

Virginia Enterprise Zone Program

A Summary of the *State* Incentives

(Revised 2005)

Both the Saltville Enterprise Zone and the Washington-Smyth County Joint Enterprise Zone (Glade Spring/Chilhowie area with new sub-zone in Atkins) provide two grant incentive programs that can offer substantial cost savings for businesses. The following is a summary of those State programs:

Job Creation Grants

- Businesses are eligible to receive job creation grants, over a five-year period, if new permanent full-time jobs are created above a four-job minimum.
- Grant amounts are based on the amount each created job pays in wages and health benefits. Jobs that pay 200% more than the federal minimum range and provide health benefits will be eligible to receive a grant of \$800 every year for five years. Jobs that pay above 175% of the minimum wage and provide health benefits, but pay below 200% of the minimum wage will be eligible to receive a grant of \$500 every year for five years. Any job that pays less than 175% of the minimum wage or does not provide health benefits will not be eligible for grants.
- Jobs are not available to retail, local service, or food/beverage establishments
- These grants are based on a calendar year, and any position that is filled for less than a year will be prorated based on the number of months worked in that position
- A business can apply for a grant for up to 350 new jobs per year

Real Property Investment Grants

- A real property investment grant is available to any entity or individual who makes real property improvements of at least \$50,000 **for rehabilitation or expansion, or at least \$250,000 for new construction.**
- Investments that are less than \$2 million are eligible to receive a grant in the amount of 30% of the real property investment not to exceed \$125,000 for any building or facility within a five-year timeframe.
- An investment that is \$2 million or more is eligible for a grant of 30% of the real property investment not to exceed \$250,000 for any building or facility within a five-year period.
- Mixed-use projects are eligible to receive real property investment grants if at least 30% of the project is for business.
- An entity or individual who is making the investment can receive a real property investment (Can be building owner/investor or business).
- There are no job creation requirements for this grant