

Subject Specific Grant Guide

Grants to Support Fire Prevention and Safety Projects

This guide identifies funding opportunities released in the previous year. Please note that this guide may not capture all available funding opportunities. Additionally, some programs may have changed or may not be released due to shifting administrative priorities among funding agencies. The grants included here represent traditionally offered opportunities intended to serve as a reliable foundation for your funding research.

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FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Office of Rural Development

FY 2025 Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program

Grant Overview

This program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. Projects supported through this program must demonstrate substantial community support, and facilities must serve the rural area where they are or will be located. Eligible applicants are public bodies, community-based non-profit corporations, and federally recognized tribes.

Program History

	Total Funding	Awards
2021	$450 million	274
2020	$871 million	256

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified
Award Range: Varies
Match: Not required
Application Due: Rolling

- Funds may be combined with commercial financing to finance one project if all eligibility and feasibility requirements are met

https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program

Awardee Profile

Irving Tanning Community Center Inc.
Hartland, ME

AMOUNT: $238,000
YEAR: 2024

Funding will be used to make critical infrastructure repairs to the community center, including replacing the structure's 25-year-old roof and improving the heating system.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Office of Rural Development

FY 2025 Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. Projects supported through this program must demonstrate substantial community support, and facilities must serve the rural area where they are or will be located. Rural areas must have no more than 20,000 residents according to the latest U.S. Census data, which can be found online at www.census.gov.

For the purposes of this program, an essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial, or business undertakings. Examples of essential community facilities include:

- Health care facilities such as hospitals, medical clinics, dental clinics, nursing homes, or assisted living facilities
- Public facilities such as town halls, courthouses, airport hangars, or street improvements
- Community support services such as childcare centers, community centers, fairgrounds, or transitional housing
- Public safety services such as fire departments, police stations, prisons, police vehicles, fire trucks, public works vehicles, or equipment
- Educational services such as museums, libraries, or private schools
- Utility services such as telemedicine or distance learning equipment
- Local food systems such as community gardens, food pantries, community kitchens, food banks, food hubs, or greenhouses

Priority will be given to projects that:

- Serve communities with populations of 5,500 or fewer
- Serve low-income communities having a median household income below 80 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income

Funds may be used to purchase, construct, and/or improve essential community facilities; purchase equipment; and pay for related project expenses. Funds may also be used to pay reasonable and necessary fees, when part of a facility, such as:

- Legal
- Architectural and/or engineering
- Fiscal advisory
- Environmental impact analyses
- Archaeological surveys
- Mitigation measures
- Planning
- Establishing or acquiring right

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are public bodies, community-based nonprofit corporations, and federally recognized tribes.

Facilities supported through this program must serve the rural area where they are or will be located. Rural areas include cities, villages, townships, and towns, including federally recognized tribal lands, with no more than 20,000 residents according to the latest U.S. Census data, which can be found online at www.census.gov.

Additionally, in order to be eligible, applicants must have the legal authority to borrow money, obtain security, and repay loans; and to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities; and be unable to finance projects from their own resources and/or through commercial credit at reasonable rates and terms.

Funding

In FY 2025, an unspecified amount of funding is available to support grants and low-interest direct loans through this program. Awards may be provided as combinations of grants and loans. Grant assistance is provided on a graduated scale, with smaller communities with the lowest median household income being eligible for projects with a higher proportion of grant funds. Grant assistance is limited to the following percentages of eligible project costs:

- Maximum of 75 percent if:
  - The project is located in a rural community having a population of 5,000 or fewer; and
  - The median household income of the service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 60 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income
- Maximum of 55 percent if:
  - The project is located in a rural community having a population of 12,000 or fewer; and
  - The median household income of the service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 70 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income
- Maximum of 35 percent if:
  - The project is located in a rural community having a population of 20,000 or fewer; and
  - The median household income of the service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 80 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income
- Maximum of 15 percent if:
  - The project is located in a rural community having a population of 20,000 or fewer; and
  - The median household income of the service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 90 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income.

Loan repayment terms may not be longer than the useful life of the facility, state statutes, the applicant's authority, or a maximum of 40 years, whichever is less. There are no pre-payment penalties. Interest rates will be set by the funding agency and are determined by the median household income of the service area and population of the community. Applicants are encouraged to contact the funding agency for details and current rates. Once the loan is approved, the interest rate is fixed for the entire term of the loan.

Matching and Cost-Share

There are no stated matching requirements for this program.

Contact Information

Questions should be directed to the appropriate local office listed online at www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd/offices/state-offices. To initiate the application process, applicants must contact the appropriate local office.

https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: U.S. Forest Service

FY 2025 Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) Program: Southern Region

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to assist at-risk local communities and Indian tribes with planning for and mitigating against the risk created by wildfire. Eligible applicants are units of local governments representing communities located in an area with a risk of wildfires; Indian tribes; non-profit organizations including homeowner associations that assist such communities; state forestry agencies; and Alaska Native Corporations. Projects will be carried out within the footprint of the southern states which include Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia, and for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2024	$250 million	158
2023	$197 million	100

Key Information

Total Funding: Up to $200 million
Award Range: Varies
Match: Varies
Solicitation date: November 21, 2024
Proposal due: February 28, 2025

https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/grants/cwdg

Awardee Profile

Jasper County Fuels Mitigation Program, Jasper County, Texas

YEAR: 2024
AWARD AMOUNT: $9,904,895

The project will obtain necessary equipment to clear vegetation in the road rights-of-way to create fire breaks and support a wildfire coordinator and specialists to educate and support high-risk property owners to implement wildfire risk and mitigation efforts. Additionally, the project will implement the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Structure/Parcel/Community Fire Hazard Mitigation Methodology (HMM).

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: U.S. Forest Service

FY 2025 Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) Program: Southern Region

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to assist at-risk local communities and Indian tribes with planning for and mitigating against the risk created by wildfire. This program prioritizes at-risk communities that are in an area identified as having high or very high wildfire hazard potential, are low-income, and/or have been impacted by a severe disaster.

There are two primary project types for which the grant provides funding:

- The development and revising of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs)
- The implementation of projects described in a CWPP that is less than ten years old

A project proposal must advance objectives and priorities identified in a community wildfire protection plan that is not more than 10 years old (defined as a CWPP signed during calendar year 2013 or later).

A project proposal must be designed to achieve one or more of the following objectives:

- Assist a community with planning to address management of wildfire risk
- Assist a community with mitigation measures or actions to reduce wildfire risk

Applicants will have the responsibility to indicate on the application if they meet any or all of the three priorities. The applicant will also need to provide supporting documentation or a link to such documentation for each priority that is checked. Priority will be given to project proposals that:

- Are located in an area identified as having a high or very high wildfire hazard potential;
- Benefit a low-income community; or
- Are located in a community impacted by a severe disaster within the previous 10 years.

The CWDG also helps communities in the WUI implement the three goals of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (Cohesive Strategy):

- Resilient Landscapes: Landscapes, regardless of jurisdictional boundaries, are resilient to fire, insect, disease, invasive species, and climate change disturbances, in accordance with management objectives.
- Fire Adapted Communities: Human populations and infrastructure are as prepared as possible to receive, respond to, and recover from wildland fire.
- Safe, Effective, Risk-based Wildfire Response: All jurisdictions participate in making and implementing safe, effective, efficient risk-based wildfire management decisions.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are units of local governments representing communities located in an area with a risk of wildfires; Indian tribes; non-profit organizations including homeowner associations that assist such communities; state forestry agencies; and Alaska Native Corporations. Projects will be carried out within the footprint of the southern states which include Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia, and for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Eligible applicants may apply for grant funding for a project proposal to be conducted on lands with the following ownership types, provided the project proposal directly reduces wildfire risk to a community:

- Private lands,
- Local governments,
- Homeowner associations,
- State governments, and
- Tribal/Alaska native corporation (includes Trust lands).

Funding

In FY 2025, up to $200 million is estimated to be available to support an unspecified number of awards through this program. There is no minimum federal funding limit for projects under this program. The maximum amount of federal funding awarded to any one community or tribe via this competitive process is:

- $250,000 for the creation or updating of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan, and
- $10 million for a project described within a Community Wildfire Protection Plan less than 10 years old.

Matching and Cost Sharing

This program has differing levels of match dependent upon the proposal for which is being applied. For proposals to develop or update a CWPP, the required match is 10%. For proposals to plan and/or implement projects described within a CWPP, the required match is 25%.

Communities meeting the definition of underserved, Indian tribes, ANCs, and Pacific Islands may request a waiver of match**.**

Contact Information

U.S. Forest Service Washington Office Fire and Aviation Management Program Contact:
Cooperative Fire Branch
sm.fs.usfs_cwdg@usda.gov

https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/grants/cwdg

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: U.S. Forest Service

FY 2025 Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) Program: Western Region

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to assist at-risk local communities and Indian Tribes with planning for and mitigating against the risk created by wildfire. Eligible applicants are units of local governments representing communities located in an area with a risk of wildfires, Indian Tribes, non-profit organizations, state forestry agencies, and Alaska Native Corporations. Projects will be carried out within the footprint of the Western States and Territories, which include Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, the territories of American Samoa and Guam, the Republic of Palau and the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2024	$250 million	158
2023	$197 million	100

Key Information

Total Funding: Up to $200 million
Award Range: Varies
Match: Varies
Solicitation date: November 21, 2024
Proposal due: February 28, 2025

https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/grants/cwdg

Awardee Profile

Butte County Fire Safe Council
Butte County, CA

YEAR: 2024
AMOUNT: $2,745,673

Funding will be used to bolster Butte County's community wildfire defenses, focusing on implementation of fuels management objectives, defensible space clearance and wildfire mitigation education in Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) communities. Initiatives will improve wildfire emergency response, assist in creating fire adapted communities, and aid in restoring and maintaining landscapes that have previously been impacted by severe disasters.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: U.S. Forest Service

FY 2025 Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) Program: Western Region

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to assist at-risk local communities and Indian Tribes with planning and mitigating against the risk created by wildfire. There are two primary project types for which the grant provides funding: the development and revising of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP), and the implementation of projects described in a CWPP that is less than ten years old (defined as a CWPP signed during calendar year 2014 or later).

