



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

RURAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT INSURANCE PROGRAM (HB 3667)

NOTICE OF OPEN ENROLLMENT / ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

This special notice is being provided to announce the open enrollment period for calendar year 2013.

Protect your firefighters from the unexpected expenses that can come from an accident by acquiring any combination of compensation insurance for firefighters (Workers' Compensation, Death, and/or Disability Insurance) purchased from Texas insurance companies.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION...

The Texas Rural Volunteer Fire Department Insurance Program (HB 3667) is a grant program, not an insurance program. It is designed to reimburse volunteer fire departments for the purchase of insurance from private insurance companies.

WHAT IS ELIGIBLE...

Eligible coverage includes any combination of compensation insurance for firefighters (Workers' Compensation, Death, and/or Disability Insurance) purchased from Texas insurance companies. Policies in force for calendar year 2013 are eligible. The insurance coverage must include a workers' compensation or similar benefit, and a death benefit.

HOW MUCH WILL IT PAY...

The program will reimburse 100% of the actual cost of eligible insurance coverage, up to a maximum of **\$105.00** per fire department member covered in the calendar year 2013.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE...

Any chartered, non-profit volunteer fire department operated by its members is eligible. Any part-paid/part-volunteer department is also eligible, provided the number of paid members is 20 or less. Departments may enter into agreements with cities or counties in order to qualify for coverage and/or special premiums.

All eligible departments must participate in a firefighter certification program administered under Section 419.071 of the Texas Government Code (Texas Commission on Fire Protection), or by the State Firemen's and Fire Marshal's Association of Texas (SFFMA), or by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG).



APPLICATION PROCEDURE

TO APPLY, PLEASE SUBMIT BEFORE AUGUST 31, 2013:

- 1) Application for Workers' Compensation Insurance Assistance (Form FO-408)
- 2) Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification (IRS Form W-9)
- 3) Roster of active fire department members.
- 4) Copy of a Payroll Classification Schedule Page 1 and 2, or a copy of the current paid insurance policy which provides insurance coverage during the calendar year 2013, or payment Receipt for a Workers' Compensation Insurance Policy, or Death Insurance Policy, or Disability Insurance Policy.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- **The policy or payment documents must show the policy number, the cost or premium amount and the coverage period.**
- **All required reimbursement documents must accompany the 2013 grant application form.**
- **Applications, either complete or incomplete, arriving after August 31, 2013 are not eligible for reimbursement.**
- **Please submit ONLY ONE application for the enrollment period of December 2012 thru August 2013.**

Submit Via Mail or Fax to:

**Texas A&M Forest Service
Emergency Services Grants Unit
200 Technology Way, Suite 1162
College Station, Texas 77845-3424
Fax: 979-845-6160**

The Application for Workers' Compensation Insurance Assistance (Form FO-408), Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification (IRS Form W-9), and Fire Department Roster may be acquired from the following websites or by contacting the Texas A&M Forest Service:

College Station (979) 458-6505

www.texasfd.com

ticc.tamu.edu