

Special Announcement

Rural VFD Assistance Program (HB 2604)

The Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program will continue this coming fiscal year 2023, at an annual grant budget of **\$17 million**.



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Fire department assistance programs are now being integrated into the FireConnect web application!

A pathway to apply for training tuition grants is now available in FireConnect. Throughout the rest of calendar year 2022, departments may apply for training grants through FireConnect or via existing methods. Starting **January 1, 2023**, all training tuition applications must be submitted through FireConnect.

Sign in to FireConnect at fireconnect.tfs.tamu.edu to apply for and stay up to date on your training grants! A video walkthrough of the training tuition application process can be found on our Facebook page and TexasFD.com.

Note: The expiration period for online training tuition has been changed to 60 days after the published completion date of the individual training course/school, bringing it in line with in-person training courses. (Effective September 1, 2022)

Updated Apparatus and Chassis Cost-Share Rates (Effective September 1, 2022)

Program Element	Cost-Share Rate
Large Brush Truck/Tender	90% of the actual cost not to exceed \$240,000; \$258,000 for CAFS-equipped
Small Brush Truck	90% of the actual cost not to exceed \$120,000; \$138,000 for CAFS-equipped
Large Truck Chassis	90% of the actual cost not to exceed \$100,000
Small Truck Chassis	90% of the actual cost not to exceed \$60,000

Coming soon:

More Fire Department Assistance Programs Integrated Into FireConnect

All assistance programs will be integrated into FireConnect, with Apparatus and Equipment grants coming next in calendar year 2023. Announcements and more information will follow.

New Program Category - Volunteer Recruitment Resources (Pilot Project)

A new grant category will soon be made available to reimburse for the purchase of volunteer recruitment resources at **100% of the actual cost, not to exceed \$3,000 per department**. This pilot project aims to help rural volunteer fire departments bolster staffing and enhance community fire protection. Upon receipt of certain federal funding being provided by the U.S. Forest Service, the grant opportunity will be made available to eligible volunteer fire departments. More communication regarding this opportunity will be provided at a later date.

Note: To be eligible to receive federal fund grants, your department must serve a rural area/community with a population of 10,000 or less, and must be certified by the Texas Division of Emergency Management as having adopted NIMS.

Contact Us

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