A project proposal must be designed to achieve one or more of the following objectives: assist a community with planning to address management of wildfire risk, and/or assist a community with mitigation measures or actions to reduce wildfire risk.

Applicants will have the responsibility to indicate on the application if they meet any or all of the three following priorities listed below. The applicant will also need to provide supporting documentation or a link to such documentation for each priority that is checked. Priority will be given to projects that:

- Are located in an area identified as having a high or very high wildfire hazard potential;
- Benefit a low-income community; or
- Are located in a community impacted by a severe disaster within the previous 10 years.

The CWDG also helps communities in the wildland urban interface (WUI) implement the three goals of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (Cohesive Strategy):

- **Resilient Landscapes:** Landscapes, regardless of jurisdictional boundaries, are resilient to fire, insect, disease, invasive species, and climate change disturbances, in accordance with management objectives.
- **Fire Adapted Communities:** Human populations and infrastructure are as prepared as possible to receive, respond to, and recover from wildland fire.
- **Safe, Effective, Risk-based Wildfire Response:** All jurisdictions participate in making and implementing safe, effective, efficient risk-based wildfire management decisions.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are units of local governments representing communities located in an area with a risk of wildfires; Indian Tribes; non-profit organizations including homeowner associations that assist such communities; state forestry agencies (including U.S. territories and interests); and Alaska Native Corporations. Projects will be carried out within the footprint of the Western States and Territories, which include Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, Territory of American Samoa, Republic of Palau,

Federated States of Micronesia, Territory of Guam, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Eligible applicants may apply for grant funding for a project proposal to be conducted on lands with the following ownership types, provided the project proposal directly reduces wildfire risk to a community:

- Private lands,
- Local governments,
- Homeowner associations,
- State government, and
- Tribal/Alaska native corporation (includes Trust lands).

Applicants are strongly encouraged to reach out to the relevant State Forestry Agency and Forest Service Cooperative Fire Specialist during application development to ensure the project aligns with program purpose and eligibility and to receive input to strengthen the application. State Forester contact information is available on the National Association of State Foresters website.

Funding

In FY 2025, up to $200 million is estimated to be available to support an unspecified number of awards through this program. There is no minimum Federal funding limit for projects under this program. The maximum amount of federal funding awarded to any one community or tribe via this competitive process is:

- $250,000 for the creation or updating of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)
- $10 million for a project described within a CWPP that is less than 10 years old

Cost Sharing and Matching

The program has differing levels of non-federal match dependent upon the proposal for which is being applied. For proposals to develop or update a CWPP, the required match is 10 percent. For proposals to plan and/or implement projects described within a CWPP, the required match is 25 percent.

Communities meeting the definition of underserved, Indian Tribes, ANCs, and Pacific Islands may request a waiver of match.

Contact Information

U.S. Forest Service Washington Office Fire and Aviation Management Program Contact for CWDG:
Cooperative Fire Branch
sm.fs.usfs_cwdg@usda.gov

https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/grants/cwdg

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: U.S. Forest Service

FY 2025 Community Wildfire Defense Grant Northeast-Midwest Region

Grant Overview

This program will assist at-risk local communities and Indian Tribes with planning and mitigating against the risk created by wildfire. Eligible applicants are units of local governments representing communities located in an area with a risk of wildfires; Indian Tribes; non-profit organizations including homeowner associations that assist such communities; state forestry agencies (including U.S. territories and interests); and Alaska Native Corporations. Projects must be located within the footprint of the Northeast-Midwest States (Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2024	$250 million	158
2023	$197 million	100

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Up to $200 million
Award Range: Varies
Match: Varies
Solicitation date: November 21, 2024
Proposal due: February 28, 2025

https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/grants

Awardee Profile

Tuolumne County, Tuolumne County Community Wildfire Defense Project

YEAR: 2023

AWARD AMOUNT: $10 million

This program will provide funding for defensible space work on approximately 1,290 homes, roadside vegetation management on approx. twenty-three miles of road and outreach to create additional Firewise Communities and other fire adaptive cohorts within at-risk and low-income communities.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: U.S. Forest Service

FY 2025 Community Wildfire Defense Grant Program Northeast-Midwest Region

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to assist at-risk local communities and Indian tribes with planning for and mitigating against the risk created by wildfire. This program prioritizes at-risk communities that are in an area identified as having high or very high wildfire hazard potential, are low-income, and/or have been impacted by a severe disaster.

There are two primary project types for which the grant provides funding:

- The development and revising of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs)
- The implementation of projects described in a CWPP that is less than ten years old

A project proposal must advance objectives and priorities identified in a community wildfire protection plan that is not more than 10 years old (defined as a CWPP signed during calendar year 2013 or later).

A project proposal must be designed to achieve one or more of the following objectives:

- Assist a community with planning to address management of wildfire risk
- Assist a community with mitigation measures or actions to reduce wildfire risk

Applicants will have the responsibility to indicate on the application if they meet any or all of the three priorities. The applicant will also need to provide supporting documentation or a link to such documentation for each priority that is checked. Priority will be given to project proposals that:

- Are located in an area identified as having a high or very high wildfire hazard potential;
- Benefit a low-income community; or
- Are located in a community impacted by a severe disaster within the previous 10 years

The CWDG also helps communities in the WUI implement the three goals of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (Cohesive Strategy):

- Resilient Landscapes: Landscapes, regardless of jurisdictional boundaries, are resilient to fire, insect, disease, invasive species, and climate change disturbances, in accordance with management objectives.
- Fire Adapted Communities: Human populations and infrastructure are as prepared as possible to receive, respond to, and recover from wildland fire.
- Safe, Effective, Risk-based Wildfire Response: All jurisdictions participate in making and implementing safe, effective, efficient risk-based wildfire management decisions.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are units of local governments representing communities located in an area with a risk of wildfires; Indian Tribes; non-profit organizations including homeowner associations that assist such communities; state forestry agencies (including U.S. territories and interests); and Alaska Native Corporations. Projects must be located within the footprint of the Northeast-Midwest States (Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Eligible applicants may apply for grant funding for a project proposal to be conducted on lands with the following ownership types, provided the project proposal directly reduces wildfire risk to a community:

- Private lands,
- Local governments,
- Homeowner associations,
- State government, and
- Tribal/Alaska native corporation (includes Trust lands).

Funding

In FY 2025, up to $200 million is estimated to be available to support an unspecified number of awards through this program. There is no minimum federal funding limit for projects under this program. The maximum amount of federal funding awarded to any one community or tribe via this competitive process is:

- $250,000 for the creation or updating of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan, and
- $10 million for a project described within a Community Wildfire Protection Plan less than 10 years old.

Matching and Cost Share

The program has differing levels of non-federal match dependent upon the proposal for which is being applied. For proposals to develop or update a CWPP, the required match is 10%. For proposals to plan and/or implement projects described within a CWPP, the required match is 25%. Matching funds must be derived entirely from non-Federal sources.

Communities meeting the definition of underserved, Indian Tribes, ANCs, and Pacific Islands may request a waiver of match**.**

Contact Information

USFS Cooperative Fire Branch
sm.fs.usfs_cwdg@usda.gov

https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/grants

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: U.S. Forest Service

FY 2025 Eastern Region Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy - Wildfire Risk Reduction (WRR)

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to develop resilient landscapes, encouraging fire-adapted communities and reducing wildfire risk on non-federal land. Eligible applicants are state forestry agencies, forest fire compacts, groups of states, nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, tribes, and fire science exchanges. Applicants must be located in the funding agency's eastern region, which includes Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2022	$3.24 million	17
2021	$2.89 million	24

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified
Award Range: $25,000 to $300,000
Match: 1:1
Solicitation date: November 15, 2024
Proposal due: January 15, 2025

More information can be found here.

Awardee Profile

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
YEAR: 2022
AWARD AMOUNT: $300,000

The Department's Education, Planning & Fuel Reduction project will work with town boards, fire departments, and homeowner associations in high fire risk areas to increase wildfire awareness, reduce fuels, and create communities that are better prepared for wildfires.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: U.S. Forest Service

FY 2025 Eastern Region Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy - Wildfire Risk Reduction (WRR)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to develop resilient landscapes, encouraging fire-adapted communities and reducing wildfire risk on non-federal land. The purpose of the WRR component is to reduce the risk of wildfire. Projects must align with one or more of the following options under the following two goals:

- Goal 1: *Restore and Maintain Landscapes*:
  - **Regional option 1A**: Expand the use of prescribed fires as an integral tool to meet management objectives in the Northeast.
  - **Regional option 1B**: Maintain and increase, where possible, the extent of fire-dependent ecosystems and expand the use of fire as a disturbance process.
  - **Regional option 1C**: Focus on mitigating 'event' fuels to reduce potential fire hazard.
- Goal 2: *Fire Adapted Communities*:
  - **Regional option 2A:** Focus on promoting and supporting local adaptation activities to be taken by communities.
  - **Regional option 2B:** Focus on directing hazardous fuel treatments to the wildland urban interface.
  - **Regional option 2C:** Focus on promoting and supporting prevention programs and activities

Examples of eligible projects include:

- Use of prescribed fire
- Use of mechanical fire reduction
- Vegetation management, such as pruning, mowing, chemical treatment, and grazing
- Use of small-diameter wood from wildfire risk-reduction activities
- Defensible space around homes and communities
- Development of community wildfire protection plans or equivalents
- Development, creation, and/or maintenance of fuel breaks and fire breaks
- Slash removal/disposal
- Pamphlets, brochures, handouts, public service announcements (PSAs), and DVDs
- Property inspections/assessments
- Training programs that support the use of prescribed fire or fire-adapted communities
- Exercise/drills that support local fire-adapted communities
- Information and education, awareness, firewise, ready set go, and fire prevention programs
- Installation of dry hydrants that support a fire-adapted community

- Weather station network upgrades that support a fire-adapted community
- Fire management planning in fire-adapted landscapes with fire-adapted communities

On-the-ground activities must take place on nonfederal lands and/or tribal trust lands.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are state forestry agencies, forest fire compacts, groups of states, nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, tribes, and fire science exchanges.

Applicants must be located in the funding agency's eastern region, which includes Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. A map can be found here.

Applicants may submit no more than three applications to this component, including single or multistate applications.

Funding

In FY 2025, an unspecified amount of funding is available for awards ranging from $25,000 to $300,000 through this program.

