

The New Mexico Fire Protection Grant cycle for the **FY 23** grant process will open on June 15th 2022 and close on 31 August 2022 and can be accessed at <https://www.nmdhsem.org/state-firemarshal/fire-grant-council/#grant>.

Two types of Grant Applications:

1. Individual Department Grant

With or without a request for stipends, recruiting, retention and educational programs.

2. County-Wide Project Grant

With or without a request for stipends, recruiting, retention and educational programs.

Eligibility:

1. All fire departments currently certified and funded by the New Mexico State Fire Marshal's Office are eligible to apply for an **Individual Department Grant**. The applicant must have a unique FDID.
2. County Administrative Offices having administrative responsibility for more than one district/department may apply for a **County-wide Project Grant** as long as **each district within the County** is compliant with the requirements of the grant application, (i.e., Pump Tests, etc.). The county-wide project must benefit all the departments within the County. Note: A County Administrative Office applying for a grant does not prevent departments within the County from applying for an **Individual Department Grant**.
3. Grant applications must not be contingent on another grant award.
4. Joint applications will not be considered.
5. Only one grant application per FDID may be submitted.
6. Any fire department that is awarded a grant and subsequently loses its qualification to participate in the Fire Protection Funding process shall return the apparatus and/or equipment to the State Fire Marshal for redistribution as per 59A-53 NMSA 1978 and Title 10 Chapter 25 Part 10 of the NMAC.
7. So that as many requests as possible may be honored, it is not necessary to apply for the full amount available for the category. Request an amount necessary to address the need.

Maximum Award Categories.

The maximum award amounts in the four categories for the grant cycle will be determined by the New Mexico Fire Protection Grant Council and will be dependent on funds available from the Fire Protection

Fund: The Grant Amount Requested must be equal to or less than the maximum amount allowed for the category of the project and equal to or less than the total equipment cost. For FY2023:

1. The maximum amount awarded to a single applicant (either an *Individual Department Grant* or a *County-wide Project Grant*) shall not exceed maximum of **\$(amount TBD first week of July 2022)** for the following projects:
 - Facility construction
 - Major facility improvements
 - Land acquisition
 - Training Facilities

2. The maximum amount awarded to a single applicant (either an *Individual Department Grant* or a *County-wide Project Grant*) shall not exceed **\$(amount TBD first week of July 2022)** for the following projects:
 - Apparatus
 - Single large infrastructure project
 - To include water and communications infrastructure projects.
 - SCBA and/or air support systems i.e., air compressors, cascade systems, mobile fill stations.

3. The maximum amount awarded to a single applicant (either an *Individual Department Grant* or a *County-wide Project Grant*) will not exceed **\$(amount TBD first week of July 2022)** for all other critical needs, one single project will be awarded. i.e.:
 - PPE (structural, wildland, ballistic protection)
 - Communications – Mobile / Handheld Radios and base-stations
 - Hose
 - Tools and equipment

4. Stipends, recruiting, retention and educational expenses for volunteers:

In addition to the projects applied for, up to \$25,000 may be requested by *municipal departments with a volunteer staff* or a *county-wide request may be made* for the purpose of providing stipends, supplementing recruitment and retention programs or educational programs for volunteer fire fighters. These funds must be administered by the County or Municipality's Fiscal Agent or designee. As with grant requests, a specification of the program parameters must be submitted with the grant application request. To ensure a fair allocation of funds, the amount requested for stipends, recruiting, retention and educational expenses for volunteers should reflect the actual estimated need. Unexpended funds from this category may be rolled over but must be reported in the budget information section of subsequent grant applications. As with all monies received through this grant, these funds are subject to audit by the State.

 - **The application for stipends, recruitment, retention, and education programs for volunteer fire fighters will not affect a Municipality's or a County's eligibility to apply for a grant project.**

Project costs exceeding the grant amount shall be the responsibility of the local government.

The Grant Amount Requested must be equal to or less than the maximum amount allowed for the category of the project and equal to or less than the total equipment cost. State fire funds may be used for costs exceeding the grant amount with approval from the New Mexico State Fire Marshal's Office.

