

CAPACITY BUILDING DEPARTMENT



ASSISTANCE AT A GLANCE

FY 2025

Inception through FY25

Rural VFD Assistance Program (HB 2604) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched in 2001 by House Bill 2604 Provides grants to rural VFDs for firefighting vehicles, fire/rescue equipment, protective clothing, computer systems, dry hydrants, and firefighter training FY 2026 Program Budget: \$235,080,131 	58 Truck Grants 260 Equipment Grants 2,292 Tuition Grants 103 Training Aids 4,627 Trainees \$21,295,421	2,243 Truck Grants 11,169 Equipment Grants 33,930 Tuition Grants 2,047 Training Aids 108,641 Trainees \$381,078,505
Volunteer Fire Assistance Funds: Federal funds used by RVFDAP to fund grants for Personal Protective Equipment, Volunteer Recruitment Resources, and training-related expenses.	\$816,152	\$13,372,081
Emergency Grants (through RVFDAP): Available for states of disaster (replacement/repair of damaged or lost equipment) and catastrophic losses (cost-share apparatus or other HB 2604 program elements, or repair/replacement of essential equipment	50 Disaster Grants \$480,355	671 Disaster Grants \$4,630,199
	33 Cat. Loss Grants \$807,755	163 Cat. Loss Grants \$4,366,048
DoD Firefighter Property (FFP) Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched in 2010 Provides excess Department of Defense military property to VFDs. Ownership of the equipment is passed from the federal government to the fire department. 	69 Assists 71 Items \$9,946,383	1,128 Assists 1,359 Items \$124,767,893
Federal Excess Personal Property (FEPP) Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established in 1949, launched in Texas in 1975 Provides excess federal property on loan at no cost to VFDs 	Actively Assigned Property: 183 Communities 258 Assets \$10,607,378	6,281 Communities 6,326 Assets \$97,997,638
Helping Hands Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched in 1997 by House Bill 680 Allows donations of used fire/rescue equipment, fire trucks, and other items to be made available to VFDs while relieving donors of liability 	150 Departments \$2,051,324	1,245 Departments \$43,825,649
Rural VFD Insurance Program (HB 3667) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched in 2001 by House Bill 3667 Reimburses eligible VFDs for insurance (workers' comp., death/disability, accident/sickness, etc.) from private Texas insurance companies Reimburses 100% of the actual cost, up to a maximum of \$335 per fire department member Funded by a 2% sales tax on the sale of fireworks Application period: November 1 - July 31 	12,292 Firefighters 569 Departments \$2,559,791	290,195 Firefighters 11,759 Departments \$31,398,897
Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) Grants Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched in 2009 Provides grants to career fire departments and non-2604 eligible VFDs for firefighting vehicles and training tuitions Currently funded at \$1 million per year from insurance maintenance taxes/fees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not including additional \$1.5 million per year allotted for FY24-25 	350 Tuition Grants 821 Trainees 4 Fire Apparatus \$2,232,839	2,951 Tuition Grants 11,418 Trainees 65 Fire Apparatus \$18,360,502
VFD Motor Vehicle Self Insurance Program (Risk Pool) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched in 1995 by Senate Bill 1232 Provides low cost vehicle liability insurance, \$75/vehicle/year Coverage levels: \$100k per person for bodily injury, max \$300k per occurrence; \$100k for property damage, max \$100k per occurrence 	144 VFDs 680 Vehicles	667 VFDs 5,596 Vehicles