The award term is five years.

Matching and Cost Sharing

Applicants must provide at least a one-to-one match of the total award amount via eligible and allowable costs.

Contact Information

Questions should be directed to the appropriate state contact. A contact list can be found here under “Contact Information”.

https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r9/workingtogether/grants/?cid=FSEPRD898823

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: U.S. Forest Service / Western Forestry Leadership Coalition

FY 2025 Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) Competitive Grant Program

Grant Overview

This program supports collaborative, science-based restoration projects that focus on priority landscapes in the western United States and encourages the use of innovative cross-boundary approaches to support landscape restoration. Projects must focus on on-the-ground outcomes on nonfederal rural forest land, which is also considered non-industrial private forest land or state forest land. Eligible applicants include state forestry agencies, local governments, Indian Tribes, non-profit organizations, universities, and Alaska Native corporations.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2023	$4.2 million	19
2022	$3.8 million	11

Key Information

Total Funding: Unspecified
Award Range: $25,000 - $300,000
Match: One-to-one
Solicitation date: August 9, 2024
Proposal due: November 15, 2024

https://www.thewflc.org/landscape-scale-restoration-competitive-grant-program

Awardee Profile

Willamette Valley Oak Habitat Restoration, OR

AMOUNT: $300,000
YEAR: 2023

This project received funding to restore and enhance oak habitats, reducing hazardous fuels and improving ecosystem health.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: U.S. Forest Service / Western Forestry Leadership Coalition

FY 2025 Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) Competitive Grant Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support collaborative, science-based restoration projects that focus on priority landscapes in the western United States, and to encourage the use of innovative cross-boundary approaches to support landscape restoration. Projects must focus on on-the-ground outcomes on nonfederal rural forest land, which is also considered non-industrial private forest land or state forest land. For the purposes of this program, rural areas are areas other than urbanized areas such as cities or towns with populations of greater than 50,000 inhabitants. Applicants are encouraged to prioritize addressing one of the following objectives:

- Reduce the risk of uncharacteristic wildfires
- Improve fish and wildlife habitats, including for threatened and endangered species
- Maintain and improve water quality and watershed function
- Mitigate invasive species, insect infestation, and disease
- Improve important forest ecosystems
- Measure ecological and economic benefits, including air quality, soil quality, and productivity

Priority will be given to proposals that:

- Promote cross-boundary collaboration
- Coordinate with or are in proximity to other complementary landscape-scale projects on National Forest System lands, or lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior or a state
- Coordinate with or are in proximity to other complementary landscape-scale projects on state land
- Coordinate with Natural Resources Conservation Service programs and appropriate state-level programs

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are state forestry agencies, local governments, nonprofits, Indian tribes, universities, and Alaska Native corporations. Eligible applicants must be located in Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, California, Colorado, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, the Northern Mariana Islands, Oregon, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, or Wyoming.

Funding

In FY 2025, an unspecified amount of funding is available to support awards ranging from $25,000 to $300,000 through this program. Each state may submit up to five proposals; however, no state will receive more than 15 percent of the total funds available.

Project periods must be no longer than three years.

Match and Cost Share

Applicants must provide a one-to-one match of the total award amount via nonfederal cash or in-kind contributions. Any match waiver must be acquired directly from the appropriate U.S. Forest Service region. Applicants that leverage funding from multiple entities will receive priority.

Contact Information

Program Staff
Leena Visnak
Competitive Grants Manager
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https://www.thewflc.org/landscape-scale-restoration-competitive-grant-program

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Business-Cooperative Service

FY 2025 Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program

Grant Overview

This program supports projects that promote rural economic development and job creation. Eligible applicants are corporations; states and territories; subdivisions and agencies of states and territories; municipalities; people's utility districts and cooperative, nonprofit, or limited-dividend associations.

Program History

	Awards	Funding Range
2023	32	$300,000 to $35 million
2022	34	$36,986 to $1.5 million

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: $50,000,000
Award Range: Up to $2 million (loans); Up to $300,000 (grants)
Match: 20 percent
Solicitation date: August 23, 2024
Proposal due: September 30, 2024* Multiple deadlines

- Prior to applying, applicants may request technical assistance or other application guidance from the funding agency using the information provided in the Contact section, as long as such requests are made at least 15 days prior to each submission date.

https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-programs/rural-economic-development-loan-grant-programs

USDA

Awardee Profile

Hollis Crossroads Volunteer Fire Department
Heflin, Alabama

AMOUNT: $2,000,000
YEAR: 2023

This Rural Development investment was used to provide a loan to assist Mississippi Export Railroad in building a 76,750 square foot shop along with 9,400 feet of track in Helena Industrial Park located in Moss Point, Mississippi. Mississippi Export will hire 24 new employees once the facility is operational, which is expected to happen within one year after construction.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Business-Cooperative Service

FY 2025 Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support projects that promote rural economic development and job creation. Awards will be provided in the form of grants or loans to successful applicants, that will pass the funding through to business and community borrowers, or ultimate recipients, in the form of loans. Grant awards must be used to create revolving loan funds (RLFs) for this purpose. Both grant and loan awards will be used by the ultimate recipients for costs such as:

- Business incubators
- Community development assistance to nonprofit organizations and public bodies, particularly for job creation or enhancement
- Facilities and equipment to educate and train rural residents to facilitate economic development
- Facilities and equipment for medical care for rural residents
- Startup venture costs, including financing fixed assets such as real estate, buildings, equipment, or working capital
- Business expansion
- Technical assistance

Applicants are encouraged to consider projects that will advance the following key priorities:

- Assisting rural communities to recover economically through more and better market opportunities and through improved infrastructure
- Ensuring all rural residents have equitable access to Rural Development (RD) programs and benefits from RD-funded projects
- Reducing climate pollution and increasing resilience to the impacts of climate change through economic support to rural communities

Priority will be given to applicants that are federally recognized tribes, including tribal instrumentalities and entities that are wholly owned by tribes; to projects where at least 50 percent of beneficiaries are members of federally recognized tribes; and to non-tribal applicants that submit tribal resolutions of consent from tribes they propose to serve. Additionally, priority will be provided to projects that are located in or serve:

- Rural communities whose economic well-being ranks in the most distressed tier (distress score of 80 or higher) of the Distressed Communities Index using the Distressed Communities Look-Up Map
- Rural communities with a social vulnerability index of 0.75 or above
- The Rural Partners' Network's (RPN's) community network, which currently includes communities in Alaska, Arizona, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, West Virginia, and Wisconsin
- Disadvantaged communities, as defined by the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST)

- Energy communities, as defined by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are the following borrowers described in the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, including corporations, states and territories, subdivisions and agencies of states and territories, municipalities, people's utility district, and cooperative, nonprofit, or limited-dividend associations. Applicants must meet one of the following criteria:

- Are current Rural Utilities Service (RUS), electric, or telecommunications borrowers
- Are a former RUS borrower that has repaid or pre-paid an insured, direct, or guaranteed loan under the Rural Electrification Act
- Are nonprofit utilities that are eligible to receive an insured or direct loan under the Rural Electrification Act

Projects must serve rural areas or towns with a population of fewer than 50,000 residents. For persistent-poverty counties, projects may serve county seats with populations of up to 55,000.

There is no limit on the number of applications an applicant may submit.

Funding

In FY 2025, approximately $50 million is anticipated to be available to support grants of up to an anticipated $300,000 and loans of up to an anticipated $2 million through this program.

Loans will be made at zero percent interest rate for ten years. Loan award recipients must pass on loan funding to local businesses or ultimate recipients for projects that will create and keep employment in rural areas. First-time loans are at zero percent interest. Repayment for loans for ultimate recipients may be deferred for up to two years for projects that include a startup venture or community facilities projects.

Grant award recipients may use funding to establish RLFs. Grant funds must be repaid to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) upon termination of RLFs.

For grant awards, operating expenses of the RLF are limited to 10 percent of the total award amount over the life of the RLF.

Pre-award costs will only be permitted with the prior written approval of the funding agency.

Project periods will begin on December 1, 2024, and end on September 30, 2026.

Awards are anticipated to be made on the following dates:

- November 30, 2024, for applications submitted by September 30, 2024
- February 28, 2025, for applications submitted by December 31, 2024
- May 31, 2025, for applications submitted by March 31, 2025
- August 31, 2025, for applications submitted by June 30, 2025

Matching and Cost-Sharing

Applicants seeking loans, or the ultimate recipients of loans, must provide a match of at least 20 percent of the loan amount.

Applicants seeking grants must establish a revolving loan fund (RLF) and provide an amount equal to at least 20 percent of the grant amount. This contribution may not be provided using other federal grants, unless permitted by law.

Contact Information

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https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-programs/rural-economic-development-loan-grant-programs

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: U.S. Forest Service (USFS)

FY 2025 State Fire Capacity Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – Southern Region

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to restore and maintain landscapes from fire-related disturbances and create fire adapted communities (FACs) where human populations and infrastructure can withstand a wildfire without loss of life or property. Additionally, these programs priorities reflect the national USFS priorities of improving the condition of forests, and grasslands, promoting shared stewardship by increasing partnerships and volunteerism, and by being good neighbors and providing excellent customer service. Eligible applicants are state forestry agencies, groups of states, tribes, nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, local governments representing communities located within a designated wildland urban interface area, non-profit organizations such as local conservation districts that assist communities, private landowners and associations, and prescribed fire training academies.

Program History

A program history is unavailable.

Key Information

Total Funding: Unspecified
Award Range: $25,000 - $300,000
Match: one-to-one
Solicitation date: November 18, 2024
Proposal due: December 13, 2024 (mandatory draft for external applications); January 22, 2025 (full application)

https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/356926

USDA

Tips

- State forestry agencies will review and prioritize the draft applications and may provide a letter of support to no more than two external applicants by January 8, 2025.
- Applicants other than the State Forestry Agency (excluding tribes) must have a letter of support from the appropriate State Forester

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: U.S. Forest Service (USFS)

FY 2025 State Fire Capacity Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – Southern Region

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to restore and maintain landscapes from fire-related disturbances and create fire adapted communities (FACs) where human populations and infrastructure can withstand a wildfire without loss of life or property. These programs priorities reflect the national USFS priorities of improving the condition of forests, and grasslands, promoting shared stewardship by increasing partnerships and volunteerism, and by being good neighbors and providing excellent customer service.

