# SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT



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

## **Grants: Training Tuition, Dorm Lodging, Meal Cards**

TEEX 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Municipal Fire School (July 22 – 27, 2018)

### Who is eligible...

- Chartered, non-profit volunteer fire departments operated by its members are eligible.
- Part-paid/part-volunteer fire departments are eligible provided the number of paid members is 20 or less.

#### Reimbursement Rates...

- Training tuition grants are available at 100% of the actual cost of tuition up to a maximum of \$625 per trainee.
- Grants for Dorm Lodging are available at \$40 per day up to a maximum of \$200 per person (5 days).
- Meal Card grants are available up to \$95 per person.

#### Vouchers...

- An approval letter will serve as a pre-paid voucher for applicants applying before the TEEX pre-registration deadline of July 9, 2018. TEEX requires that vouchers be submitted with the registration form(s).
- Requests received after the TEEX pre-registration deadline will not receive a voucher, however eligible fire departments may still apply through our normal reimbursement process.

#### Dorm Lodging & Meal Cards...

- TFS utilizes federal funds to offer dorm lodging & meal card grants. In order to be considered for federal funds, applicants must meet all of the following federal requirements.
  - 1) Department must serve a rural area or rural community with a population of 10,000 or less.
  - 2) Submit a DUNS number & have it registered annually with SAM.gov
  - 3) Adopt NIMS with the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM).

Upon award, grant recipients will receive an A-133 Certification Letter that must be completed and returned for final grant approval.

- Please indicate on your application, the number of trainees in need of dorm lodging and/or meal cards.
- Federal funds are limited; only apply if you intend to utilize dorm lodging and/or meal cards.
- Reimbursement is not available for off campus commercial lodging and/ or off campus meals.

#### For more information on:

- o NIMS Adoption How to adopt NIMS? <a href="http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/Content/Article.aspx?id=21711">http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/Content/Article.aspx?id=21711</a>
- o DUNS Number Assignment is free, call 1-866-705-5711. http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform/

## **Application Procedure**

### To apply, please submit:

- ✓ Application for Fire Department Assistance Training Tuition (TFS-FO-402)
  - o Courses must be listed on the application and revised if registration changes are made.
  - Applications must be received prior to the course start date.
- ✓ Application for Fire Department Assistance TEEX Addendum (TFS-FO-402A)
  - o Only applicable for students applying for Meal Cards & Lodging
- ✓ Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification (Form W-9)

#### To revise an application, please submit:

- ✓ <u>Revision Request Form Rural VFD Assistance Program</u> (TFS-FO-410)
  - o (e.g. report a DUNS number, update the number of trainees, change courses, etc.)

Phone: 979-458-6505

Email: 2604@tfs.tamu.edu

Fax: 979-845-6160

These forms may be found on our website, texasfd.com, or by contacting us at the number below.

#### Submit via email, mail or fax:

Texas A&M Forest Service Capacity Building Department 200 Technology Way, Suite 1162 College Station, Texas 77845-3424