



AFG



Quick Reference Guide



AFG Grants are available to train firefighting personnel.

Eligible Training (not limited to)

- Firefighter I and II certifications
- First Responder/EMR
- Driver/Operator
- Fire Officer I-IV
- Hazmat
- Wildland firefighting
- Vehicle rescue
- Rapid Intervention Team (RIT)
- National Incident Management System (NIMS)/Incident Command (ICS)
- Safety Officer
- Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) awareness, performance, planning, and management
- Train-the-trainer courses
- Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)
- Alternative Fuel Firefighting

Eligible Uses of Training Funds (not limited to)

- Tuition, exam/course fees, and certifications/recertification expenses
- Purchase of training curricula, training equipment (e.g., trailers, mobile simulators), training props, and training services (instructors)
- Tow vehicles (if justified in the Narrative), limited to \$6,000 per application
- Overtime expenses paid to career firefighters who attend or are enrolled application training
- Compensation to volunteer firefighters for wages lost to attend training

Ineligible Activities

- Construction of facilities (buildings, towers, etc.)
- Flashover simulators
- Firefighting equipment or Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for use in training exercises, such as SCBA
- Site preparation to accommodate any training activity, facility, or prop
- Purchase or lease of real estate
- Remodeling not directly related to other grant activities

Remodeling/Renovations of Existing Facilities to Add a Training Room/Area

Remodeling/renovations must be minor interior alterations costing less than \$10,000 to support training. Construction may not change the footprint or profile of the building.

Application Reminders

Be sure to explain your training request and program clearly in the Narrative section.

In order to know what NFPA standards apply and how to list them by number in the application, please visit <http://www.nfpa.org/nfpaafg2011>.

Key

Priorities

- HIGH **H**
- MEDIUM **M**
- LOW **L**





AFG Funds are available for equipment to enhance the safety or effectiveness of firefighting, rescue and fire-based EMS functions, and equipment necessary for response to CBRNE incidents.

Equipment requested must meet all mandatory requirements, as well as any national/state and/or DHS-adopted standards. See NFPA standards at <http://www.nfpa.org/nfpaafg2011>. The equipment requested should improve the health and safety of the public and firefighters.

Eligible Expenditures

- Acquiring, assembly, and installation of requested equipment
- Foam and associated equipment
- Hazardous materials response equipment
- Training department personnel to use new equipment (request under Training Activity)
- Compressor systems and/or cascade systems to fill and service SCBAs
- Traffic signal preemption systems
- Equipment shipping costs and sales tax
- Individual communications equipment, such as portable radios (limited to seated positions) and pagers (not limited to seated positions)
- Mobile communications equipment (including mobile repeaters and mobile data systems)
- Extended warranties and service agreements
- Boats (Class A or Class One - 20 feet or less)
- CBRNE equipment
- Hoses, nozzles, and adapters
- Training for requested equipment (enter amounts in additional funding in the Request Details section)

Ineligible Expenditures

- Construction of facilities, such as buildings, sheds housing communications, towers, or other equipment
- Repeaters that will not be installed or attached to existing infrastructure or a vehicle
- Sirens or other outdoor warning devices
- Signage of any kind
- Telephones, satellite phones, and cell phones
- Bomb disposal equipment and robots
- Vehicles and ATVs
- EMS expendable supplies (e.g., gloves, syringes, and cervical collars)
- Mobile radios for personally-owned vehicles (except chief fire officer's personal vehicle, if justified)
- Flashover simulators

Communication Equipment

Includes portable radios, mobile repeaters, Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs), base stations, computer-aided dispatch, fixed-site repeaters, and wireless and broadband mobile data systems.

- Portables are limited to the number of seated positions in department's listed inventory of firefighting vehicles (unless justified in Narrative).
- Communications projects may require an Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) Review.

Note: If requesting communications equipment or systems, they must meet P25 compliance. Please see "Grant Guidance-P25 Explanatory Addenda" found at <http://www.safecomprogram.gov/library/Lists/Library/Attachments/86/GRANTGUIDANCEPROJECT25EXPLANATORYADDENDA2.pdf>.

