



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

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To: The Mayor

From: Tom Cochran, CEO and Executive Director *Tom Cochran*

Re: Assistance to Firefighters Grants Application Period – August 15-September 9

This year's application period for the Assistance to Firefighters Grants opens today and runs until September 9. Funds are available to fire departments for fire operations and firefighter safety, which includes five fundable activities: firefighter training, firefighting equipment, firefighter personal protective equipment, firefighter wellness and fitness, and modifications to fire stations and facilities. In addition the program can provide grants for new firefighting vehicles, used fire apparatus originally designed for firefighting, or refurbished apparatus originally designed for firefighting. Funds are also available to nonaffiliated emergency and medical services organizations and may be used for similar EMS operations and safety activities and vehicle purchases and refurbishment.

A total of \$380.7 million is available. Up to 47 percent of these funds may go to career departments; at least 33.5 percent must go to combined paid career and volunteer departments; and at least 19.5 percent must go to all volunteer departments. Applicants serving jurisdictions with a population of 500,000 people or less may receive up to \$1 million in a fiscal year; those serving jurisdictions of 500,000 to one million people may receive up to \$1.75 million in a fiscal year; those serving jurisdictions of more than one million people may receive funds up to \$2.75 million in a year. A 20 percent non-federal cost share is required for applicants serving jurisdictions with populations above 50,000.

Information is available at <http://www.fema.gov/firegrants/afggrants/index.shtm>. Questions go to the AFG Program Help Desk at (866) 274-0960 or firegrants@dhs.gov.

It is expected that applications for the FY 2011 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants, which provide funds for firefighter hiring and rehiring, will be available later this year. We will alert you when the application period is announced.