State Fire Capacity Wildfire Hazard Mitigation application activities should clearly focus on identifying and creating fire adapted communities by:

- Reducing hazardous fuels in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)
- Developing, and implementing Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs)
- Providing prevention and mitigation education, and/or
- By achieving Fire Adapted Community and Firewise programming and other community hazard mitigation activities.

An emphasis should be placed on funding areas that have developed or that are developing CWPPs, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hazard mitigation plans, or other collaboratively developed hazard mitigation plans.

Successful applications will clearly identify the reduction of wildfire risk and will align with the respective state's forest action plan. Current plans can be found online at www.stateforesters.org/forest-action-plans.

Eligible activities include but are not limited to:

- Defensible space around communities, homes, and structures
- Development, creation, and/or maintenance of fuel breaks and fire breaks, including shaded fuel breaks
- Fuels reduction beyond defensible space adjacent to WUI areas
- Removal of slash including piling and burning; mulching; grinding; etc.
- State or federally recognized training programs that support the use of prescribed fire or Fire Adapted Communities (FAC)
- Mechanical fuel reduction
- Vegetation management (pruning, mowing, chemical treatment, grazing)
- Thinning
- Use of small diameter wood from wildfire risk reduction activities
- Maintenance of non-federally funded fuels projects

- Monitoring components for projects effectiveness; must have established baseline presented in application process
- Firewise or similar programs outreach to WUI communities and homeowners
- Fire education presentation from Project Learning Tree
- Property inspections and/or assessments
- Exercises/drills that support local FAC
- Technical assistance as it relates to mitigation and hazardous fuels reduction activities
- Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Program Management
- Pamphlets, brochures, handouts, PSAs, and DVDs
- Information and Education, Awareness, Firewise, Ready Set Go, and Fire Prevention Programs
- Installation of dry hydrants that support a FAC
- Fire management planning for fire adapted landscapes in FAC
- Creation/ development and implementation of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP)
- Updating of CWPP/ hazard mitigation plans or equivalent document

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are state forestry agencies, groups of states, tribes, nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, local governments representing communities located within a designated wildland urban interface (WUI) area, non-profit organizations such as local conservation districts that assist communities, private landowners and associations, and Rx fire training academies.

Each State can have a maximum of two internal and two external applications. Internal applicants are classified as state forestry agencies, external applicants are defined as state agencies, county/local governments, or other non-governmental organizations. For profit entities are not eligible.

Multistate applications must identify a lead agency and the amount of funds to be allocated against each state's 15 percent cap.

Applicants must be located in the funding agency's southern region, which includes Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

Funding

In FY 2025, an estimated total of $5.5 million is planned to be made available to support awards ranging from $25,000 to $300,000 through this program. Funding for this State Fire Capacity (SFC) Wildfire Hazard Mitigation grant is not guaranteed. Funding amount will be determined once Congress allocates a budget to USDA Forest Service.

The maximum amount of grant funding awarded to any one state for this grant cannot exceed 15 percent of the total funding available for the RFA. The funding amount for FY 2025 is unknown and not guaranteed. Using the FY 2024 funding allocation, the 15 percent cap for FY2024 was $839,287.00. Grants to Tribes will not affect the 15 percent state cap.

The award term is five years. There will not be any extensions authorized past the five-year term.

Matching and Cost Sharing

Applicants must provide, at a minimum, a one-to-one match (50 percent) of the requested award amount via cash or in-kind contributions. In-kind contributions may include training hours, volunteer hours, and donated labor/equipment. An actual cash match cannot include federal funds.

If combined applications from the same state exceed the 15% cap, the lowest ranked application from that state will be given the opportunity to receive partial grant funding up to the 15% cap if the receiving entity can fund the full project using additional match funds. If they are unable to increase match funds to fund the full project with a reduced grant amount, the same offer will be extended to the next ranked application.

Contact Information

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https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/356926

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Commerce
Agency: Economic Development Administration (EDA)

FY 2025 Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance (PWEEA)

Grant Overview

This program assists communities and regions in devising and implementing long-term economic development efforts through a variety of non-construction and construction projects. Eligible applicants are district organizations; Indian Tribes; states, counties, cities, and other political subdivisions of states, including special purpose units of state or local governments engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities; institutions of higher education; and private or public nonprofits acting in cooperation with officials of political subdivisions of states.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2024	$429,177,544	209
2023	$161,930,109	85

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified
Award Range: Varies by project category
Match: Varies
Solicitation date: September 16, 2025
Proposal due: Rolling

- In FY 2025, the notice of funding opportunity was revised with the funding agency's updated investment priorities and other technical changes.

For more information, click here.

Awardee Profile

City of West Lafayette, IN

AMOUNT: $2,073,500
YEAR: 2024

The City of West Lafayette, IN, received Public Works funding to support increasing the wastewater treatment capacity for the Purdue Research Park. The project work includes the expansion of an existing regional lift station and a larger force main. The grantee estimates that this investment to expand the Park's wastewater capacity will help create 400 jobs and leverage $20 million in private investment.

Department: U.S. Department of Commerce
Agency: Economic Development Administration (EDA)

FY 2025 Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance (PWEEA)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to assist communities and regions in devising and implementing long-term economic development efforts through a variety of non-construction and construction projects. Funding will support bottom-up strategies that build on regional assets to spur economic growth and resiliency, and applicants are encouraged to propose initiatives that present new ideas and creative approaches to advance economic prosperity in distressed communities. Further, the funding agency recognizes the value of project alignment and integration with existing regional public or private investments to extend the impact of these efforts. Applicants need not specify the program for which they are applying, as the funding agency will consider the application under the most appropriate pool of funding.

Projects must be consistent with at least one of the following investment priorities of the funding agency: critical infrastructure, workforce, innovation and entrepreneurship, economic recovery resilience, and manufacturing. The funding agency is not prioritizing any investment priorities over another.

Separate program funds are available for the Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) programs, as follows:

- Public Works: The funding agency provides catalytic investments to help distressed communities build, design, or engineer critical infrastructure and facilities that will help implement regional development strategies and advance bottom-up economic development goals to promote regional prosperity. The Public Works program provides resources to meet the construction and/or infrastructure design needs of communities to enable them to become more economically competitive.
- EAA: The funding agency provides investments that support a wide range of construction and non-construction activities in regions experiencing adverse economic changes that may occur suddenly or over time. Supported activities include construction and non-construction, such as workforce training, design and engineering, technical assistance, economic recovery strategies, and capitalization or re-capitalization of revolving loan funds (RLFs). The funding agency utilizes EAA investments to provide resources that help communities experiencing or anticipating economic dislocations to plan and implement specific solutions to leverage their existing regional economic advantages to support economic development and job creation. Like Public Works investments, EAA investments are designed to help communities catalyze public-private partnerships to foster collaboration, attract investment, create jobs, and foster economic resiliency and prosperity.

The EAA program is also designed to provide specific investment assistance to communities harmed by the closure of nuclear, biomass, or coal facilities. EAA assistance to Nuclear Closure Communities (NCCs) and Biomass Closure Communities (BCC) supports communities that have been impacted, or can reasonably demonstrate they will be impacted, by closures of nuclear or biomass power plants. Similarly, EAA Assistance

to Coal Communities (ACC) supports communities that have been negatively impacted by the closure of coal facilities. Additionally, the EAA program includes an addendum for Assistance to Indigenous Communities, (AIC) to assist Indigenous communities particularly in the areas of capacity building and planning support.

Projects must also be consistent with the region's current comprehensive economic development strategy (CEDS), or if a CEDS does not exist, an equivalent regional economic development strategy that meets the funding agency's CEDS or strategy requirements, except for a strategy grant to develop, update, or refine a CEDS.

Competitive applications will propose projects designed to create the conditions for economic growth in Indigenous Communities. The funding agency encourages non-construction projects that provide capacity-building, planning support, and technical assistance to support the future implementation of foundational economic infrastructure. Foundational economic infrastructure can include broadband, energy, road, water, and wastewater infrastructure (including community water facilities); vocational and higher education facilities; and community health and childcare facilities that are necessary for job creation and economic mobility. Projects can also provide technical assistance to support business development, entrepreneurship assistance, economic development planning, rural prosperity, and workforce training in Indigenous Communities.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are district organizations of an EDA-designated Economic Development District; Indian Tribes or a consortium of Indian Tribes; state, county, city, or other political subdivision of a state, including a special purpose unit of a state or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions; institutions of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; public or private non-profit organizations or associations acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a state.

Projects must be located in regions that meet the funding agency's distress criteria. Applicants must self-define the appropriate region geographically. The geographic area comprising the region need not be contiguous or defined by political boundaries; however, it should constitute a cohesive area capable of undertaking self-sustained economic development. Applicants must provide third-party data that clearly indicates that the relevant region is subject to at least one of the following economic distress criteria:

- An unemployment rate that is, for the most recent 24-month period for which data is available, at least one percentage point greater than the national average unemployment rate
- A per capita income that is, for the most recent period for which data is available, 80 percent or less of the national average per capita income
- A special need, as defined by the funding agency

For construction projects, including design and engineering, the project must be located within an eligible region. For non-construction projects, the scope of work must primarily benefit an eligible region, and stakeholders from that eligible region must be directly engaged. Projects may meet the regional eligibility criteria in one of the following ways:

- Located in a region that meets the funding agency's economic distress criteria
- Located in an economic development district (EDD) that is located in a region that does not meet the funding agency's economic distress criteria, but the funding agency determines it will be of

substantial direct benefit to a geographic area within the EDD that meets the funding agency's economic distress criteria
- Located in a geographic area of poverty or high unemployment that meets the funding agency's economic distress criteria but that is located in a region that overall does not meet the funding agency's economic distress criteria

Funding

In FY 2025, an unspecified amount of funding is expected to be available to support grants and cooperative agreements through this program, as follows:

- Public Works Program: Awards are expected to range from $600,000 to $5 million. In the past, the average award size has been approximately $1.4 million. No more than 15 percent of investments made through this program may be spent in a single state.
- Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) Program: Awards are expected to range from $150,000 to $2.5 million. In the past, the average award size has been approximately $650,000.
- Assistance to Coal Communities (ACC): Awards are expected to range from $500,000 to $3 million for implementation projects and from $100,000 to $350,000 for planning activities.
- Assistance to Nuclear Closure Communities (NCC): Awards are expected to range from $500,000 to $3 million for implementation projects and from $100,000 to $350,000 for planning activities.
- Assistance to Biomass Closure Communities (BCC): Awards are expected to range from $500,000 to $3 million for implementation projects and from $100,000 to $350,000 for planning activities.

