

# Special Announcement

## *Rural VFD Assistance Program (HB 2604)*

The Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program will continue this coming fiscal year 2022, at an annual grant budget of **\$17 million**.

*In addition, the following program changes go into effect as of October 1, 2021:*

### **Category Maximums and Cost-Share Rates**

In an effort to align with program procedures for truck categories, factoring in inflationary impacts, as well as simplifying the overall grant process, **all grant categories will now be awarded at the maximum allowable amount at the point of award.**

The maximum allowable amount for **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** has been **increased to \$20,000**, maintaining the 90/10 cost-share rate.

The maximum allowable amount for **Small Brush Trucks** has been increased to **\$110,000 (or \$128,000 with CAFS)**, maintaining the 90/10 cost share rate.

The maximum allowable amount for **Training Tuitions** has been increased to **\$133 per day**, up to a **maximum of \$665 per trainee per school**. The annual grant maximum for all Training Tuition grant assistance per department remains \$12,500.

The cost-share rate for **Fire/Rescue Equipment** has been **increased to 90/10**, bringing the category in line with the majority of other grant categories. This helps ease the financial burden on grant recipients and provides consistency and simplicity to the grant program.

### **Rating System Update**

**The rating cap of 120 has been removed.** This will allow applications to continue earning longevity points until approved. It will also provide greater visibility and less confusion for fire departments to see where they stand on the funding list, particularly as they near funding.

### **Training Tuitions**

Critical Stress Incident Management (CISM) courses are **now eligible** for Training Tuition grants.

## **Contact Us**

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