

**This is a courtesy copy of an email bulletin sent by Sirisha Burra.**

**This bulletin was sent to the following groups of people:**

Subscribers of Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (57310 recipients)



- ▶ **NEW APPLICANT TOOLS AVAILABLE FOR FY 2013 STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (SAFER) GRANTS**
- ▶ **NEW PRESENTATION AVAILABLE ON THE SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (SAM)**
- ▶ **ACTIVE SAM.GOV REGISTRATIONS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE NEW AWARDS OR GRANT PAYMENTS**
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#### **NEW APPLICANT TOOLS AVAILABLE FOR FY 2013 STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (SAFER) GRANTS**

Start planning your FY 2013 SAFER Grant application now! Although the dates of the FY 2013 application period are not yet final, we recommend that you start your application today by reviewing the newly updated SAFER Grant applicant tools. These tools were produced specifically to help potential applicants begin to plan their 2013 applications ahead of the application period. The tools can be viewed on the AFG website or downloaded to your computer.

First, review the newly updated SAFER "Get Ready Guide" designed specifically for your organization type: fire department; or national, State, local, or tribal volunteer firefighter interest organization. Then review the new "Self-Evaluation Sheet" for your organization type.

*SAFER Grants Help Desk:* If you have questions about the Get Ready Guides and Self-Evaluation sheets listed below, call or e-mail the SAFER Grants help Desk. The toll-free number is 1-866-274-0960; the e-mail address for questions is [firegrants@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:firegrants@fema.dhs.gov).

#### **Tools for All Applicants**

- [FY 2013 SAFER Grant Application Get Ready Guide \(General\)](#)

#### **Tools for Hiring Grant Applicants**

- [FY 2013 SAFER Grant Application Get Ready Guide \(Hiring\)](#)
- [FY 2013 SAFER Self-Evaluation Sheet \(Hiring\)](#)

## Tools for Recruitment and Retention Grant Applicants

- [FY 2013 SAFER Grant Recruitment and Retention Get Ready Guide \(Fire Departments\)](#)
- [FY 2013 SAFER Self-Evaluation Sheet \(Fire Departments\)](#)
- **NEW!** [FY 2013 SAFER Grant Recruitment and Retention Get Ready Guide \(National, State, Local, or Tribal Volunteer Firefighter Interest Organizations\)](#)
- **NEW!** [FY 2013 SAFER Self-Evaluation Sheet \(National, State, Local, or Tribal Volunteer Firefighter Interest Organizations\)](#)

## NEW PRESENTATION AVAILABLE ON THE SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (SAM)

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- **All applicants must have their organizations registered in SAM.gov.** If you do not yet have an active SAM.gov registration, the AFG has produced a presentation on SAM.gov that can help you get registered. **To view the presentation, go to the [SAM.gov presentation](#) on the [AFG website](#).** The presentation also can be downloaded to your computer so that you can watch it at any time.
- **Starting with the FY 2013 AFG Program, all applicants will be required to register in SAM.gov BEFORE submitting an application.** If you are thinking about applying for any FY 2013 AFG funds, you should register your organization on SAM.gov as soon as possible. Don't wait for the application period to open to start your registration. It can take several days for registrations to be processed.
- **Your Data Must Be Correct!** Make sure the banking information, employer ID number, and DUNS number you report in SAM.gov are accurate and match the data in your grant application. If the information does not match, your registration will be delayed.
- **Registration on SAM.gov is completely free of charge.** There is no fee for you to register or to renew or update your organization's information on [SAM.gov](#). Private businesses or contractors will register your organization in SAM for you—for a fee. Their websites often look like government websites at first glance. BUT remember that no fee is charged to register in SAM.gov or to use its resources.

## ACTIVE SAM.GOV REGISTRATIONS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE NEW AWARDS AND GRANT PAYMENTS

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- **Applicants:** No new awards can be made to organizations that do not have active registrations in SAM.gov.
- **Grantees:** Your future grant payments and amendment requests will be delayed if you do not have an active and accurate SAM.gov registration in place. Avoid unnecessary delays by ensuring that your organization is registered and that all of your SAM.gov data are accurate. Use the resources listed below if you need assistance.

### TO OBTAIN HELP WITH SAM.GOV:

1. **Become familiar with SAM.gov Website.** Read the Guides, Top FAQs, and other information that can be found on the [SAM.gov website](#), the [SAM Helpful Hints page](#), and the [Federal Service Desk](#) at [www.fsd.gov](http://www.fsd.gov)
2. **View the AFG's [SAM.gov presentation](#)** and the prerecorded [SAM webinar](#) from the General Services Administration (GSA). They cover topics like

- How to create a new SAM user account;
  - How to migrate permissions from the legacy Central Contractors Registry (CCR) system into SAM; and
  - How to update and renew an existing registration.
3. **Contact the AFG Grants Management Specialists (GMS).** Send questions by e-mail to the AFG Grants Management Specialist for your FEMA region. A list of the GMS for each FEMA Region can be [found on the AFG Website](#). You may send questions by fax to the GMS staff at 202-786-9905.

## AFG CALENDAR

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*NOTE: All information, including dates and projected application periods are subject to change. When a conference is listed, the AFG Program either will be exhibiting and/or giving a presentation or workshop.*

### **JULY/AUGUST**

- FY 2013 SAFER Application Period (**tentative**)

### **AUGUST/SEPTEMBER**

- FY 2013 AFG Application Period Opens (**tentative**)
- *August 16-17, 2013.* Fire-Rescue International, McCormack Place, Chicago, Illinois. AFG staff will present an overview of the impact of the recent funding reauthorization by Congress as well as provide an open forum for participants to bring their questions directly to AFG leaders. Visit the AFG booth #5242 to meet with AFG staff.

### **FALL/WINTER**

- FY 2013 Fire Prevention and Safety Grant Application period opens (**tentative**)

**AFG Home Page:** [www.fema.gov/firegrants](http://www.fema.gov/firegrants)  
**AFG Help Desk:** E-mail: [firegrants@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:firegrants@fema.dhs.gov)  
Telephone Toll-Free: 1-866-274-0960



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