Additionally, approximately $5 million is available for non-construction Assistance to Indigenous Communities awards ranging from $75,000 and $200,000 through the EAA Program.

Project periods will depend on the nature of the project for which the grant or cooperative agreement is awarded. Typically, strategy grants and non-construction projects range in duration from 12 to 24 months. Construction projects are expected to range from 12 to 48 months and are expected to be completed within five years from the award date.

Matching and Cost Sharing

In general, applicants must provide at least 40 percent of the total project costs via cash and/or in-kind contributions; however, the funding agency may fund up to 80 percent of the total project costs based on the relative needs of the region. Matching requirements will vary according to the economic distress of the region in which the project is located, as follows:

- Regions in which the 24-month unemployment rate is at least 225 percent of the national average: applicants must provide at least 20 percent of the total project costs
- Regions in which the per capita income is not more than 50 percent of the national average: applicants must provide at least 20 percent of the total project costs
- Regions in which the 24-month unemployment rate is at least 200 percent of the national average: applicants must provide at least 30 percent of the total project costs
- Regions in which the per capita income is not more than 60 percent of the national average: applicants must provide at least 30 percent of the total project costs
- Regions in which the 24-month unemployment rate is at least one percentage point greater than the national average: applicants must provide at least 40 percent of the total project costs

- Regions in which the per capita income is not more than 80 percent of the national average: applicants must provide at least 40 percent of the total project costs

In addition, the matching requirements may be waived for Indian tribes, states or political subdivisions of states, and nonprofits that can document that they have exhausted their effective taxing and borrowing capacity.

Contact Information

Program contacts vary by regional office. EDA regional representatives can be found at https://www.eda.gov/contact/.

https://www.eda.gov/funding/funding-opportunities/fiscal-year-2023-public-works-and-economic-adjustment-assistance

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Defense
Agency: Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation

FY 2025 Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP)

Grant Overview

This program is designed to address deficiencies in community infrastructure, supportive of a military installation, in order to enhance military value, installation resilience, and military family quality of life or contribute to the training of cadets enrolled in an independent program at a covered educational institution. Eligible applicants are state and local governments owning infrastructure outside of, but supporting, a military installation.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2024	$100 million	14
2023	$99.7 million	17
2022	$90 million	19

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: $90 million
Award Range: $250,000 - $20 million
Match: 30 percent
Solicitation date: May 27, 2025
Proposal due: July 3, 2025

- Benefitting military installation must provide a letter of support for the project

https://oldcc.gov/defense-community-infrastructure-program-dcip

Awardee Profile

City of Copperas Cove, TX

AMOUNT: $10,308,887
YEAR: 2024

The City of Copperas Cove received funding for road improvements to enhance access, reduce congestion, and boost safety—laying groundwork for a future regional transportation hub that supports Fort Cavazos, improves military readiness, and benefits service members, families, and the broader community.

Department: U.S. Department of Defense
Agency: Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation

FY 2025 Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to assist states and local governments, and nonprofit member-owned utility services in addressing deficiencies in community infrastructure supportive of a military installation. For the purposes of this program, a military installation is defined as a base, camp, post, station, yard, center, homeport facility for any ship, or other activity under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense, including any leased facility, which is located within any of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or Guam.

Eligible community infrastructure projects are any complete and useable transportation project; community support facility (e.g., school, hospital, police, fire, emergency response, or other community support facility); and utility infrastructure project (e.g., water, wastewater, telecommunications, electric, gas, or other utility infrastructure (with necessary cyber safeguards)) that:

- are on land located off of a military installation or on property under the jurisdiction of a Secretary of a military department that is subject to a real estate agreement allowing the project or facility to be located on military property (including a lease or easement)
- support a military installation
- are owned by a state, local government, or a not-for-profit, member-owned utility service
- are supported by the installation commander representing the installation benefitting from the proposed project
- are where ground-disturbing work has not yet commenced
- are construction-ready

To be eligible, projects that will contribute to the training of cadets enrolled in an independent Reserve Officer Training Corps program at a covered educational institution must meet the requirements listed above. The location of the proposed infrastructure project contributing to the training of such cadets does not necessarily have to be on the campus of the covered educational institution. Projects must be tied to a specific, eligible independent cadet program at a covered educational institution and support a military installation.

Community infrastructure projects will be prioritized in the following order:

- Projects that will enhance military value at a military installation
- Projects that will contribute to the training of cadets enrolled in an independent program at a covered educational institution
- Projects that will enhance military installation resilience
- Projects that will enhance military family quality of life at an installation.

Proposed stormwater management projects involving retrofitting a defense access road to reduce stormwater runoff and ponding or standing water that includes the combination of stormwater runoff and water levels resulting from extreme weather conditions shall be given priority over other proposed stormwater projects.

Eligible costs include only hard construction and renovation costs, such as the costs directly associated with project administration, inspection, construction, utilities, and contingency costs required to execute the project, as well as costs of capital equipment affixed to the real property with a depreciable life of not less than seven years. Soft costs, such as those required for planning, design, permitting, and meeting requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act must be funded by non-Federal project cost contribution funds. Construction contingency costs are limited to no more than 15 percent of the proposed project.

Project proposals must include a letter of support from the local installation commander representing the installation benefitting from the proposed project.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are state or local governments. Not-for-profit, member-owned utilities may receive funding as a sub-recipient to a state or local government, and projects owned by such utilities must comply with Federal Interest rules described in the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation's grant terms and conditions. The facility addressed in the application must not be located on a military installation, unless it is on property under the jurisdiction of a military department and is subject to a real estate agreement (e.g., a lease or an easement).

Funding

In FY 2025, approximately $90 million is available to support awards ranging from $250,000 to $20 million through this program. Environmental permits, authorizations, and approvals must be completed within 120 days of grant award. Projects should commence within 12 months upon receipt of a grant. Projects should be completed no later than five years following obligation of funds.

Matching and Cost-Share

State or local government recipients must agree to contribute not less than 30 percent of the total funding required for the community infrastructure project. State or local government matches are not required for proposed community infrastructure projects located in rural areas, defined as a city, town, or unincorporated area that has a population of not more than 100,000 inhabitants. In addition, State or local government funding contributions are not required for proposed community infrastructure projects that are determined to be advantageous for reasons related to national security.

Contact Information

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https://oldcc.gov/defense-community-infrastructure-program-dcip

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency

FY 2024 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)

Grant Overview

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program provides critically needed resources that equip and train emergency personnel to recognize standards, enhance operational efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience. Eligible applicants are fire departments, non-affiliated emergency medical services organizations, and state fire training academies.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2023	$402 million	2,128
2022	$333.8 million	1,922

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: $291.6 million
Award Range: Varies by population
Match: Varies by population
Solicitation date: November 12, 2024
Proposal due: December 20, 2024

- Construction costs are not eligible under the AFG program
- To be most competitive only select projects ranked High Priority
- Work with your FEMA Regional Fire Program Specialist

https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters

Awardee Profile

City of Miami, FL

AMOUNT: $1,152,909
YEAR: 2022

The city of Miami received an operations and safety grant through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.

Department: U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency

FY 2024 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide critically needed resources that equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, outfit responders with compliant personal protective equipment to increase responders' physical protection against hazards during incident response, provide funding to retrofit or modify facilities to protect personnel from known health hazards, acquire emergency response vehicles, design and implement health, wellness and resiliency programs that prepare responders for incident response, enhance operational efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience. Applicants may request funding under the following eligible activities:

Operations and safety:

- Training: Hands-on, instructor-led training that meets a national, state, or Department of Homeland Security adopted standard and results in a national or state certification provides the greatest training benefit. High training priorities include:
    - Training evaluated using national or state standards
    - Training that brings a department into compliance with recommended NFPA or other national standards
    - Instructor-led training that requires student testing to demonstrate academic competence or practical proficiency
    - Training that benefits the highest percentage of applicable personnel, such as the hazardous materials training within a fire department or training that will be open to other eligible organizations
- Equipment: Equipment for effective response, firefighting, rescue, and emergency medical operations to enhance public safety. High priority equipment requests include:
    - Obtain equipment needed but not currently owned or replace equipment that is broken and/or damaged beyond repair to achieve minimum operational and deployment standards for existing missions
    - Replace noncompliant equipment to current standards
- Personal protective equipment (PPE): Acquiring compliant PPE for firefighting and non-affiliated EMS personnel with the goal of increasing firefighter safety. High priority PPE priorities include:
    - Increase supply for new hires and/or existing firefighters that do not have one set of turnout gear (PPE) or allocated seated positions (SCBA). This includes replacing out of service PPE-Turnout Gear and SCBA.
    - Replace in-service or in-use damaged/ unsafe/unrepairable PPE/SCBA to meet current standard
    - Replace in-service or in-use damaged/ unsafe/unrepairable PPE/SCBA to meet current standard

- Wellness and fitness: Activities intended to strengthen emergency responders so that their mental, physical, and emotional capabilities are resilient enough to withstand the demands of all hazardous operations.
- Modifications to facilities: Modifying fire stations and other facilities.

Vehicle acquisition: Funding to purchase one or more vehicles, and funding for driver training as required. Vehicles purchased with AFG Program funds must be compliant with NFPA 1900 (Standard for Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Vehicles, Wildland Fire Apparatus, and Automotive Fire) or equivalent (Standard for Automotive Ambulances).