- All radio equipment purchased with grant funds must be P25 compliant.
- All equipment must be consistent with the State Communication Interoperability Plan.
- All equipment may be subject to historic review.

EMS Equipment

EMS equipment includes, but is not limited to, defibrillators, pulse oximeters, power lift cots, basic and advanced life support equipment, and Protective Property Equipment or PPE (meeting national standards for blood-borne pathogens, computers, and infectious disease control).



Key

Priorities

- HIGH **H**
- MEDIUM **M**



Health and Safety Benefit

Equipment that has a direct effect on firefighters' health and safety is a high priority. Examples of items with a health and safety benefit include but are not limited to:

- Thermal imaging cameras
- Portable lighting
- AEDs
- Accountability systems
- Rescue equipment
- Alternative fuel emergency response equipment
- Hoses
- Nozzles
- Ladders
- Forcible entry tools
- Extraction tools
- Hand lights
- Communications equipment such as, mobile and portable radios, MDTs, dispatch equipment and training, and fixed and mobile repeaters (purchases under the grant program need to be APCO P25)
- Washers/extractors
- Air Fill systems
- Personnel locator systems
- CBRNE equipment
- Vehicle equipment updates
- Foam systems

All of the following are considerations in prescoring and panelist review.

Additional Considerations

- Equipment that has a direct effect on firefighters' health and safety
- Age of equipment being replaced
- Equipment that benefits other jurisdictions
- Equipment that brings the department into compliance with nationally recommended standards (e.g., NFPA) or statutory compliance (e.g., Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA))

Application Reminders

When requesting training for any equipment, enter the request under Additional Funding in the Request Details section of the application.

If requesting communications equipment or systems, they must meet the P25 compliance criteria listed in the Program Guidance.

Key

Priorities

- HIGH
- MEDIUM
- LOW





Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment

AFG Funds are available to acquire primarily OSHA-required and NFPA-compliant Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for firefighting personnel.

Equipment requested must meet all mandatory requirements, as well as any national and/or DHS-adopted standards.

Equipment requested should have the goal of increasing firefighting safety.

PPE is defined as items “worn” by firefighters to protect themselves.

Eligible PPE Expenditures

- PPE for structural or wildland firefighting (including boots, pants, coats, gloves, hoods, goggles, helmets, coveralls, and fire shelters)
- SCBAs, spare cylinders, and individual face pieces
- PPE for hazardous materials and other specialized incidents
- EMS activities (coats, trousers, and jumpsuits meeting NFPA and/or OSHA standards)
- American National Standards Institute (ANSI)-approved retro-reflective highway apparel
- Training for requested PPE

Ineligible PPE Expenditures

- Three-quarter length rubber boots
- Bomb disposal suits
- Uniforms (formal/parade or station/duty) and uniform items (hats, badges, etc.)
- Personal communications equipment (e.g., radios, cell phones, and pagers) in the PPE section

All of the following are considerations in prescoring and panelist review.

Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Priorities

Award will be based on number of seated positions in the department’s vehicle fleet and age of existing SCBA, limited to one spare cylinder (unless justified otherwise in the Request Details Narrative for the PPE Activity). New SCBA must have automatic-on or integrated Personal Alert Safety System (PASS) devices, and be Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear and Explosive Equipment (CBRNE) compliant to current edition of NFPA 1981 standard.

Training on Use of Requested Equipment

Applicants must indicate that the grant-purchased PPE will be utilized by adequately trained staff and/or request appropriate training for the requested items. Failure to meet this requirement may result in ineligible for PPE Funding.

Additional Considerations

- Applicants will be required to provide the age of the PPE being replaced
- Obsolete equipment is defined as any SCBA/PPE that is over 10 years of age or exceeds two NFPA cycles
- Applicants trying to bring the department into 100 percent NFPA compliance

Application Reminders

In order for SCBA/PPE to be considered obsolete, it must be over 10 years of age or exceed two NFPA cycles. Copies of NFPA standards may be reviewed at <http://www.nfpa.org/nfpaafg2011>.

