



Municipal Revenue Sharing

The State Revenue Sharing Program and the Municipal Assistance Program are the two primary state programs for local government support outside of the field of education. The current State Revenue Sharing Program was passed in 1980, and was designed to support local services throughout the State while making allowances for the unequal distribution of taxable property throughout the State.

The Revenue Sharing Program consists of two main components. The tax equalization component is designed to even out differences in taxable wealth by paying relatively more shared revenues to those communities which have little taxable property. The second component, miscellaneous services entitlements, pay for specific services, such as maintenance of roads and ice roads, health facilities and hospitals, volunteer fire departments outside of municipalities, and public services in unincorporated communities. The Revenue Sharing Program provides for a minimum municipal entitlement of \$25,000 plus a geographic differential.

The Municipal Assistance Program is designed to reduce local taxes. About 10.5 million dollars are distributed annually to municipalities based upon municipal receipts in fiscal year 1978 from the gross business license tax which the Municipal Assistance Program replaced. The balance of program funds is distributed on a per capita basis to municipalities around the State. Departmental regional office staff and program staff are available for assistance in completing applications and meeting other program requirements for participation in the program.



Jim Plasman (rear) and Bill Rolfzen administer the Municipal Revenue Sharing Programs