

# FY 2023 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Key Changes

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Below is a brief list of changes between Fiscal Year 2022 and Fiscal Year 2023 to the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG). The FY 2023 AFG funding notice contains some changes to definitions, descriptions, and priority categories.

- Under Eligible Applicants:  
Definition of a State Fire Training Academy (SFTA) was updated to include that recognition by the National Fire Training Academy is now an eligibility requirement.
- Under Management and Administration (M&A) Costs:  
Reimbursement for fees associated with hiring grants management services is now capped at \$1,500. Requests that are simple percentages of the award, without supporting justification or adequate documentation, will not be allowed or considered for an award.
- Under Other Direct Costs, Allocations and Restrictions of Available Grant Funds:  
Micro Grants cumulative funding threshold was raised from \$50,000 to \$75,000.
- Under Restrictions on Uses of Awarded Funds:  
Clarification was added that items must be requested using correct dropdown selections in the application and that bundled items must have details regarding type, cost, and quantity of all items in the bundle to be considered for funding.
- Under Supporting Definitions:  
Definition of Authority Having Jurisdiction was updated to match National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 101, 2021 edition.
- Under Training Activity:  
Various NFPA standards were updated to reflect the most recent editions.
- Under Equipment Activity:
  - Various priority changes were made to equipment for Fire Department and Regional Fire Department applicants. The following items remain as High Priority:
    - Appliance(s)/Nozzle(s)
    - Basic Hand Tools (Structural/Wildland)
    - Hose (Attack/Supply)
    - Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) Monitoring Equipment
    - IDLH Protection for Investigators (This is single-use respiratory protection)
    - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Washer/Extractor/Dryer (Turnout)
    - Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) Pack/Cylinder
    - Thermal Imaging Camera (Must be NFPA 1801 compliant)
    - Portable Radios (must be P-25 compliant)
    - Vehicle Mounted Exhaust Systems
    - Skid Unit
    - Air Compressor/Fill Station/Cascade (fixed or mobile) is High Priority for Regional Fire

Department applicants and Medium Priority for Fire Department applicants.

Other equipment items were moved to Medium Priority. Priority changes did not affect SFTA, and nonaffiliated emergency medical service (NAEMS) applicants.

- Phones (telephone/satellite/cell), carrier plans and vehicle mounted fans were added as ineligible items.
- Clarity to reason for funding request (purpose) was added. Funding notice and application text updated from “Obtain equipment to achieve minimum operational and deployment standards for existing missions” to “Obtain equipment needed but not currently owned or replace equipment that is broken and/or damaged beyond repair to achieve minimum operational and deployment standards for existing missions” to better define the funding priorities.
- Computing devices necessary to operate the awarded equipment were added as eligible.
- Under Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Activity:
  - Replacement of damaged/unsafe/unrepairable PPE including Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) regardless of age is now allowable.
  - Language regarding per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in PPE was moved from the Application Tips section to PPE Activity section and updated to encourage award recipients to seek acquisition of PFAS-free gear when possible.
  - NFPA standard was added to the Chemical /Biological Suites under Specialized PPE
- Under Wellness and Fitness Activity:

Whole-body MRI was added to ineligible activities.
- Under Vehicle Acquisition Activity:

NFPA standards 1901, 1906 and 1917 were replaced by the consolidated NFPA standard 1900.