Regional applications: An opportunity for a fire department or a nonaffiliated EMS organization to act as a host and apply for funding on behalf of itself and any number of other participating AFG Program eligible organizations.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are:

- Fire departments: An agency or organization having a formally recognized arrangement with a state, local, tribal or territorial authority (city, county, parish, fire district, township, town or other governing body) to provide fire suppression to a population within a geographically fixed primary first due response area.
- Non-affiliated emergency medical service (EMS) organizations: An agency or organization that is a public or private nonprofit emergency medical service entity providing medical transport that is not affiliated with a hospital and does not serve a geographic area in which emergency medical services are adequately provided by a fire department. FEMA considers the following as hospitals under the AFG Program: clinics; medical centers; medical college or university; infirmary; surgery centers; and any other institution, association, or foundation providing medical, surgical, or psychiatric care and/or treatment for the sick or injured.
- State fire training academies (SFTAs): Applicants must be designated either by legislation or by a governor's declaration as the sole fire service training agency within a state, territory, or the District of Columbia and recognized by the National Fire Academy. The designated SFTA shall be the only agency, bureau, division or entity within that state, territory, or the District of Columbia, to be an eligible SFTA applicant under the AFG Program.
- Non-federal airport and/or port authority fire or EMS organizations are eligible only if they have a formally recognized arrangement with the local jurisdiction to provide fire suppression or emergency medical services on a first-due basis outside the confines of the airport or port facilities. Airport or port authority fire and EMS organizations whose sole responsibility is suppression of fires or EMS response on the airport grounds or port facilities are not eligible for funding under the AFG Program.

In order to be eligible for funding fire departments, non-affiliated emergency medical service (EMS) organizations, and state fire training academies must be operating in any of the 50 states, as well as the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Although NFIRS reporting is not a requirement to apply for any AFG Program, fire departments that receive funding under this program must agree to provide information to the NFIRS for the period of performance covered by the assistance.

Applicants are not required to comply with NIMS to apply for AFG Program funding or to receive an AFG Program award. However, any applicant who receives an FY 2024 AFG Program award must achieve the level of NIMS compliance required by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) over the applicant's emergency service operations prior to the end of the grant's period of performance.

Funding

In FY 2024, $291.6 million is available to support approximately 2,000 awards through this program. The project period will span 24 months from the date of the award.

Maximum award amounts will vary according to the population of the jurisdiction served by the applicant, as follows:

- Applicants serving a jurisdiction of 100,000 residents or fewer: No more than $1 million.
- Applicants serving a jurisdiction of more than 100,000 residents, but not more than 500,000 residents: No more than $2 million.
- Applicants serving a jurisdiction of more than 500,000 residents, but not more than 1 million residents: No more than $2.916 million.
- Applicants serving a jurisdiction of more than 1 million residents, but not more than 2.5 million residents: Subject to the 1 percent aggregate cap of $2.916 million. If FEMA waives the aggregate cap, the amount of grant funds awarded to such a recipient shall not exceed $6 million for any fiscal year.
- Applicants serving a jurisdiction of more than 2.5 million residents: Subject to the 1 percent aggregate cap of $2.916 million. If FEMA waives the aggregate cap, the amount of grant funds awarded to such a recipient shall not exceed $9 million for any fiscal year.

The total funding available will be allocated according to applicant type, as follows:

- Fire Departments: Not less than 25 percent of available grant funds shall be awarded to career, combination, or volunteer department types (total of 75 percent).
- Nonaffiliated EMS Organizations: Not more than 2 percent of available grant funds shall be collectively awarded to all nonaffiliated EMS organization recipients.
- Emergency Medical Services Providers: Not less than 3.5 percent of available grant funds shall fund emergency medical services provided by fire departments and nonaffiliated EMS organizations.
- State Fire Training Academy: Not more than 3 percent of available grant funds shall be collectively awarded to all SFTA recipients. Further, no more than $500,000 of available federal grant funds may be awarded per SFTA applicant.
- Vehicles: Not more than 25 percent of available grant funds may be used by recipients for the purchase of vehicles. Of that amount, based on stakeholder recommendations, FEMA intends to allocate 10% of the total vehicle funds for ambulances.
- Micro Grants: The selection of the voluntary Micro Grant option (cumulative federal funding of **$75,000**) for eligible High Priority Operations and Safety activities does not impact an applicant's request or participation under the Vehicle Acquisition or Regional projects. Applicants who select Micro Grants under Operations and Safety as a funding opportunity choice may still apply for a Vehicle Acquisition or Regional project. Of the 25 percent allocated to each of the career, combination, and volunteer departments, FEMA will aim to fund no less than 25 percent of the allocation for Micro Grants.

Matching and Cost Sharing

In general, eligible applicants shall agree to make available non-federal funds to carry out an AFG Program award in an amount equal to not less than 15 percent of the federal funds awarded. Exceptions to this general requirement apply to entities serving smaller communities as follows:

- Applicants serving a jurisdiction of 20,000 residents or fewer: Applicants shall agree to make available non-federal funds in an amount equal to not less than 5 percent of the grant awarded.
- Applicants serving a jurisdiction of more than 20,000 residents, but not more than 1 million residents: Applicants shall agree to make available non-federal funds in an amount equal to not less than 10 percent of the grant awarded.
- Applicants serving a jurisdiction of more than 1 million residents: Applicants shall agree to make available non-federal funds in an amount equal to not less than 15 percent of the grant awarded.

The cost share for SFTAs will apply the requirements above based on the total population of the state. The cost share for a regional application will apply the requirements above based on the aggregate population of the primary first due response areas of the host and participating partner organizations. In cases of demonstrated financial hardship, the required cost share may be waived or reduced.

FEMA has developed a cost share calculator tool in order to assist applicants with determining their cost share.

Contact Information

AFG Program Office Contact
866–274-0960
FireGrants@fema.dhs.gov

https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

FY 2024 Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) Program

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to provide critically needed resources to fire departments and non-profit organizations to carry out fire prevention education and training, fire code enforcement, fire/arson investigation, firefighter safety and health programming, strategic national projects, prevention efforts, and research and development. Eligible applicants are units of local government, tribal governments, non-profit organizations, public and private higher education institutions, and fire departments.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2023	$36 million	97
2022	$36 million	110
2021	$46 million	150

Key Information

Total Funding: $32.4 million
Award Range: Up to $1.5 million
Match: 5 percent
Solicitation date: May 23, 2025
Proposal due: July 3, 2025

https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters/safety-awards/documents

Awardee Profile

City of Oxnard, CA

AMOUNT: $311,190
YEAR: 2024

The City of Oxnard received funding to support its project aimed at enhancing the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards.

Department: U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

FY 2024 Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide critically needed resources to fire departments and non-profit organizations to carry out fire prevention education and training, fire code enforcement, fire/arson investigation, firefighter safety and health programming, strategic national projects, prevention efforts, and research and development.

All proposals must submit a vulnerability statement describing steps taken to determine and address vulnerability. These statements will be evaluated on how well the applicant demonstrates the understanding of their actual community fire and safety risks. A community risk assessment should be used to document the risk as a basis for mitigation. A risk analysis should be the foundation of the application.

FP&S Grants are offered to support projects in two activities:

- **Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) Activity**: designed to reach high-risk target groups and mitigate the incidence of death, injuries, and property damage caused by fire and fire-related hazards. Accordingly, the five project categories eligible for funding under this activity are:
    - Community Risk Reduction:
        - Smoke alarms: projects that encompass educational components that teach how smoke alarms work while promoting the installation and/or inspection of smoke alarms.
        - Public education: national or local projects that promote the reduction of injury due to fire or other safety hazards.
        - Training: local or regional projects that educate or train personnel in the area of public education.
        - General prevention/awareness: projects that include general prevention initiatives and risk assessments.
        - Juvenile fire setters: projects that are designed to mitigate the instances of fire set by children.
    - Wildfire Risk Reduction: projects that include Community Wildfire Protection Plans or programs supporting fire adapted community initiatives. Education and awareness programs should apply to the entire community such as educating the public about fire related WUI risks, promoting fuel reduction, and may include a community Woodchipper Program and/or External Home Sprinkler Kits.
    - Code Enforcement/Awareness: projects that focus on first time or reinstatement of code adoptions and code enforcement, including WUI fire codes for communities with a WUI-wildfire risk; projects may also include assistance for the adoption or awareness of building codes, support for conducting inspections or pre-planning, and the promotion of code enforcement to improve engineering and/or enacting fire-related ordinances for new construction.

  - Fire & Arson Investigation: projects that aim aggressively to investigate every fire; eligible costs may include arson investigation trailers; educational materials; equipment (including PPE); arson-related surveillance equipment; personnel costs; and media equipment.
  - National/State/Regional Programs and Studies: safety and wellness projects that aim to measurably change firefighter behavior and the decision making of the target audience.

- **Research and Development (R&D) Activities**: aimed at reducing firefighter line-of-duty fatalities and injuries through research to improve firefighter safety, health, or well-being. The four project categories eligible for funding under this activity are:
  - Clinical Studies: projects that address behavioral, social science, and cultural research, as well as physiological and medical research activities.
  - Technology and Product Development: projects that develop new technology or adapt to existing technology, resulting in outcomes that enhance the safety of firefighting activities.
  - Preliminary Studies: projects of one year in duration that aim to obtain enough evidence to justify a future larger study.
  - Early Career Investigator: projects that promote the development of principal investigators engaged in research to improve firefighter safety, health, and well-being.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants for FP&S activities are fire departments; and national, regional, state, local, federally recognized tribal, and non-profit organizations that are recognized for their experience and expertise in fire prevention and safety programs and activities. Both private and public non-profit organizations are eligible to apply for funding in this activity.

Eligible applicants for R&D activities are national, state, local, federally recognized tribal, and non-profit organizations, such as academic (e.g., universities), public health, occupational health, and injury prevention institutions. Both private and public non-profit organizations are eligible to apply for funding in this activity.

Fire departments need not be currently participating in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS); however, fire departments that receive funding must agree to provide information to the NFIRS for the period covered by the assistance. Applicants need not be in compliance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS); however, applicants that receive funding must achieve the level of NIMS compliance required by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) over the applicant's emergency service operations prior to the end of the project period.

Funding

For FY 2024, a total of $32.4 million is available to support approximately 100 awards of up to $1.5 million each. Applicants applying under the early career investigator project category are limited to awards of up to $600,000 per project year. Project periods are as follows:

- FP&S Activity: project periods of 12 to 24 months
- R&D Activity: periods of 12, 24, 36 or 48 months

Matching and Cost Sharing

Applicants must provide at least 5 percent of the award amount via nonfederal cash or in-kind contributions.

