



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
NEVADA DIVISION OF FORESTRY
2478 Fairview Drive
Carson City, Nevada 89701
Phone (775) 684-2500 Fax (775) 684-2570

March 30, 2020

VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSISTANCE FUNDS AVAILABLE!

The Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) is accepting grant applications for the Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) Program. The intent of the program is to improve rural (local and volunteer) fire departments, which protect communities with populations of less than 10,000, readiness for and response to wildfires-especially in the wildland-urban interface. While paid fire departments are not excluded from participation in the VFA Program, targeting of grants to qualifying fire departments having a membership comprised of at least 80% volunteer firefighters is encouraged. All Fire Departments meeting the criteria, and interested in applying for funds from NDF, should prepare and submit an application to NDF's State Headquarters (see end of this announcement for address and contact information.)

Application deadline is 5:00 PM July 1st, 2020.

Application Information and Instructions

Who Can Apply?

Single Volunteer Fire Departments serving rural areas or communities with a population of less than 10,000 are eligible for funding through this program.

Area fire departments (fire districts, townships, etc.) may serve an aggregate population of greater than 10,000 as long as the service area of the fire department includes a rural area or a rural community having a population of 10,000 or less. The VFA funding must be used to benefit the rural population.

Departments must be able to provide wildland fire suppression services to all lands including federal lands managed by the US Forest Service.

VFA grants may be approved to fire training academies if they benefit the rural communities and to federally recognized Indian tribes as long as the VFD is not administered by the BIA.

VFDs administered by the BIA are not eligible through this program and should apply through the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

What Can the Funds Be Used For?

Four priority areas have been identified in this application: Wildland PPE (Nomex shirts and pants), fire shelters, and P25 compliant radios (mobile and handheld), and other supplies (brass, hose, etc.). Please prioritize, 1 being the highest and 4 being the lowest, between these items,

then list quantities you need, sizes, and specifications if applicable. The Division of Forestry will be making the purchases for the applying Departments and delivering the items. It is possible that an agency will only get their number 1 priority so it is important to let us know what is most necessary for your department at this time.

Program Requirements:

Matching

Successful grantees must provide a 10% match. Matching share can be supplied through “in-kind” services or cash. Examples of “in-kind” contributions include donation of services to include instruction, training, labor and more.

When Will Funds Be Available?

Funding will be available immediately upon application review, and available funding is assessed.

Other Important Things You Should Know:

- Each priority section has a \$5,000 limit. The total maximum request for all priorities is limited to \$20,000 per station and application.
- Also attached to the application is a request for information. What we are looking for is your department’s wildland fire training needs as well as wildland apparatus needs. This will help our training department and our Federal Excess Personal Property/ fleet management department in prioritizing resources when available. Please also list those in priority order.
- All successful applicants will be required to abide by the rules of the VFA program and all applicable OMB circular and Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) rules.
- All items purchased with these funds, having a unit acquisition cost of \$300 or more, must be marked and identified as property secured through the VFA program. These items will be subject to inspection in future years by NDF and the USFS.
- If you would like to fill this application in electronically, then go to <http://forestry.nv.gov/grants/> and click on the 2020 VFA Application. Once opened, you can type in your information, print, sign and mail.

Application Deadline:

Completed grant applications must be submitted to the State Office of the Nevada Division of Forestry by **5:00 PM July 1st, 2020.**

Contact Information:

Please submit completed application packets for the NDF Volunteer Fire Assistance Program to:

Nevada Division of Forestry- State Headquarters
Attention: Nate Barrons
2478 Fairview Drive
Carson City, NV 89701

For questions regarding the NDF Volunteer Fire Assistance program or the grant application process, you can also contact Nate Barrons at 775-684-2511 or via email nbarrons@forestry.nv.gov.