



Homeland
Security

Press Release

10/27/2004
Contact: 202-282-8010

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY ANNOUNCES ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANTS TO AID AMERICA'S FIRE DEPARTMENTS

(Washington, DC) 10/27/2004 - Secretary Tom Ridge today announced 1087 grants to fire departments throughout the United States in the nineteenth round of the Fiscal Year 2004 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. The grants will ultimately total approximately 8,000 awards worth nearly \$750 million in direct assistance to firefighters throughout the country, demonstrating Homeland Security's commitment to ensuring that America's firefighters have the resources they need to protect their communities.

"President Bush and I strongly support the critical mission of our Nation's firefighters. Through these funds, we will ensure that our Nation's emergency responders have the equipment and training they need to respond to all hazards," said Secretary Ridge.

"We recognize the importance of the Fire Act Grants to our Nation's fire departments and we will continue to work closely with the fire service community to meet their needs," added C. Suzanne Mencer, Director of the Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP).

This nineteenth round of grants provides more than \$89,537,436 to help local fire departments fund the purchase of firefighting equipment, fund firefighter health and safety programs, enhance emergency medical services programs, and conduct fire education and prevention programs.

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program includes grants to the fire departments on the attached list.

The Assistance for Firefighters Grant Program is administered by the Department's Office for Domestic Preparedness in cooperation with the Department's United States Fire Administration.

"The Assistance to Firefighters grants represent a major effort by the Federal government to ensure that the Nation's firefighters continue to have the basic capability they require to do their jobs, improve safety and save lives," said David Paulison, Administrator of the Department of Homeland Security's United States Fire Administration.

On March 1, 2003, the Office for Domestic Preparedness became a part of the Department of Homeland Security. The Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296) designated ODP as the principal Federal agency responsible for the preparedness of the United States for acts of terrorism, including coordinating preparedness efforts at the Federal level, and working with all

State, local, tribal, parish, and private sector emergency response providers on all matters pertaining to combating terrorism, including training, exercises and equipment support. To support this mission, ODP administers a number of programs that provide a wide-array of support to our nation's emergency preparedness and response community. For more information on ODP, please contact the Website at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp.

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) is a division of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) within the Department of Homeland Security. The mission of the USFA is to reduce life and economic losses due to fire and related emergencies, through leadership, advocacy, coordination, and support. For more information on USFA, please contact the Website at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov>.

Award Number	Organization Name	Congressional District
EMW-2004-FG-09101	Chesterton Fire Department	IN-01
EMW-2004-FG-18170	Pershing Township Volunteer Fire Dept.	IN-09
EMW-2004-FG-17508	Elizabethtown Vol Fire Department	IN-09
EMW-2004-FG-15862	Mentone Volunteer Fire Department	IN-03
EMW-2004-FG-21280	Attica Fire Department	IN-08
EMW-2004-FG-15647	Perrysville Volunteer Fire Dept.	IN-08
EMW-2004-FG-15109	Waldron Volunteer Fire Dept..	IN-05
EMW-2004-FG-12393	Gibson Twp.-Little York	IN-09
EMW-2004-FG-11720	Sunman Rural Fire Department INC.	IN-09
EMW-2004-FG-10706	Aurora Fire Rescue	IN-09
EMW-2004-FG-09219	City of Franklin Fire Department	IN-04
EMW-2004-FG-07329	Washington Township Volunteer Fire Department	IN-08
EMW-2004-FG-06903	Syracuse Fire Department	IN-03
EMW-2004-FG-05973	JACKSON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT, STATION #5, INC.	IN-09
EMW-2004-FG-02445	Hammond Fire Department	IN-01
EMW-2004-FG-00574	Pleasant Township Fire Department	IN-05
EMW-2004-FG-00469	Plainfield Fire Department	IN-04
EMW-2004-FG-14226	Frankton Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.	IN-06
EMW-2004-FG-12706	Pleasant Township Volunteer F.D.	IN-05
EMW-2004-FG-12051	New Trenton VFD	IN-06
EMW-2004-FG-07107	Twelve Mile Community Fire Dept. Inc.	IN-02
EMW-2004-FG-07196	Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department	IN-08
EMW-2004-FG-06429	Advance Volunteer Fire Dept. Inc.	IN-04
EMW-2004-FG-06022	Mitchell Volunteer Fire Department	IN-04
EMW-2004-FG-04707	Ligonier Fire Department	IN-03
EMW-2004-FG-02551	RILEY FIRE DEPARTMENT INCORPORATED	IN-08
EMW-2004-FG-20773	Zionsville Volunteer Fire Department	IN-04
EMW-2004-FG-18097	St. John Fire Department	IN-01
EMW-2004-FG-01855	Metz Vol. Fire Dept.	IN-03
EMW-2004-FG-02599	Oolitic Volunteer Fire Department	IN-04
EMW-2004-FG-04096	Bridgeton Volunteer Fire Department, Inc	IN-08