Contact Information

FEMA GO Help Desk Program Staff
(866) 274-0960
FireGrants@fems.dhs.gov

https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters/safety-awards/documents

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

FY 2025 National Urban Search and Rescue Response System Readiness Cooperative Agreement

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to provide for a national network of standardized search and rescue resources to assist States and local governments in responding to hazards. The goal is to provide for a national network of standardized search and rescue resources to assist States and local governments in responding to hazards. Eligible applicants must be one of the 28 FEMA-designated Urban Search and Rescue Task Force Sponsoring Agencies.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2024	$40.3 million	28

Key Information

Total Funding: $40,274,708
Award Range: $1.3 million - $1.6 million
Match: Not required
Solicitation date: July 28, 2025
Proposal due: August 11, 2025

- This program is non-competitive and is available to the 28 eligible FEMA-designated sponsoring agencies

https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/national-preparedness/frameworks/urban-search-rescue

Awardee Profile

Menlo Park Fire Protection District
Menlo Park, California

YEAR: 2024

Menlo Park Fire Protection District received funding to maintain California Task Force 3 as one of 28 national Urban Search and Rescue task forces that can deploy within 6 hours to assist with structural collapse rescue and other disaster response operations. The exact award information amount is not publicly available.

Department: U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

FY 2025 National Urban Search and Rescue Response System Readiness Cooperative Agreement

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide for a national network of standardized search and rescue resources to assist States and local governments in responding to hazards. The National Urban Search and Rescue Response System receives federal funding to ensure adequate day-to-day administration, program and grant management, training, exercise, procurement and storage and maintenance for the 28 National Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces. The goal is to provide for a national network of standardized search and rescue resources to assist States and local governments in responding to hazards.

Funding provided in this Cooperative Agreement ensures that the 28 Sponsoring task forces develop and maintain their targeted readiness requirements and can do so independent of Sponsoring Agency funding. Program objectives include:

- Administration activities such as management of day-to-day System activities, personnel compensation and benefits, record keeping, inventory of equipment, and correspondence
- Training development and delivery, participation in System-related training courses, exercises, and drills
- Equipment procurement, maintenance and repair of items on the DHS-approved Equipment Cache List
- Disaster search canine expenses including procurement, training and certification, and veterinary care

Allowable costs under this program include:

- Management and administration costs directly related to implementing the award
- Training and certification expenses
- Equipment procurement and maintenance as specified on the Equipment Cache List
- Storage facility lease and maintenance
- Travel to System activities, meetings, conferences, training, drills, and exercises
- Tests, examinations, vaccinations, and immunizations required by DHS standards
- Disaster search canine-related expenses

Performance will be evaluated annually through the FEMA US&R Annual Self-Evaluation, with results validated triennially through the FEMA US&R Administrative Readiness Evaluation (ARE). Key performance areas include Operations (maintaining complement of 140+ rostered, trained, and deployable task force members), Logistics (85% complement of cache equipment items), and Administrative/Management functions.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants must be one of the 28 FEMA-designated Urban Search and Rescue Task Force Sponsoring Agencies. The term "sponsoring agency" means a State or local government that is the sponsor of a task force designated by the Administrator to participate in the System. Subapplicants and subawards are not allowed under this program.

Funding

In FY 2025, a total of approximately $40,274,708 is available to support an expected 28 cooperative agreements of $1.3 million to $1.6 million through this program. The project period will last for 36 months and is expected to begin on September 1, 2025, and end on August 31, 2028.

Matching and Cost Sharing

There is no cost share or matching requirement under this grant program.

Contact Information

Rayna Bal
Program Office Contact
rayna.bal@fema.dhs.gov

https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/national-preparedness/frameworks/urban-search-rescue

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

FY 2024 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Program

Grant Overview

This program provides funding directly to fire departments and volunteer firefighter interest organizations to assist in increasing the number of firefighters to help communities meet industry minimum standards and attain 24-hour staffing to provide adequate fire protection from fire and fire-related hazards, and to fulfill traditional missions of fire departments. Eligible applicants are volunteer fire departments, combination fire departments, career fire departments, and national, regional, state, local, nonprofit and tribal organizations that represent the interests of volunteer firefighters.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2022	$360 million	177
2023	$25.7 million	69

Key Information

Total Funding: $324 million
Award Range: Unspecified
Match: Varies by project type
Solicitation date: May 20, 2025
Proposal due: July 3, 2025

https://www.fema.gov/staffing-adequate-fire-emergency-response-grants

Awardee Profile

King County Fire District 13, WA

AMOUNT: $824,753
YEAR: 2024

The Fire District received funding for the hiring of new firefighters.

Department: U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

FY 2024 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to assist local fire departments with staffing and deployment capabilities to respond to emergencies and ensure that communities have adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards. Awards will assist in increasing the number of firefighters to help communities meet industry minimum standards; increase the number of trained personnel assembled at the incident scene; attain 24-hour staffing to improve deployment capabilities; and to fulfill traditional missions of fire departments (respond to emergencies and provide adequate fire protection from fire-related hazards).

This program has two allowable project types:

- Hiring Activity: The Hiring Activity offers grants to support applications to hire new, additional firefighters (or to change the status of part-time or paid-on call firefighters to full-time firefighters). Eligible costs include:
    - Salary and associated benefits (actual payroll expenses) for the positions funded under the SAFER Program grant. Costs are reimbursable if they are included as part of the standard package, available to all operational firefighter positions, contractually obligated, and reimbursed via payroll.
    - Compensation for a firefighter's normal, contracted work schedule. Only costs for overtime that the fire department routinely pays as a part of the base salary or a firefighter's regularly scheduled and contracted shift hours, to comply with FLSA, are eligible.
    - Salaries and benefits of firefighters hired with SAFER Program funding while they are engaged in initial recruit training.
- Recruitment and Retention (R&R) Activity: The R&R Activity offers grants to support applications to assist fire departments with the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters who are involved with or trained in the operations of firefighting and emergency response. Career fire departments are not eligible to apply for funding under the R&R Activity. Eligible costs include but are not limited to:
    - Costs to support a staffing needs assessment identifying the operational staff and support that are required to carry out fire department responsibilities safely and effectively
    - Costs to support a R&R Coordinator, a Program Manager, and/or a Grant Administrator
    - Marketing Program to recruit new volunteer firefighters
    - New Member Costs
    - Wellness and Fitness for Existing Members
    - Employee Assistance Programs (EAP) to provide behavioral health training for coping with fire service duties.
    - New recruit basic training that is not covered under a department's normal operating budget
    - Leadership or career development training when used as a retention incentive that is not covered under a department's normal operating budget.

- Instructor/train-the-trainer training that is not covered under a department's normal operating budget.
- Tuition assistance for higher education
- PPE/Turnout Gear
- Traditional therapies and preventative care facilitated by a licensed mental health or physical healthcare provider.
- Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) or Retirement Program

The funding agency prioritizes bringing non-compliant (NFPA 1710 or 1720) departments into compliance in the most cost-effective manner. Additionally, applicants that currently have the lowest recruitment and retention rates among the entire region and/or all fire departments benefitting from the grant funds receive higher consideration for funding.

Applicants are not required to comply with National Incident Management System (NIMS) to apply for funding, however, all award recipients will be required to achieve the level of NIMS compliance required by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) over their emergency service operations prior to the end of the grant's period of performance.

Award recipients must work with the funding agency to establish correct staffing levels, and maintain the number of staff, including new hires, throughout the project period.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are fire departments and national, regional, state, local, tribal and nonprofit interest organizations representing the interests of firefighters are eligible to receive an award under this program. Subapplicants are not allowed. National, regional, state, local, Tribal Nation, and nonprofit interest organizations representing the interests of volunteer firefighters are not eligible to receive a SAFER Program award under the Hiring Activity, while Career fire departments are not eligible to apply for funding under the R&R Activity.

Volunteer and combination fire departments may apply for funding under both the hiring activity and the R&R activity; however, departments must complete separate applications for each activity. Applicants are limited to one application per activity, per application period.

For the purposes of this program, fire departments are defined as an agency or organization having a formally recognized arrangement with a state, local, tribal, or territorial authority (city, county, parish, fire district, township, town, or other governing body) to provide fire suppression on a first-due basis to a fixed geographical area. Fire departments may be comprised of members who are volunteer, career, or a combination of volunteer and career.

Funding

In FY 2024, $324 million is available to support approximately 300 awards through this program. Of this funding, a total of 10 percent of available funding is set aside for the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters, of which no more than 33 percent can be awarded to national, state, local, territorial, or federally recognized tribal organizations that represent the interests of volunteer firefighters. In addition, 10 percent of available funding is set aside for awards for volunteer or majority volunteer fire departments for the hiring of firefighters. Awards may be paid in advance or on a reimbursement basis.

The period of performance for applications funded under the Hiring Activity will be 36-months. For Hiring Activity projects, a default 180-day recruitment period will begin upon the funding agency's approval of applications. The 36-month project period will begin after this recruitment period. If a recipient can hire all SAFER Program-funded firefighters before the end of the 180-day recruitment period, the period of performance may begin early if they wish.

The period of performance for applications funded under the Recruitment and Retention Activity is 12, 24, 36, or 48 months. For Recruitment and Retention projects, a default 90-day recruitment period will begin upon the funding agency's approval of awards. The 12-to 48-month project period will begin after this recruitment period. If a recipient can begin its recruitment or retention activities during the 90-day recruitment period, the period of performance may begin at that time.

Extensions to the period of performance are allowed for R&R Activity grants only.

The projected start and end date for the period of performance for each award is based on the date the FEMA Assistant Administrator for the Grant Programs Directorate signs the obligating document.

The anticipated funding selection date will be no later than August 18, 2025.

Matching and Cost Sharing

For Hiring Activity grants, recipients are required to contribute 25 percent of the actual costs incurred in each of the first and second years of the grant; and 65 percent of the actual costs incurred in the third year of the grant. In the first and second years of the grant, the amount of federal funding may not exceed 75 percent of the usual annual cost of a first-year firefighter in that department at the time the grant application was submitted; and in the third year of the grant the amount of federal funding may not exceed 35 percent of the usual annual cost of a first-year firefighter in that department.

