



**Office of the State Fire Marshal
Kansas Firefighter Recruitment &
Safety Grant (KFRSG)
Overview & Application Information
FY2018**



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 would include bunker gear, fire helmets, fire boots, self-contained breathing apparatus units for both current and new department members, and bunker gear washing machines (extractors). Additionally grants would be available for physicals not covered by the individuals insurance or reimbursed by their department.

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.

Several recent line of duty deaths in Kansas were the result of heart attacks before and after responses and during training. 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 hopefully decrease the number of firefighter deaths.

Eligibility

Applicant must be an established and recognized Kansas volunteer/part-time fire department in good standing with OSFM on NFIRS reporting or a volunteer firefighter in good standing with their local fire department.

ALL established and recognized Kansas fire departments, in good standing with OSFM on NFIRS reporting are eligible for assistance starting a Junior Firefighter program.

Priorities for Funding

Funds will be distributed on a first come first serve basis until the allotted funds are depleted. Additional requests will be considered in the next fiscal year, if funding is authorized by the Kansas Legislature.

Grant Schedule

October 2, 2017	Applications are due in our office no later than 4pm.
December 1, 2017	Awards will be announced, by this date or sooner.
May 1, 2018	Requests for reimbursement due in our office no later than 4pm.

Eligible Expenses

Fire Fighter Safety Equipment Examples

- Bunker/Wildland Gear – including coat, pants, hood, boots, gloves, and helmet
- SCBA Equipment – based on documented need
- Modification/refurbishing of existing PPE equipment
- 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 it was requested for

Junior Firefighter Program

- Explorer and National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) National Junior Firefighter Program for initiation fee and \$100.00 start-up fund.
 - 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

Fire Fighter Safety Equipment

- After the grant award is made
- The department orders, and receives the approved equipment
- The department submits to OSFM no later than May 1, 2018:
 - W-9 (with first request only)
 - Itemized invoice(s)
 - OSFM reimbursement form
- OSFM reimburses the department for costs up to the approved amount
- The department pays the vendor

Physicals

- After the grant award is made
- The firefighter receives their physical
- The firefighter submits to OSFM no later than May 1, 2018:
 - W-9
 - Itemized invoice(s)
 - Proof the their insurance did not cover the costs
 - OSFM reimbursement form
- OSFM reimburses the firefighter for costs up to the approved amount
- The firefighter pays their provider

Application:

Submission Instructions

- A completed KFRSG application must be submitted prior to the deadline and contain all information requested.
- Submit by the deadline of October 2, 2017, applications are due in our office no later than 4pm.
- 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 2 vendor quotes for all equipment items requested – required.
- No quotes required for extractors. OSFM has existing contract.

OSFM Contact Information:

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Fax – 785-296-8155
Email – Kelly.Ingold@ks.gov

Other Resources for Best Prices:

The State of Kansas has a contract (#35631) with Grainger that is available to local units of government. The contact person for a quote is:

Ryan Loughridge

Phone – 405-409-6210

Email – ryan.loughridge@grainger.com

Contact local larger departments to see if they have an order or contract you can order with to take advantage of bulk pricing.