ATTENTION: PRESIDENT/CHIEF/CHIEF EXECUTIVE

On behalf of Governor Wolf, State Fire Commissioner Bruce Trego is pleased to announce the 2020-21 Fire Company, Emergency Medical Services Company Grant Program.

The Commissioner invites all Fire and Rescue companies, and Emergency Medical Services throughout Pennsylvania to submit a grant application for the Fiscal Year 2020-21. The on-line application period will begin the first full week of December 2020 and will remain open for 45 days. Exact dates will be listed on our website closer to the grant opening.

Fire and Rescue companies, and Emergency Medical Services may apply for a grant in up to two of the eight eligible program categories. The 2020-21 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 renovation of facilities and purchase or repair of fixtures and furnishings, office equipment, and support services necessary to maintain or improve the capability of the company to provide fire, ambulance, or rescue services OR debt reduction associated with project type A.
2. Repair of firefighting, ambulance, or rescue equipment OR purchase thereof.
3. Debt reduction associated with project type B above.
4. Training and certification of members.
5. Education of the general public regarding fire prevention and community risk reduction
6. **Career Fire Departments Only –** Overtime costs associated with backfilling positions while firefighters are attending training.
7. Recruitment and retention, including, but not limited to, volunteer firefighter length of service award programs and programs for minors.
8. Revenue Loss for grants issued in 2021 and 2022 - Funds may be used to supplement operational expenses incurred by the lack of opportunities for fundraising and the inability to create revenue due to compliance with measures to prevent the spread of Covid19.

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.

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State Fire Academy | 1150 Riverside Drive | Lewistown, PA 17044 | 800.459.4096 or 717.248.1115 | Fax 717.248.3580
www.osfc.pa.gov

An organization wishing to apply for this year's grant but has not fulfilled the requirement to submit a Final Report documenting the expenditures of funds they received in the 2019-20 grant year, by 4:00 pm on November 2, 2020, will not be permitted to submit a grant application for the 2020-21 year. Any organization that hasn't submitted a completed final report for grant years prior to 2019-20 is also prohibited from applying for the 2020-21 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. A certified member can only be used in one grant application regardless of the number of certifications the individual holds. If a member's certification cannot be verified, they will need to email a copy of their certificate to verify their certification.

Any company which is not current with reporting their incidents through October 31, 2020 will not be permitted to submit a grant application for the 2020-21 grant year unless they are brought current prior to the application submission deadline.

Fire and Rescue – To be awarded a grant your company MUST be actively reporting 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.

Fire and Rescue companies shall have actively responded to at least 15 fire or rescue emergencies during the previous calendar year.

Fire companies shall submit a completed application and shall submit a copy of their application to the municipality where the fire company is located.

EMS companies shall have actively responded to at least 15 emergency services calls in the previous calendar year and be officially recognized by the municipality as the primary EMS provider.

IMPORTANT GRANT PROGRAM REMINDERS

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

Grant Agreements for the 2020-21 grant must be submitted to the OSFC by July 1, 2021.

Please see the 2020-21 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.**