Signatures/Commitment of Funds

The Fire Chief and the County or Municipality's Fiscal Agent (CFO or designee) shall E-sign the application indicating a commitment to comply with the procurement and reporting requirements of the award. In addition, the Fiscal Agent shall E-sign the Fiscal Agent's Commitment Statement indicating a commitment of funds that are in excess of the requested grant amount necessary to complete the project. Applications submitted without all signatures will not be considered.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS for Eligibility.

NFIRS Reporting.

All applicants **shall be** in compliance with the reporting requirements of the New Mexico State Fire Marshal's Office utilizing the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) per 59A-52 NMSA 1978 and Title 10 Chapter 25 Part 10 of the NMAC. Applicants with delinquent NFIRS reports for the period of **July through June of the fiscal year preceding the grant applications fiscal year, will not be eligible to participate in the grant application cycle.**

Pump Testing.

All rated fire pumps shall undergo annual pump tests to ensure proper function and firefighter safety; therefore, the applicant must provide evidence that apparatus pump tests are conducted on each apparatus with a rated fire pump by documenting the most recent results in the apparatus section of the application and verified by the Fire Chief's e-signature. The signature is an affirmation that three years of pump test records exist for each apparatus with a rated fire pump, with the exception of newly acquired pumps, and are on file with the department and are available for NMSFMO inspection upon request.

- All annual pump tests shall be in accordance with NFPA 1901 and the Insurance Service Office (ISO) requirements.
- **False affirmations may result in forfeiture of funds and prohibit future grant participation.**

Hose Testing.

All fire hose shall undergo annual testing to ensure proper function and firefighter safety; the Fire Chief must e-sign an affirmation that annual hose testing has been completed.

- All annual hose tests shall be in accordance with NFPA 1962 and the Insurance Service Office (ISO) requirements.
- **False affirmations may result in forfeiture of funds and prohibit future grant participation.**
- **Hose test data logs shall be made available upon the request of a representative of NMSFMO.**

CRITICAL NEEDS – Applicants may apply for **only one project** in one critical needs category listed below:

- Fire apparatus/equipment.
- Tenders/tankers.
- Apparatus intended for use in the urban/wildland interface.
*It is suggested that wildland apparatus be equipped to meet the standard of a service vehicle as defined by ISO.
- PPE (structural, wildland, ballistic protection).
- Air supply systems. (Compressor, fixed and mobile cascade system).
- Communications.
- Facility Construction/Improvement.
- Training.
- Water.
- Need that will clearly have significant impact on ISO Public Protection Classification.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Awards will be subject to audit and will result in forfeiture of funds and disqualification for future grant eligibility if non-compliance is determined.
2. All the information contained in the application is carefully reviewed and considered. In addition to general information and data provided, thorough and clear narrative responses as well as a required full financial disclosure are critical to helping reviewers understand the needs of the department relative to the request.
3. Apparatus purchased with grant funds must meet the current NFPA standards and will be inspected for acceptance.
4. Awards are contingent upon approval of specifications by the State Fire Marshal's Office.
5. For apparatus applications, the department must have the capability to immediately house apparatus properly. NFPA listed equipment may be included with the purchase of an apparatus.
6. **Preliminary project specifications, (i.e., scope of work, concept drawings) must be submitted with the application. Applications submitted without preliminary project specifications will not be considered. Applicants are encouraged to contact the SFMO for guidance on what is required by NFPA or ISO prior to submitting.**
7. A Completion Checklist is provided to assist with ensuring that each application requirement has been addressed.
8. Only apply for an amount that is necessary to complete the project.

Ranking.

Applications will be ranked using the following schemata:

After having been reviewed and approved by the NMSFMO Support Bureau for compliance with the eligibility requirements;

1. The valid applications will be submitted to the Fire Grant Council.
2. Three councilors from the northern half of the state will be assigned applications from the southern half of the state to review and score.
3. Three councilors from the southern half of the state will be assigned the applications from the northern half of the state to review and score.
4. The scoring will be reviewed by the full council and outliers will be reexamined.
5. The individual raw scores will be merged and averaged.
6. The averaged scores will have the entities ISO rating added to it for a final score.
7. The final score will be used to determine the ranking for consideration of a grant award by the full council with input from the NMSFMO Fire Support staff.

