



ATTENTION: PRESIDENT/CHIEF

On behalf of Governor Wolf, State Fire Commissioner Bruce Trego is pleased to announce the 2019-20 Fire Company, Emergency Medical Services Company Grant Program.

The Commissioner invites all fire companies and emergency medical services throughout Pennsylvania to submit a grant application for the Fiscal Year 2019-20. The on-line application period will begin the first week of September 2019 and will remain open for 45 days. Exact dates will be listed on our website closer to the grant opening.

Fire companies and emergency medical services may apply for a grant in up to two of the six eligible program categories. The 2019-20 Program Guidelines will be available for download on the OSFC webpage at www.osfc.pa.gov. Volunteer fire companies that also provide emergency medical service are eligible to apply for both a fire company grant and emergency medical service grant.

Requests for funding for a combination of up to two projects in the following eligible categories may be submitted for consideration with each grant application:

1. Construction and/or renovation of the fire company's or ambulance service's facility and purchase or repair of fixtures and furnishings necessary to maintain or improve the capability of the company to provide fire, ambulance and rescue services.
2. Purchase or repair of firefighting, ambulance, or rescue equipment. Includes the purchase of fuel for company vehicles.
3. Debt reduction associated with the facility (1) or equipment (2) categories above.
4. Training and certification of members.
5. Training and education materials regarding fire prevention for the general public
6. **Career Fire Departments Only** – Overtime costs associated with backfilling positions while firefighters are attending training.

Fire company grant awards will be calculated using a basic award which will be a portion of the applicant's grant request (the amount of this basic award will be a predetermined, standard amount for all applicants based on the total amount of the grant requests and the grant funds available), plus an additional award representing all or a portion of the remainder of their request which will be determined by applying an award factor based on bonus points as described in the program guidelines.

If necessary, the "additional award" portion of the grant will be prorated so that total grant awards do not exceed the total grant funds available. Fire company grants to individual fire companies shall not exceed \$15,000 and be no less than \$2,500.

Grant awards to emergency medical services will be prorated so that total grant awards do not exceed the total grant funds available. Volunteer ambulance service grants to individual volunteer ambulance services shall not exceed \$10,000 and no less than \$2,500.

An organization wishing to apply for this year's grant but has not fulfilled the requirement to submit a Final Report via their grant application, documenting the expenditures of funds they

received in the 2018-19 grant year, by 4:00 pm on September 3, 2019, will not be permitted to submit a grant application for the 2019-20 year. Any organization that hasn't submitted a completed final report for grant years prior to 2018-19 is also prohibited from applying for the 2019-20 grant until the final report(s) is submitted and is complete.

In the Firefighter certification section of the application, we will ask that you provide the last four numbers of the individual's social security number, along with their first and last name.

Any company which is not current with reporting their incidents through July 31, 2019 will not be permitted to submit a grant application for the 2019-20 grant year unless they are brought current prior to the application submission deadline.

To be awarded a grant, your company **MUST** actively report to PennFIRS monthly, and **MUST** continue to actively report to PennFIRS monthly throughout the years of the grant program. If your company is non-compliant with reporting to PennFIRS, it **WILL NOT** be awarded a grant.

IMPORTANT GRANT PROGRAM REMINDERS

All final reports must be submitted electronically via your grant application.

Grant Agreements for the 2019-20 grant must be submitted to the OSFC by May 31, 2020.

Please see the 2019-20 Grant Guidelines for all updates

The Program e-Grant application and final reporting is intended to make the grant application/award process easier for everyone concerned. On-line grant help is available throughout the application process by clicking on the "**Application Help**" link. We suggest that you access the instructions and study them before beginning your grant application.

Since information regarding your grant application will be sent to you via e-mail, it is extremely important that you keep your contact information current in this e-Grant system. Use the "**Edit User Profiles**" link on the Application Main Menu page to **update your contact information so that you are notified of any changes regarding your application's status.**