

FINANCIAL EXPOSURE:

Rating the States on Economic Development Transparency

(read here: <https://goodjobsfirst.org/financialexposure>)

APPENDIX: Maine

Transparency scores for major state programs

(* see next page for scoring details)

Program Description	Recent Annual Cost	Online Recipient Disclosure	Recipient Disclosure Score*
Business Equipment Tax Exemption (BETE) - full property tax exemption for eligible property with no time limit on the length of the exemption; the state reimburses municipalities for the cost of the subsidy.	\$57 million (2020)	none	0/100
Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement (BETR) - controversial property tax reimbursement used for large companies; in 2007 replaced with BETE but still has significant ongoing fiscal impact.	\$20 million (2020)	Source	12/100
Employment Tax Increment Financing - - despite its name, not a TIF program; reimburses firms amounts equal to as much as 80% of new personal income tax withholding when creating at least five new jobs.	\$13 million (2020)	none	0/100
Pine Tree Development Zone - corporate income and other tax credits for firms which meet job creation and wage requirements (subsidies vary by geographic area).	\$2.8 million (2020)	none	0/100
Shipbuilding Facility Credit - 10-year income tax credit for shipbuilding companies that create a significant number of jobs.	\$2.9 million (2020)	none	0/100

Financial Exposure: Rating the States on Economic Development Transparency	<i>Maximum possible score</i>	Business Equipment Tax Exemption (BETE)	Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement (BETR)	Employment Tax Increment Financing	Pine Tree Development Zone	Shipbuilding Facility Credit
Scoring Details for Maine Programs						
<i>Score criteria (point values in parentheses)</i>						
PROJECT INFORMATION						
address/coordinates (8); zip code (5); city or county (3)	8	0	0	0	0	0
month + year of agreement/contract/project (1)	1	0	0	0	0	0
nature of project (1)	1	0	0	0	0	0
ADVANCE NOTICE AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION						
full applications (5); applicant names + amounts (2); applicant names (1)	5	0	0	0	0	0
cost-benefit analysis at least 15 days in advance (3)	3	0	0	0	0	0
meeting: full proposal (4); program + applicant (3); agenda (2); dates (1)	4	0	0	0	0	0
full draft agreements ahead of approval (3); full agreements after (1)	3	0	0	0	0	0
RECIPIENT IDENTITY						
federal employer identification number (1)	1	0	0	0	0	0
industry classification NAICS code (1)	1	0	0	0	0	0
parent company for all awardees (3)	3	0	0	0	0	0
SUBSIDY INFORMATION						
approved/awarded subsidy value (4)	4	0	0	0	0	0
disbursed/claimed subsidy amount (6)	6	0	6	0	0	0
status + penalty actions (10); status only (5)	10	0	0	0	0	0
JOB CREATION REPORTING						
number of projected new/retained jobs/trainees (6)	6	0	0	0	0	0
number of actual new/retained jobs/trainees (14)	14	0	0	0	0	0
WAGES/PAYROLL REPORTING						
projected wage/payroll for new/retained jobs (5)	5	0	0	0	0	0
actual wage/payroll for new/retained jobs (10)	10	0	0	0	0	0
EXPENDITURE/INVESTMENT REPORTING						
projected capital investment/expenditure/cost (1)	1	0	0	0	0	0
actual capital investment/expenditure/cost (4)	4	0	0	0	0	0
DATA ACCESSIBILITY AND USABILITY						
two clicks from program page (3); - 1 for every additional click	3	0	1	0	0	0
unambiguous data and explanations (2)	2	0	2	0	0	0
five years of data placed together (2); on different pages (1)	2	0	2	0	0	0
downloadable to database applications (3); downloadable to PDF (1)	3	0	1	0	0	0
TOTAL PROGRAM SCORE	100	0	12	0	0	0

see next page for scoring notes

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Scoring notes: Maine

Business Equipment Tax Exemption (BETE)

There is no online recipient disclosure for this program.

Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement (BETR)

Disclosure link: <https://www.maine.gov/revenue/taxes/tax-policy-office>

Recipient disclosure is included in the Economic Development Incentives Reports located on the Maine Revenue Services website, under the Office of Tax Policy. Only actual refund amounts are included. We deducted a point for data accessibility as the location of the reports is not intuitive.

Employment Tax Increment Financing

There is no online recipient disclosure for this program.

Pine Tree Development Zone

There is no online recipient disclosure for this program.

Shipbuilding Facility Credit

There is no online recipient disclosure for this program.