

The IAFF Grants Administration Department oversees the IAFF's national grant programs, coordinates grant reports, manages the program and financial oversight of grant awards, ensures compliance with all federal laws, regulations and executive orders, and identifies new sources of funding.

## WHO SHOULD APPLY

All IAFF locals struggling with layoffs, pending layoffs, attritions and staffing shortages should apply for SAFER funding. Affiliates applying for training and equipment should apply for Assistance to Firefighters grants. Applications for additional funding for fire prevention and safety projects should apply under the Fire Prevention and Safety Grant.

For more information on the IAFF Grants Administration Department please visit:

[iaff.org/grants](https://iaff.org/grants)

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## GRANTS ADMINISTRATION



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INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

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# WHAT WE DO

Over the years, the IAFF has enjoyed funding partnerships with a number of federal agencies, including the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), the National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety (NIOSH), the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), the Department of Transportation (DOT), the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), among others. Funding from these partners has enabled the IAFF to establish research and training programs, including the Fire Ground Survival Program, the Wellness Fitness Initiative, and Hazardous Materials Training Programs. The IAFF Foundation also benefits from these grants, which provide staff and program funding for the Burn Foundation. This includes the Fire Fighter SOAR program which offers burn injured fire fighters and their families one-on-one support from a trained fire fighter peer supporter. The Foundation also provides the Juvenile Fire Setters program, the Code Development program, and others that directly impact fire fighter health and safety.

## AVAILABLE GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

There are many federal, state, local, and private grant programs that provide grant funding for fire and EMS personnel, equipment, training, and fire prevention activities. Some grants are awarded directly to fire departments to enhance their ability to protect the public and fire service personnel from fire and related hazards.

### STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE GRANTS (SAFER)

The Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants (SAFER) program was created to provide funding directly to fire departments in order to help them increase the number of trained fire fighters available in their communities. The goal of SAFER is to enhance the local fire departments' abilities to comply with staffing, response, and operational standards established by the NFPA and OSHA (NFPA 1710 and/or NFPA 1720 and OSHA 1910.134).

### ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANTS (AFG)

The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) is to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments. AFG has helped fire fighters and other first responders to obtain critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training, and other resources needed to protect the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards.

### FIRE PREVENTION & SAFETY GRANTS (FP&S)

The Fire Prevention and Safety Grants (FP&S) support projects that enhance the safety of the public and fire fighters from fire and related hazards. The primary goal is to target high-risk populations and reduce injury and prevent death. Fire fighter safety research and development projects are also eligible for funding.

## FUNDING ALTERNATIVES

While not directly awarded to fire departments like the AFG grants, funding for preparedness activities including planning, organization, equipment, purchase, training, exercises, and management and administration is provided to states and territories each year. Contact your local State Administration Agency (SAA) for further information. Examples include:

### STATE HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM (SHSP)

SHSP supports the implementation of state Homeland Security Strategies to address the identified planning, organization, equipment, training, and exercise needs to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism and other catastrophic events. SHSP also provides funding to implement initiatives in the State Preparedness Report.

### URBAN AREAS SECURITY INITIATIVE (UASI)

UASI program funds address the unique planning, organization, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density urban areas, and assists them in building an enhanced and sustainable capacity to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism.

### PORT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (PSGP)

The PSGP is one grant program that directly supports maritime transportation infrastructure security activities. PSGP is one tool in the comprehensive set of measures authorized by Congress to strengthen critical infrastructure against risks associated with potential terrorist attacks.

## GRANTS WRITING ASSISTANCE

In addition to overseeing the IAFF national grant programs, the Grants Administration Department fields questions, satisfies requests for information, and provides guidance on grant applications for IAFF affiliates. Since only officials from your jurisdiction can apply for a grant, it is critical that affiliates immediately begin working with their jurisdiction and elected officials to prepare and submit applications for the next round of federal funding. While IAFF locals cannot apply on behalf of their jurisdiction, affiliates can make decision-makers aware of the grant process, generate support, and offer IAFF assistance in developing the application. The IAFF is prepared to help the appropriate designee for the jurisdiction complete the application and maximize chances of receiving grant awards.

### WRITING WORKSHOPS

Grants administration staff present "Writing Effective Grants" workshops at most IAFF conferences. These workshops are intended for novice through advanced grant writers and address common pitfalls, changes to the grant guidance and instructions, and program priorities.

### IAFF ASSISTANCE WITH FEMA TURNDOWN (REJECTION) NOTICES

Fire departments that have received turndown notices for the SAFER or AFG grant programs are encouraged to contact FEMA for feedback on their application (FEMA Help Desk 1-866-274-0960 or email [firegrants@dhs.gov](mailto:firegrants@dhs.gov)). FEMA staff can provide additional details about which section(s) did not score favorably for both the pre-score and narrative. Affiliate presidents can then request IAFF assistance by providing a copy of the complete grant application, along with FEMA's comments, to [firegrants@iaff.org](mailto:firegrants@iaff.org).