



Fire and EMS Grants Newsletter

September 12, 2013

Dear Hoosier,

Indiana's firefighters and EMS personnel provide critical emergency services to our communities, frequently putting themselves at risk to ensure our safety.

In return, we must prioritize the safety of these first responders. We need to ensure our firefighters and EMS personnel have the modern equipment they need to stay safe and protect others. Too often, shrinking budgets have forced fire and EMS agencies to use inadequate equipment, communication systems, and vehicles.

Federal grant opportunities are available to fire and EMS agencies, and may be helpful in securing the equipment and personnel they need. Below is a summary of grant opportunities and resources available. If you have any questions about the information provided, please contact my office by clicking [here](#). To request a letter of support from me for your grant application, please visit my [grants page on my website](#).

Sincerely,

Senator Joe Donnelly



U.S. Fire Administration, FEMA

The USFA has compiled a comprehensive booklet of available resources. Due to local budget pressures, fire and EMS departments in the United States are using not only federal grants, but also private and corporate foundations and other nontraditional funding streams.

To identify the various types of funding sources available to fire and EMS agencies throughout the nation, USFA has developed the manual, ***Funding Alternatives for Emergency Medical and Fire Services***. The manual includes financing alternatives for all types of fire and EMS departments: rural and urban, volunteer and career, agencies providing multiple services, and those providing only fire protection or only emergency medical service. Examples are given of departments using the various methodologies. The manual includes funding of local services by local government, state government, federal government, and the private sector. Also included are valuable grant writing tips.

You can find the [entire document here](#).

USDA Rural Development

For rural communities, USDA's Rural Development program offers Community Facility Programs. These provide loans, grants, and loan guarantees for essential community facilities including equipment and buildings for fire and EMS departments. [Find details here](#).

To find your local Rural Development office, [click here](#).

FEMA's Assistance to Firefighter Grant Informational Webinars

*The Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program (AFG) is one of FEMA's most applied for assistance programs. **We strongly suggest that you view this webinar so your application is competitive.***

The application period for the FY 2013 AFG Program will open this fall, although the exact dates have not been established. This year, FEMA Region V will conduct a series of webinars rather than on-site workshops that will assist applicants in developing strong applications.

The purpose of these webinars is to provide information on the upcoming Funding Opportunity Announcement as well as to explain program updates, funding priorities and application information. Each webinar will be approximately two hours in length and is limited to 40 participants each to allow for maximum interaction.

The webinar can be accessed by [clicking here](#). Interested participants can also "dial-in" through a toll free conference number: 1-800-320-4330, and entering participant code: 845755#

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Monday	September 16, 2013	1:00 PM CDT
Tuesday	September 17, 2013	7:00 PM CDT
Wednesday	September 18, 2013	1:00 PM CDT
Wednesday	September 18, 2013	7:00 PM CDT
Thursday	September 19, 2013	7:00 PM CDT
Saturday	September 21, 2013	9:00 AM CDT
Monday	September 23, 2013	1:00 PM CDT
Tuesday	September 24, 2013	7:00 PM CDT
Wednesday	September 25, 2013	1:00 PM CDT
Thursday	September 26, 2013	7:00 PM CDT

If you have any questions about the webinars, contact one of the Region V Representatives:

Vikki Hanson, (312) 408-5327 victoria.hanson@fema.dhs.gov
Richard Dunne, (312) 408-5556 richard.dunne@fema.dhs.gov
Don Mobley, (312) 408-5540, donald.mobley@fema.dhs.gov

System for Award Management (SAM)

SAM replaces the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database as the storehouse for standard information about federal financial assistance applicants, recipients, and sub-recipients. Applicants who were not previously registered in the CCR database must register in SAM prior to registering in Grants.gov, the portal for all federal grant application submissions. Information about SAM registration procedures [can be accessed here](#).

Note: All grant applicants must acquire or renew registration with the SAM database in order to be awarded federal grants. All federal grants applications are submitted through Grants.gov. You must have a DUNS number and register with SAM before applying. You can take care of this detail now so you don't have to worry about it as grant deadlines approach.

All of Senator Donnelly's previous grant newsletters can be found on his [website](#).

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Senator Joe Donnelly
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