



Office of the State Fire Marshal  
Kansas Firefighter Recruitment & Safety Grant  
(KFRSG)  
**Overview & Application Information**  
FY2024



### Purpose

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is providing no-match grants to volunteer/part-time fire departments across the state for personal protection equipment (PPE). This includes bunker or wildland gear (coat, pants, helmet, gloves, hood and boots) and new masks for Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) units for department members. Funding will be available for physicals not covered by the individual's insurance or reimbursed by their department, as well as for the purchase of strategically placed washer-extractor machines throughout the state.

Fire departments, especially small rural volunteer departments, are struggling with the recruitment and retention of fire fighters because they don't have funding to provide safety equipment. This leaves potential volunteers with not only donating their time but faced with providing their own safety gear or doing without.

There have been several line of duty deaths from heart attacks in Kansas before and after responses and during training. The OSFM would like to provide grants to local departments to assist in paying for physicals that could identify underlying issues so that they could be treated and, ideally, decrease the number of firefighter deaths.

### Eligibility

Applicants must be an established and recognized Kansas volunteer/part-time fire department in good standing with OSFM on National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) or a volunteer firefighter in good standing with their local fire department. Departments must also participate in the Comprehensive Resource Management & Credentialing System (CRMCS).

**\*For NFIRS status, contact: William Hall, NFIRS Program Manager, [Email: William.Hall@ks.gov](mailto:William.Hall@ks.gov), Phone: (785) 296-4294**

**\*For CRMCS status, contact your local Emergency Management agency.**

### Grant Schedule

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| • September 15, 2023 | Applications are due in our office no later than 4 pm.           |
| • October 31, 2023   | Awards will be announced, by this date or sooner.                |
| • November 17, 2023  | Return signed letter of agreement.                               |
| • March 29, 2024     | Requests for reimbursement due in our office no later than 4 pm. |

### Eligible Expenses

#### **Firefighter Safety Equipment Examples**

- Bunker or Wildland Gear – including coat, pants, hood, boots, gloves, and helmet.
- SCBA mask – based on documented need.
- Washing machine (extractor) – **No quote necessary. OSFM has an existing contract.**
- All gear/equipment must meet or exceed current NFPA standards.
- All gear/equipment would become property of the requesting department and not of the individual for who it was requested. A department cannot liquidate the equipment—such as selling it off to another department or placing in surplus for the life of the equipment.

## **Junior Firefighter Program**

- Explorer and National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) National Junior Firefighter programs for initiation fees up to \$500 and start-up fees of \$100.
- This program is available to ALL fire departments in the state.

## **Physicals**

- Physical must be compliant with NFPA 1582 standards.
- Physical costs not covered by insurance or reimbursed by their department.
- This program is available to ALL fire departments in the state.

## **Application**

### **Submission Instructions**

- A completed KFRSG application must be submitted prior to the deadline and contain all information requested.
- Submit by the deadline of September 15, 2023, applications are due in our office no later than 4 pm.
- Neither purchases nor verbal/written contract obligation can be made prior to the date of the grant award.
- The request must meet the stated guidelines of the grant.

### **Submission Checklist**

- Complete entire KFRSG grant application and justification information, and submit –required.
- Submit a minimum of two vendor quotes, to include shipping, for all equipment items requested – required.
- No quotes required for extractors. ***OSFM has existing contract.***

## **Reimbursement Process**

### **Firefighter Safety Equipment**

- The department orders, pays for and receives the approved equipment.
- The department submits to OSFM no later than March 29, 2024:
  - W-9;
  - DA-130 Form and proof of bank account;
  - Itemized invoice(s);
  - Packing slip(s).
- OSFM reimburses the department for cost up to the approved amount.

### **Physicals**

- The firefighter receives and pays for their physical.
- The firefighter submits to OSFM no later than March 29, 2024:
  - W-9;
  - Itemized invoice(s);
  - Proof the their insurance did not cover the costs.
- OSFM reimburses the firefighter for costs up to the approved amount.

## **OSFM Contact Information:**

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