Program Area	Federal Share	Name	Phone	City
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 95,400	Mike Orlich	219-926-7162	Chesterton
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 29,160	Debbie Taylor	812-346-9192	Freetown
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 36,000	James Kiefner	812-579-5661	Elizabethtown
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 20,178	everett warren	574-353-7252	Mentone
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 47,396	Jack O'Farrell	765-762-2481	Attica
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 44,568	Daniel Lewis	765-793-2574	Perrysville
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 23,195	Pete Beyer	765-525-9989	Waldron
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 51,583	Alan Lamb	812-752-3113	Little York
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 81,851	Dan Smith	812-623-2498	Sunman
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 90,986	Kevin Turner	812-926-1682	Aurora
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 45,990	Therese Bath	574-722-4451	Franklin
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 27,000	christopher kirk	812-254-1411	washington
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 85,687	Chad Ford	574-457-4100	Syracuse
Firefighting Vehicle	\$ 198,900	PAUL COLVIN	812-988-6201	Nashville
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 131,769	WILLIAM Cook	219-853-6418	Hammond
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 103,483	Rebecca Warmuth	260-982-8745	Laketon
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 160,607	Byron Anderson	317-839-6939	Plainfield
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 97,281	Chi Baldwin	765-754-8274	Frankton
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 27,292	Michael Mark	765-384-5114	Sweetser
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 87,120	Donald Maucher	812-637-5953	New Trenton
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 58,388	Robert Skinner	574-664-2401	Twelve Mile
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 39,085	Phil Taylor	812-354-8478	Petersburg
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 53,214	David Cook	765-676-9134	Advance
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 106,088	Brian Fults	812-865-7160	Mitchell
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 107,710	Gerald Sprague	260-894-3124	Ligonier
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 42,750	SCOTT DALTON	812-894-1107	Terre Haute
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 179,371	James VanGorder	317-873-5358	Zionsville
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 43,920	Frederick Willman	219-365-6034	Saint John
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 17,919	Steve Cleverly	260-665-3463	Angola
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 67,750	Jason Lewis	812-279-0477	Oolitic
Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$ 64,120	Steven Yelich	765-548-0911	Bridgeton

\$ 2,265,761

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Office for Domestic Preparedness
United States Fire Administration

2004 ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT PROGRAM

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFGP) awards one-year grants directly to fire departments to support the nation's firefighters and the services they deliver. For the 2004 program, Congress appropriated, and President Bush signed into law, \$750 million in direct assistance to firefighters to improve the effectiveness of firefighting operations, firefighter health and safety programs, and to establish or expand fire prevention programs throughout the United States. The Department of Homeland Security's Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP) administers the program, in cooperation with the U.S. Fire Administration.

There was little change to the 2004 AFGP from previous years' programs. All AFGP application materials and program guidance resources are automated and available online along with other useful information. Each of the program areas and activities eligible for funding last year were available again for FY 2004 funding. In 2004, emergency medical services activities were incorporated into the appropriate activities area under the Operations and Firefighter Safety Program area. Programs that include equipment designed to train, prepare for and respond to events that involve chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or explosive devices (CBRNE) were also highlighted.

Grantees were invited to submit an application for assistance in only one of the following three supported program areas.

- ***Operations and Firefighter Safety Program.*** Includes training, equipment, personal protective equipment, wellness and fitness, and modifications to fire stations and facilities.
- ***Fire Prevention Program.*** Includes public education and awareness activities, fire code enforcement activities, fire inspector certifications and other activities, purchase and installation of smoke alarms and fire suppression systems, wildland mitigation, and arson prevention and detection activities.
- ***Firefighting Vehicles Acquisition Program.*** Includes pumpers, brush trucks, tankers/tenders, rescue vehicles, ambulances, quints, aerials, foam units, and fireboats.

The application period closed in early April 2004. ODP received approximately 20,400 applications for approximately \$2,664,225,000. These requests include the non-federal share, which totaled approximately \$2,345,237,000 from all departments.

Funding priorities for each of the activities were established based on recommendations from nine major national fire service organizations. The applications that most closely complied to program priorities were reviewed and scored by peer review panels from mid April through completion in early May. Awards will be announced on a weekly basis beginning in June 2004, with the competitive funds obligated by the end of September 2005.

Applicants had to demonstrate financial need and articulate the benefits to be derived from the grant funds in their applications. The grants are intended to supplement a fire department's current budget rather than supplant it. To this end, grantees must agree to maintain expenditures in the selected grant category at the department's average spending rate as determined by previous two years.

Volunteer and combination departments must receive a proportion of the total grant funding that is at least equal to the proportion of the population those firefighting departments protect. According to the statistics provided by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), volunteer and combination departments protect 55% of the population.

Grantees share in the cost of the funded project at a percentage based on the population of their respective jurisdictions. Grantees that serve jurisdictions of 50,000 or fewer residents are required to provide a non-Federal cost-share of 10%, while grantees that serve jurisdictions of over 50,000 provide a 30% cost-share. The match must be in cash without the use of in-kind contributions. In addition, the maximum amount of federal funds that an applicant can be awarded is \$750,000 during any fiscal year.

A complete list of applications, financial information, and fire department data is available for each state at: www.firegrantsupport.com. Fire departments with questions about the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program, can reach the fire grants help desk toll free 1-866-274-0960 or by writing to firegrants@dhs.gov.

For the most current information regarding the 2004 Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program, visit www.firegrantsupport.com or [enroll in the USFA email distribution list](#) [serve](#) for the most current news releases from the USFA.

Summary of 2004 Applications by Program Area

- Fire Operation and Firefighter Safety, 13,800 applications or 66% of the total submitted
- Firefighting Vehicles, 6,300 applications or 33%
- Fire Prevention, 430 applications or 1%

Summary of 2004 Requested Funding By Department Type

- All Volunteer Departments, 67% of all applications submitted totaling \$1.3 billion in requests
- Combination Paid/On-Call Departments, 24% totaling \$501 million in requests
- All Paid/Career Departments, 9% totaling \$277 million in requests

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The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), a division of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), administers the Assistance for Fire Fighters Grant Program. The program assists rural, urban and suburban fire departments throughout the United States. A list of current award recipients announced to date is posted on the USFA web site at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fire-service/grants/>. Future grant recipients will be listed as awards are made.

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