

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Rural VFD Assistance Program (HB 2604)

The Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program was retained by the 85th Texas legislature with grant funding set at approximately \$17.3 million per year. There are currently 3,601 outstanding requests on file, totaling over \$193 million.

Texas A&M Forest Service will implement the following changes to the Rural VFD Assistance Program (HB 2604) effective Sept. 1, 2017:

FIRE & RESCUE EQUIPMENT

To provide greater flexibility for departments, the Fire and Rescue Equipment grant categories will be combined to form one category. All outstanding requests in the previous categories will be absorbed into the new combined category. The cost share rate for the new combined category will be 75% of the actual cost, not to exceed \$20,000.

NEW APPLICATIONS

In an effort to streamline the application process, applications for equipment and training tuition have been separated. The new applications can be found on our website: TexasFD.com. Please use these new applications when applying for assistance or requesting revisions.

Old applications will no longer be accepted after January 1, 2018.

VERIFICATION REQUESTS

Thank you to all the Fire Departments who have helped us with ensuring we have accurate data by completing the Verification Request! Your cooperation has been deeply appreciated!

Any department that has not sent a Verification Request to us by Sept. 1, 2017 will not be eligible for assistance during FY18; until such time a Verification Request is received.

So please send your Verification Requests in soon!

REMINDERS!

- An application for assistance stays on file for consideration until the request is funded, or until the department withdraws the request.
- A department may update their contact & department information any time by submitting a Revision Request form.

Contact us

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Thank you for your service!