The “usual annual cost” includes a firefighter’s base salary (excluding non-FLSA overtime) and standard benefits package (including the average annual cost of health, dental, and vision insurance; FICA; life insurance; retirement and/or pension contributions; etc.) offered by the fire department to first-year firefighters.

For R&R Activity grants, there is no cost share requirement.

Contact Information

Program Staff
(866) 274-0960
FireGrants@fema.dhs.gov

https://www.fema.gov/staffing-adequate-fire-emergency-response-grants

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Land Management

FY 2025 Bureau of Land Management Forest and Woodlands Resource Management

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to maintain and improve the resilience of forest and woodland ecosystems to wildfire, insects, disease, and drought through density management using timber sales, stewardship agreements, and other agreements. Eligible applicants for this program include state, county, city, township, and tribal governments; nonprofit organizations; and private institutions of higher education.

Program History

This is no program history available at this time.

Key Information

Total Funding: $8,000,000
Award Range: $5,000 - $1,500,000
Match: Not required
Solicitation date: June 23, 2025
Proposal due: July 23, 2025

https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/359777

Tips

Applicants are strongly encouraged to propose effective partnerships that share resources and expertise. In cases where applications receive equivalent scores, the ability to leverage resources through collaboration may serve as a tiebreaker.

FY 2025 Bureau of Land Management Forest and Woodlands Resource Management

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to maintain and improve the resilience of forest and woodland ecosystems to wildfire, insects, disease, and drought through density management using timber sales, stewardship agreements, and other agreements. In addition, the program conducts reforestation on lands that have been impacted by high severity disturbances such as wildfire, insect epidemics, and drought to restore forest cover and functioning forest ecosystems.

Funded projects under this program will focus on high priority work such as activities that promote forest and woodland health, sustainable forest management, fire resiliency, biomass utilization, habitat conservation needs, insect, disease and fire recovery on public lands. These activities could include, but are not limited to: planting trees, pre-commercial and commercial thinning, salvage/sanitation forest treatments, control of competing vegetation, fuels reduction, riparian or upland restoration, project development and layout, planning analysis and document preparation needed in concert with or to carry out NEPA, Endangered Species Act or cultural clearances, data collection, and monitoring.

This announcement is primarily for Stewardship agreements and Tribal Forest Protection Act (TFPA). Priority activities under this announcement include preparation, administration, or implementation projects that treat forest and woodlands nationally (see following description):

1. One or more components of preparing a project (site surveys, environmental clearances, NEPA preparation, project layout, timber cruising, timber marking, boundary designation, and other tasks related to preparing a project).
2. One or more components of implementing or administering a project (conducting forest density management treatments, subcontracting, advertising for bid, awarding a subcontract or timber sale, subcontract performance inspection, and other tasks related to administering a project.
3. Activities to achieve Land Management Goals of the Stewardship authority (see Stewardship Manual for definition) or acres/ units of forest or woodland treatments conducted.

Proposals should support one or more of the strategic goals addressing how it effects the Bureau as a whole. Program Strategic Goals:

- Implement science-based forest restoration projects to improve forest health and resilience to wildfires, insects, disease, and drought.
- Sustainable harvest of forests and woodlands to produce a continuous supply of wood products and biomass for renewable energy.
- Salvage dead and dying timber to reduce fuels, in balance with the need for wildlife habitat, watershed function, and soil stability, while supporting local economies.

- Provide the public with commercial and personal use opportunities to harvest products such as firewood, Christmas trees, boughs, greenery, medicinal plants, fence posts, and pinyon pine nuts from forests and woodlands.
- Expedite the NEPA processes to accelerate forest ecosystem restoration.

All proposed projects submitted under this funding opportunity must state a benefit to the public and must address national effects across the Bureau crossing State Office boundaries.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants for this program include state, county, city, township, and tribal governments; nonprofit organizations; and private institutions of higher education.

Funding

In FY 2025, approximately $8,000,000 is available to support five awards ranging between $5,000 and $1,500,000 through this program. The expected award period will have a maximum span of five years, with an anticipated starting date of September 1, 2025.

Matching and Cost-Sharing

Cost sharing or matching is not required for this program; however, a voluntary cost share is encouraged.

Contact Information

John Labounty
(303) 236-4765
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https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/359777

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Land Management

FY 2025 IIJA/IRA Bureau of Land Management California Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to assist with fuels management and community fire assistance program activities to reduce the risk and impact of catastrophic wildfires to local communities through coordination, reducing the amount of hazardous fuels, and furthering the education of landowners about wildfire prevention and mitigation. Eligible applicants for this program include state, local and tribal governments; special district governments; institutions of higher education; and nonprofit organizations.

Program History

This is no program history available at this time.

Key Information

Total Funding: $10,000,000
Award Range: $50,000 - $10,000,000
Match: Not required
Solicitation date: January 10, 2025
Proposal due: March 11, 2025

https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/358123

Tips

- Before submitting an application, applicants are encouraged to consult with the BLM fuels and community fire assistance program lead at the relevant district or field office to discuss proposed projects and confirm their alignment with BLM priorities and eligibility criteria.

FY 2025 IIJA/IRA Bureau of Land Management California Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to assist with fuels management and community fire assistance program activities to reduce the risk and impact of catastrophic wildfires to local communities through coordination, reducing the amount of hazardous fuels, and furthering the education of landowners about wildfire prevention and mitigation. These activities will assist in addressing the effects of climate change by working to create resilient landscapes and communities, create jobs, and further conservation and restoration efforts by providing an opportunity to support planning and implementation of hazardous fuels reduction projects in wildland urban interface (WUI) areas and education and outreach programs that help create fire-adapted communities and resilient landscapes.

The program's strategic goals are to:

- Accomplish fuels management activities on federal and nonfederal land
- Develop and implement fire education, training, and/or community action plans/programs
- Conduct community wildfire protection plans (CWPPs), community wildfire assessments, and planning activities
- Expand community capability to enhance local employment opportunities
- Develop and implement short- and long-term monitoring and maintenance plans for hazardous fuels reduction, community fire education and training, and community action programs
- Projects must also assist the funding agency in meeting one or more of the agency's priorities, as well as one of the priorities of the Biden-Harris Administration including:
- Tackling climate change (Executive Order 14008),
- Advancing racial equity (Executive Order 13985),
- Promoting economic recovery and local manufacturing (Executive Orders 14002 and 14005).

All projects must demonstrate a public benefit and support BLM’s conservation and stewardship goals while adhering to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other applicable guidelines. These efforts further the Interior Department’s commitment to streamlined processes and effective, on-the-ground conservation work.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants for this program include state, county, city, and township governments; special district governments; public and state-controlled institutions of higher education; federally recognized Native American tribal governments; and Native American tribal organizations other than federally recognized tribal governments. Nonprofit organizations with or without 501(c)(3) status (excluding institutions of higher education) and private institutions of higher education are also eligible to apply.

Funding

In FY 2025, approximately $10,000,000 is available to support awards ranging between $50,000 and $10,000,000 through this program. Recipients should anticipate significant involvement from BLM in the project.

Matching and Cost-Sharing

Cost sharing or matching is not required for this program.

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https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/358123

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Office of Wildland Fire (OWF)

FY 2025 Slip-on Tanker Units

Grant Overview

This program provides funding and authorizes the U.S Department of the Interior (DOI) to develop and implement a pilot program to provide local governments with financial assistance to acquire slip-on tanker units to establish fleets of vehicles that can be quickly converted to be operated as fire engines. Eligible applicants are states, local governments, special district governments, school districts, intrastate districts, council of governments, and any other agency or instrumentality of a multi-, regional, or intra-state or local government.

Program History

Award history is not available for this program.

Key Information

Total Funding: $20 million
Award Range: $10,000 - $500,000
Match: Not required
Solicitation date: December 3, 2024
Proposal due: February 26, 2025

https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/357507

Tips:

Applications can be single entry where (1) entity is applying for a slip-on tanker unit(s) to be used in their area of protection and service location. A consolidated application is where (1) entity is applying for slip-on tanker unit(s) on behalf of two (2) or more entities whereby each entity represented would have a separate area of protection and service.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Office of Wildland Fire (OWF)

FY 2025 Slip-on Tanker Units

Detailed Summary

Climate change is driving the devastating intersection of extreme heat, drought and wildland fire danger across the United States, creating wildfires that move with a speed and intensity previously unseen, This has created conditions in which wildfires overwhelm response capabilities, resulting in billions of dollars in economic losses, damage to natural resources, devastation to communities and the tragic loss of life.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, also known as BIL, enacted in November of 2021, provides funding to local governments to acquire slip-on tanker units to support wildland firefighters.

Slip-on units shall have a minimum dimension of 78 inches long by 48 inches wide. The fully loaded weight of the completed unit shall not exceed the gross vehicle weight ratio of the host chassis. All fasteners and adjustable plumbing brackets used shall be stainless steel. All tubing shall use metal fittings, rated to 500 pounds per square inch and require no special tools.

The pump shall be capable of delivering the minimum performance requirements from the tank and at a 5ft lift through 24 ft of 1.5-inch suction hose and suction strainer. The pump, when dry, shall be capable of taking suction and discharging water in compliance with National Fire Protection Association 1900.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are states, local governments, special district governments, school districts, intrastate districts, council of governments, and any other agency or instrumentality of a multi-, regional, or intra-state or local government. Eligibility is restricted to U.S local governments that provide fire protection and other emergency services and need slip-on tankers to improve the wildland firefighting readiness for their area of protection and service location with populations of 50,000 or less. *Use the Wildfire Risk to Communities dashboard found at DOI SOT Grant Data Center (wildfirerisk.org) to determine population size.* Communities must also have at least moderate wildfire risk defined as >40th percentile in the national Wildfire Risk to Homes dataset of the Wildfire Risk to Communities dashboard found at DOI SOT Grant Data Center (wildfirerisk.org).

Funding

In FY 2025, an estimated $20 million is available to support approximately 80 awards ranging from $10,000 to $500,000 through this program. An estimated 75-125 awards are anticipated from this solicitation. The actual number of awards will depend on the number of meritorious applications and the availability of appropriated funds. Up to 25 awards will be reserved for consolidated applications.

Matching and Cost Sharing

Matching funds are not required for this program.

Contact Information

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https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/357507