



FEMA

AFG

Assistance to
Firefighters
Grant Program



IMPORTANT!

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announces that the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) application period will be extended for one week due to Hurricane Irene response and recovery. The **NEW** deadline for AFG applications is **September 16, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. EST**. This extension of time will allow our partners to address the immediate needs of their communities while providing adequate opportunity for them to apply for grant assistance under the AFG program.

AVOID COMMON APPLICATION ERRORS

Application errors lower your chances of being awarded an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG). Make sure these common mistakes don't make their way into your application.

- **Requesting Ineligible Items**
In order to make it through the application review process, your funding request must match the funding priorities, as described in the [FY11 AFG Program Guidance](#). For example, wellness and fitness programs are not eligible for regional project hosts. An application would be denied due to such an error.
- **Requesting Lower Priority Items**
The more consistent your request is with the **highest** priority items, as described in the [FY11 AFG Program Guidance](#), the better your application will fare.
- **Failing to Meet Standards**
Requesting any item that does not result in state or national certification, or comply with recognized standards, may lower your application's evaluation score. For more information on national standards, visit www.nfpa.org/nfpaafg2011.
- **Requesting Upgrades Before Basics**
AFG is designed to assist eligible organizations with the greatest need. Therefore, higher ratings are given to those attempting to fulfill basic firefighting or training requirements, as described in the [FY11 AFG Program Guidance](#). For example, a department requesting SCBA to replace gear made before 2002 will score higher than a department requesting to replace a newer version.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Application Period

- August 15, 2011 - September 16, 2011
- All applications must be submitted no later than 5PM EST on September 16, 2011

Need Help? Take Advantage of AFG Resources

We offer a variety of assistance to ensure that deserving applicants are successful:

- View the [AFG Application Tutorial](#)
- Review the [AFG Program Guidance and Application Kit](#)
- Watch an AFG webinar. Follow the instructions on the calendar at http://www.fema.gov/firegrants/js/workshop_schedule_september.html
- Download the [Get Ready Guide](#)
- Download the [Narrative Assistance Guide](#)
- Call or email the Help Desk: 1-866-274-0960 or firegrants@dhs.gov
- [Contact your Regional Representative](#)
- Find additional resources on our website under [Rules and Tools](#)

NEW THIS YEAR: GRANT RECIPIENTS MUST REGISTER IN THE CENTRAL CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION (CCR) SYSTEM

As of August 2010, prime recipients of Federal grants are required to register in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) system. As a potential grantee you are not required to register, but you may wish to do so now in case you receive an award. **CCR registration will be required if you are selected for an award.**

How to register:

1. Obtain a DUNS number from Dun and Bradstreet: <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>. If you already have a DUNS number, skip to #2.
2. Once you have a DUNS number, register here: <https://www.bpn.gov/ccr/default.aspx>. For more information on grantee registration in the CCR system, download the AFG Get Ready Guide or visit their website: <https://www.bpn.gov/ccr/grantees.aspx>

TEAM UP AND SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT AFG!

Did you know that multiple organizations serving more than one local jurisdiction can team up and submit an AFG application that will benefit the entire region? It's true—AFG supports a variety of regional projects, including providing training programs and purchasing communications and personal protective equipment. So, spread the word about AFG to your colleagues and through your professional networks! A regional project may be the right route for you.

Thank you.

