

What is Ampers?

- An association of 18 independent community radio stations.
- Each station is locally managed and programmed by and for their communities.
- Stations create their own programming and do not rebroadcast programs from one main Twin Cities station.
- The stations primarily serve rural, minority and student communities not served by traditional media with programming in 11 languages.
- All are licensed as non-commercial educational stations.



Why Fund Ampers?

- Stations provide in-depth information about local government, educational and health news, safety concerns, and provide local artists access to the airwaves.
- The stations are extremely efficient relying heavily on volunteers.
- Ampers stations help to train more than 1,300 students each year.
- Stations provide critical emergency information in some cases providing local officials with the only immediate opportunity to disseminate lifesaving information.



A North High student announcing on KBEM/Jazz88



A band performs live from "Studio K" (produced by students) on Radio K



KSRQ's "Saturday Morning Barn Dance"

What is the difference between Ampers and Minnesota Public Radio?

There are two types of public radio in Minnesota, the Minnesota Public Radio (MPR) network and the smaller local community radio stations. The smaller grassroots community stations created the Association of Minnesota Public Education Radio Stations (Ampers) in 1972.



The Ampers stations, Minnesota Public Radio, and Minnesota Public Television are not affiliated financially in any way other than the fact that all three receive state and federal funding because they are prohibited from selling commercials.

Ampers

- An association of 18 independent locally programmed community radio stations.
- The stations do not rebroadcast or retransmit programs from one main Twin Cities' station.
- Stations are licensed to a college, school, university, tribal government or directly to the community it serves.
- Approximate revenue FY18: \$9 million
- Employees: 2 – 8 per station (stations rely heavily on volunteers)

MPR

- A network of regional radio stations
- Stations outside the Twin Cities retransmit programs from the Twin Cities.
- Stations are licensed to Minnesota Public Radio.
- Approximate revenue FY18: \$106 million
- Employees: 675



Ampers is not affiliated with nor does it receive funding from Minnesota Public Radio (MPR)

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Diverse Radio for Minnesota's Communities

Association of Minnesota Public Educational Radio Stations General Fund Request

Ampers is requesting an increase of \$50,000 for equipment grants and \$200,000 for community service grants for the FY2022 – 2023 biennium from the general fund which would return our funding to the same level as the FY2016 – 2017 biennium.

Item	FY 2022	FY 2023	Difference from FY20-21 biennium	Difference from FY16-17 biennium
Equipment Grants	\$142,000	\$142,000	+\$50,000	\$0 (Flat)
Community Service Grants	\$492,000	\$492,000	+\$200,000	\$0 (Flat)

Total FY22-23 biennium request for equipment grants: \$284,000

Total FY22-23 biennium request for community service grants: \$984,000

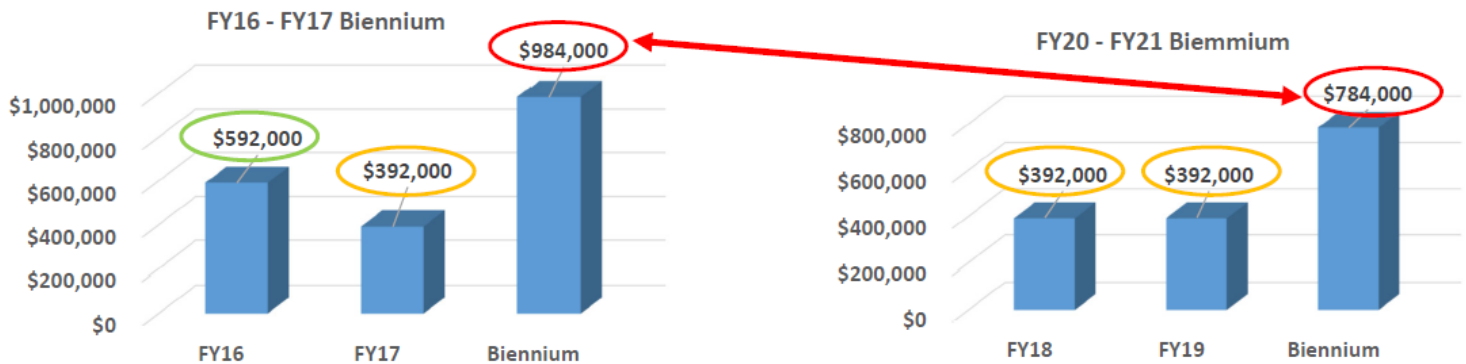
Rationale: Ampers' request is very straightforward. We are simply asking that the appropriation return to the same funding level as the FY16-17 biennium. In the FY16-17 biennium, the appropriation was increased to account for the addition of two new stations, KRPR (Rochester) and WGZS (Fond du Lac/Cloquet). But, the increase was frontloaded into FY16. Because the appropriation for the FY18-19 biennium was based on FY17 alone, and not the entire biennium, each of the 17 stations saw a significant decrease in the last biennium. Our request returns each station to the same amount they received in the FY16-17 biennium. The stations rely on these funds to provide important services in their local communities and many are also able to use the funds to secure federal funding.

Contact information:

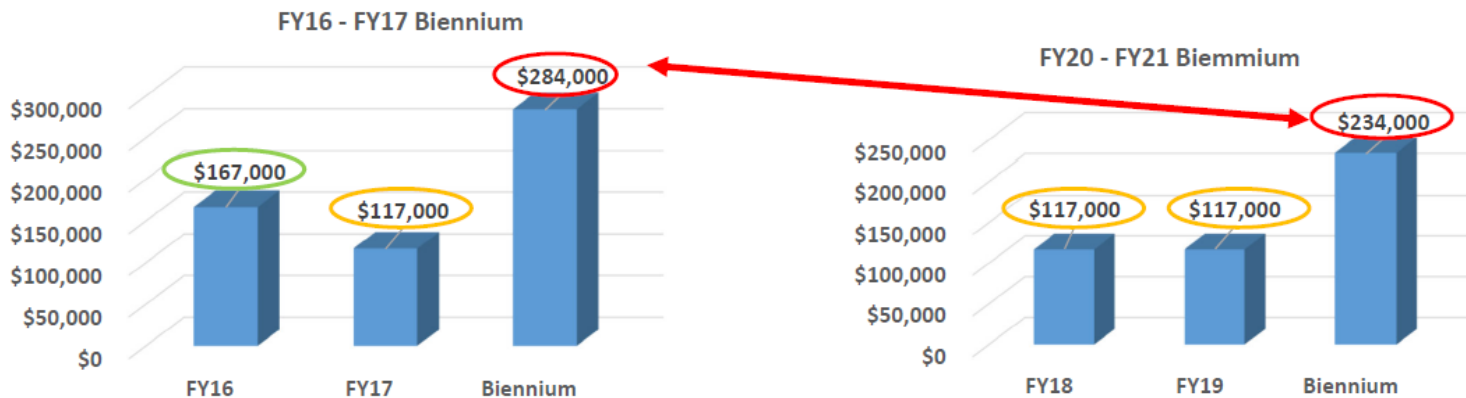
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Community Service Grants



Equipment Grants



- Appropriation increased in FY16-FY17 when two new stations became eligible for state funds
- Entire increase was put into FY16 as a one-time appropriation
- Net result was a decrease of \$250,000 in the FY18-FY19 as well as the FY20-FY21 biennia
- The decrease was especially hard because funds are now spread over 17 rather than 15 stations

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Diverse Radio for Minnesota's Communities

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	KUMD-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/106.7 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

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