When requesting training for any PPE, enter the request under Additional Funding in the Request Details section.



Key

Priorities

HIGH

MEDIUM

LOW



Firefighter Wellness & Fitness

Wellness & Fitness programs are intended to strengthen first responders so their mental, physical, and emotional capabilities are resilient to withstand the demands of emergency service response. For the FY 2012 AFG, in order to be eligible for funding in this activity, fire departments must offer, or plan with grant funds to offer, all four of the following:

- Entry physical examinations
- Periodic health screenings
- Immunizations
- Behavioral health programs

Eligible Expenditures

- Procurement of entry-level physicals that meet NFPA 1582
- Annual medical/fitness health evaluations consistent with NFPA 1582
- Immunizations, as recommended by the department or law (e.g., NFPA)
- Behavioral health programs
- Implementation of IAFC/IAFF peer fitness trainer programs
- Costs for personnel, physical fitness equipment (including shipping charges and sales tax, as applicable), and supplies directly related to physical fitness activities

Ineligible Expenditures

- Transportation expenses
- Fitness club memberships for firefighters or their families
- Non-cash incentives (t-shirts or hats of nominal value, vouchers to local businesses, or time off)
- Purchase of real estate
- Cash incentives
- Purchase of medical equipment not used as part of the Wellness & Fitness program
- Contractual services with anyone other than medical professionals listed above (e.g., health care consultants, trainers, and nutritionists)
- Medical exams that do not meet NFPA 1582

Priority Considerations

Priority 1 – Below are the four programs required to offer a complete Wellness & Fitness program:

- Initial medical exams
- Job-related immunization program
- Annual medical/fitness evaluation
- Behavioral health program(s)

Departments that have some of the Priority 1 programs in place must apply for funds to implement the other priority programs before applying for funds for any additional program or equipment. In addition, funded medical exams must meet current NFPA 1582, as required by DHS standards.

Priority 2 – You may only apply for the following Priority 2 items if you presently offer or are requesting a combination of the four programs required under Priority 1:

- Candidate physical ability evaluation
- Formal fitness and injury prevention program/equipment
- Injury/illness rehab
- IAFF or peer fitness trainer program(s)

Remodeling/Renovations of Existing Facilities

Remodeling/renovations to an existing facility to house a fitness activity, such as exercise or fitness rooms, must be minor interior alterations costing less than \$10,000 and justified in the Request Details Narrative for the Wellness and Fitness Activity. Remodeling/renovations may not change the footprint or profile of the building. Any request for modifications to facilities may require an Environmental and Historical Preservation (EHP Review). Additional information may also be required for the EHP Review.

Application Reminders

When requesting a program(s) under the Request Details section for Wellness & Fitness in both Fire & EMS, you must have all four programs already in place (or request a combination of programs to have all four programs in place) or you will be unable to proceed in this portion of the application process. If you have all four or a combination of the requested programs in place, the application will allow you to request Priority 2 items, such as physical fitness equipment.

When requesting training for any items in this section, enter the request under Additional Funding in the Request Details section.



Key

Priorities

HIGH

MEDIUM

LOW



Modifications to Fire Stations & Facilities

FY 2012 AFG Grants may be used to modify fire stations and other facilities. New fire station construction is not allowed. Eligible projects under this activity must have a direct effect on the health and safety of firefighters. Grant funds may only be used to retrofit existing structures built prior to 2003.

Modifications are limited to \$100,000 per fire station, regardless of the number of modifications requested. No modification may change the structure footprint or profile. Any request for modifications to facilities may require an Environmental and Historical Preservation (EHP) Review. Additional information may also be required for the EHP Review.

Eligible Expenditures

- Direct source capture exhaust systems
- Sprinkler systems
- Smoke/fire alarm notification systems
- Air quality systems
- Emergency generators

Ineligible Expenditures

- Station maintenance
- Resurfacing bay floors
- Interior remodeling not pertaining to the requested project(s)

All of the following are considerations in prescoring and panelist review.

