling product catalog.
- Eligible businesses may apply for more than one BizRecycling grant (i.e., Bin-Only, Recycling, Food Recovery, and/or Waste Reduction & Innovation grants).
- Applications are accepted year-round until funds are fully disbursed. They are evaluated on a "first come-first serve basis." Applications take approximately 6 weeks to process, from submittal to the business receiving the county-ordered containers.

### **Eligible applicants**

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Businesses that meet the following criteria are eligible for a Bin-Only Grant.

- All commercial entities, including private, non-profit, and institutional entities with an annual gross revenue under \$1,000,000.
- Must have a physical building location in Ramsey or Washington County.
- Be in "active/in good standing" status with the [Minnesota Secretary of State](#).

*Ineligible Organizations:* Individuals, home-based businesses, government organizations, all schools and colleges, and multi-unit residential buildings.

## Grant Guidelines

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- BizRecycling reserves the right to verify any information supplied, by means it deems appropriate, to determine the accuracy of an applicant's gross annual revenue submitted for this grant.
- Businesses must agree to technical assistance and recycling education services with a program Recycling Expert.
- Only products listed in the BizRecycling catalog are eligible.
- BizRecycling will order and purchase the bins and equipment and ship them directly to the grantee. All products will be delivered to the address provided in the grant application unless noted otherwise. No cash funds are sent.
- All ordered bins must adhere to the following best practice standards:
  - Bins are color-coded (blue for recycling, green for food scraps, and black for trash).
  - Bins are labeled properly with clear images.
  - Trash bins are always paired (set side-by-side) with recycling or organics bins, as applicable.
- Successful recycling operations are founded on education. All applications must include a basic education component for employees and/or participants. Examples include:
  - In-person or virtual employee/participant training with a program Recycling Expert.
  - Signage.
  - Newsletter or other written communications.
  - One-on-one training with a program Recycling Expert.

## How to Submit a Grant Application

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Applicants must receive a site visit from a program Recycling Expert to apply. At the site visit the Recycling Expert will assess trash, recycling, and food scrap bin needs, make recommendations to improve waste management operations, and help fill out the grant application. The Recycling Expert will apply on behalf of the grantee.

If approved, staff will order the bins and equipment and ship them to the address provided in the application.

To request a site visit email [info@bizrecycling.com](mailto:info@bizrecycling.com) or call 651-266-1199.

## R&E Board Rights

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R&E may require confirmation of information furnished by applicants. R&E reserves the right to:

- Reject any or all applications if such action is in the public interest.
- Cancel the entire grant program.
- Appoint evaluation committees to review grant applications.
- Negotiate with any, all, or none of the grant respondents.

A business completing a Bin-Only Grant Application does not commit R&E to enter into a contract, nor does it obligate the R&E Board to pay for any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of applications or in anticipation of a grant.

R&E reserves the right to revise these guidelines as needed.