Emergency Generators

Emergency generators should be sized to provide power for only those functions that are operationally imperative (e.g., bay doors, communications equipment, emergency lighting, heat, etc.).



Key

Priorities

HIGH 

MEDIUM 

LOW 



Firefighter Vehicle Acquisition

AFG Funds are available for:

- Purchasing new firefighting vehicles or ambulances
- Purchasing used fire apparatus originally designed for firefighting or EMS
- Purchasing refurbished apparatus originally designed for firefighting or EMS
- Refurbishing an already owned vehicle if originally designed for firefighting or EMS
- Replacing a converted vehicle not originally designed for firefighting are not eligible for refurbishment
- Departments that are applying for more than one vehicle with adequate justification

New for FY 2012

Applicants may apply for more than one vehicle. Request cannot exceed the financial cap based on population listed in the application.

Performance Bond

A performance bond is recommended for any department/agency that is going to advance its own funds to the manufacturer prior to receipt of the vehicle. The concept behind this is to ensure that the department's funds are not lost in the event of a manufacturer's failure to perform, i.e., not finishing or delivering the vehicle.

NOTE: DHS recommends a performance bond if advancing nonfederal funds.

Prepayment Bonds and Penalties

Grantees Must:

- Obtain a prepayment bond if the grantee advances federal funds to a manufacturer
- Include performance requirements and penalties for noncompliance to requirements in the purchase contract
- Be aware that extensions to the period of performance may not be considered if the prepayment bond and/or performance penalties are not included in the purchase contract

Eligible Expenditures

- Cost of vehicle
- Cost of associated equipment that is eligible under current NFPA 1901/1906
- Transportation to inspect a vehicle under consideration or during production (if justified)
- Driver/operator training programs that meet NFPA 1002 or its equivalent
- Physicals meeting current NFPA 1582/US Department of Transportation (DOT) 649 F

Ineligible Expenditures

- Refurbishment of converted vehicles not originally used or intended to be used for emergency operations
- Aircraft, bulldozers, and construction-related equipment
- Vehicles contracted for or purchased prior to end of established application period

Unsafe Vehicles

- Converted vehicles (fire vehicles currently in use that were not originally designed for firefighting and are not eligible for refurbishment)
- Examples are pumpers and ladder trucks with open cab/jump seat configuration, and/or converted tankers and brush vehicles

Compliance with Standards

- New fire apparatus must be compliant with NFPA 1901 or 1906 for the year ordered/manufactured.
- Used fire apparatus must be compliant with NFPA 1901 or 1906 standards for the year the vehicle was manufactured.
- Ambulances must meet NFPA and General Services Administration (GSA) KKK-1822F standards for the year ordered/manufactured.
- Used applicants must certify that unsafe vehicles will be permanently removed from service if awarded a grant. Acceptable uses of unsafe vehicles include farm, nursery, scrap metal salvage, construction, etc.
- Refurbished vehicles must meet NFPA 1912 standards.

Additional Considerations

- Departments that have automatic aid agreements, mutual aid agreements, or both
- Replacing of open cab/jump seat configurations
- Including age of vehicle being replaced; older equipment receives higher consideration
- Including age of newest vehicle in the department's fleet that is like the vehicle to be replaced
- Including average age of the fleet; older equipment within the same class
- Converted vehicles not designed or intended for use in the fire service

FEMA reserves the right to reduce the amount of any vehicle request, in whole or in part, that is considered excessive in cost. AFG Funding is meant to supplement, not replace, an organization's funding.

Application Reminders

When requesting more than one vehicle, you will be asked to fill out a separate line item and answer all the questions including a NEW narrative for each vehicle.

When requesting training for any apparatus or vehicle(s), enter the request under Additional Funding in the Request Details section.

Applicants requesting vehicles that do not have drivers/operators trained to NFPA 1002 or equivalent, and are not planning to have a training program in place by the time the vehicle is delivered, will not receive a vehicle award.

Key

Priorities

HIGH **H**

MEDIUM **M**

LOW **L**