

System for Award Management (SAM.gov) profile

Please identify your organization to be associated with this application.

All organization information in this section will come from the System for Award Management (SAM) profile for that organization.

MARTIN COUNTY

Information current from SAM.gov as of:	04/07/2024
UEI-EFT:	DLPGAUQK4LX8-4562
DUNS (includes DUNS+4):	0713045624562
Employer Identification Number (EIN):	596000743
Organization legal name:	MARTIN COUNTY
Organization (doing business as) name:	
Mailing address:	2401 SE MONTEREY ROAD STUART, FL 34996-3322
Physical address:	2401 SE MONTEREY RD STUART, FL 34996-3322
Is your organization delinquent on any federal debt?	N
SAM.gov registration status:	Active as of 03/04/2024

We have reviewed our bank account information on our SAM.gov profile to ensure it is up to date

Applicant information

Please provide the following additional information about the department or organization applying for this grant.

Applicant Name (i.e., fire department or organization name) **Martin County Board of County Commissioners**

Main address of location impacted by this grant

Main address 1 **2401 SE Monterey Road**

Main address 2

City **Stuart**

State/territory **FL**

Zip code **34996**

Zip extension **3322**

In what county/parish is your organization physically located? If you have more than one station, in what county/parish is your main station located? **Martin County**

Applicant characteristics

The SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) program intends to improve or restore local fire departments' staffing and deployment capabilities so they may more effectively respond to emergencies. With the restored or enhanced staffing, grantees should see a reduction in response times and an increase in the number of trained personnel assembled at the incident scene. Grant funds are available in two activities: Hiring Firefighters and Recruitment and Retention of Volunteer Firefighters. Please review the Notice of Funding Opportunity for information on available program areas and for more information on the evaluation process and conditions of award.

Please provide the following additional information about the applicant.

Applicant type **Fire Department/Fire District**

What kind of organization do you represent? **All Paid/Career**

Which activity are you applying for? **Hiring of Firefighters**

Operating budget

What was your department's operating budget (e.g., personnel, maintenance of apparatus, equipment, facilities, utility costs, purchasing expendable items, etc.) related to fire-related programs and emergency response for the current (at time of application) fiscal year, as well as the previous three fiscal years?

Current Fiscal Year (i.e., 2021) **2024**

Fiscal Year	Operating budget
2024	\$58,883,345.00
2023	\$51,914,019.00

Fiscal Year	Operating budget
2022	\$51,011,263.00
2021	\$48,710,043.00

What percentage of the declared operating budget is dedicated to personnel costs (salary, benefits, overtime costs, etc.)? **92**

Does your department have any rainy day reserves, emergency funds, or capital outlay? **Yes**

What is the total amount currently set aside? **2087290.00**

Describe the planned purpose of this fund. **This fund is the fire rescue fixed asset replacement/refurbishment budget (FARB) within the County Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). \$1.9 million of the total is obligated to debt service for ongoing lease payments for fire and rescue apparatus. The remaining balance is used for priority capital equipment replacement.**

What percentage of the declared operating budget is derived from the following	2024
Taxes	83
Bond issues	0
EMS billing	14
Grants	1
Donations	0
Fund drives	0
Fee for service	2
Other	0

What percentage of the declared operating budget is derived from the following	2024
Total	100 %

Describe your financial need to include descriptions of the following:

- Income vs. expense breakdown of the current annual budget
- Budget shortfalls and the inability to address financial needs without federal assistance
- Actions taken to obtain funding elsewhere (i.e. state assistance programs or other grant programs)
- How your critical functions are affected without this funding

Martin County Fire Rescue (MCFR) is a vital emergency service that provides fire protection and emergency medical response to both incorporated and unincorporated areas within the County. The department's primary funding source is property tax dollars generated by the Fire Rescue Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) millage rate, established via countywide ordinance in 1997. This dedicated funding source ensures that residents within the incorporated areas of Martin County do not overpay for services that may be duplicated. However, the ordinance prohibits the use of General Fund (GF) tax dollars to support any fire protection or emergency medical services (EMS) provided by MCFR. The inability to utilize the wider tax base of the GF becomes a constraint when the demand for emergency services dictates a need for expanding resources. In addition, the State of Florida's 'Save our Homes' amendment to the constitution limits the assessed taxable value of homesteaded properties to reduce taxes owed to the Fire Rescue MSTU by up to \$50,000. This amendment also limits the annual increase allowable in the assessed value of homesteaded properties to 3% or the change in the CPI, whichever is less. While this reduces the tax burden of Martin County residents, it severely restricts the department's ability to expand the level of service by simply raising taxes to fund additional needs. The total department budget is \$58,883,345 which includes GF and grants to support other public safety programs including Emergency Management, Dispatch, and Ocean Rescue. The fire protection and EMS portion is \$50,049,937, 83% of which is funded by tax dollars from the MSTU, totaling \$41,699,837. The remaining budget is funded by EMS transport revenue, contracts for service, and automatic aid agreements. Personnel costs represent the most significant portion of the total MSTU expense at 92% or \$46,213,918. The remaining \$3,836,019 represents the entire operating budget to cover

all expenses needed to manage the fleet, stations, personnel, and supplies. Competitive salary adjustments, and the individual benefits costs for health care, worker's comp, and retirement increase significantly on an annual basis, which further hinders the County's ability to redirect funds to hire additional personnel. Martin County has had varied success in obtaining alternate funding sources. In 2018, a referendum was introduced to increase the Homestead Exemption by an additional \$25,000, reducing the Fire Rescue property tax revenue by an estimated \$5 million. In response, Martin County attempted to develop a fire assessment fee to help offset the loss in tax revenue. However, the assessment fee was ultimately rejected by the Board of County Commissioners following negative feedback from the community, and the referendum failed at the polls shortly thereafter. In 2019, the County attempted to pass a 1% sales tax referendum to help support Fire Rescue equipment and capital needs, but unfortunately, it failed as well. The County has successfully acquired about \$500,000 annually through Medicaid reimbursement funds established by the Public Emergency Medical Transportation (PEMT) programs, which have helped fund capital equipment replacement. However, without the SAFER funding, MCFR does not have the ability to raise taxes high enough to immediately hire the needed personnel. In conclusion, MCFR's funding sources primarily rely on the Fire Rescue MSTU millage rate, which severely constrains the department's ability to meet the increasing demand on the level of service by simply raising taxes to fund additional resources. Martin County has had varied success in obtaining alternate funding sources, with some measures being rejected due to negative feedback from the community. As a result, MCFR faces challenges in acquiring the necessary funding to meet the demand for services, putting both the community and the department at risk.

Other funding sources

This fiscal year, are you receiving Federal funding from any other grant program for the same purpose for which you are applying for this grant?

No

This fiscal year, are you receiving Federal funding from any other grant program regardless of purpose?

Yes

Please provide an explanation for other funding sources in the space provided below.

Martin County receives the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) annually to help support Emergency Management planning activities.

Applicant and community trends

Please provide the following additional information about the applicant.

Injuries and fatalities	2023	2022	2021
What is the total number of fire-related civilian fatalities in your jurisdiction over the last three calendar years?	1	0	1
What is the total number of fire-related civilian injuries in your jurisdiction over the last three calendar years?	22	15	17
What is the total number of line of duty member fatalities in your jurisdiction over the last three calendar years?	0	0	0
What is the total number of line of duty member injuries in your jurisdiction over the last three calendar years?	69	106	79
What is the total number of members with self-inflicted fatalities over the last three years?	0	0	0

How many frontline vehicles does your organization have in each of the types or classes of vehicle listed below that respond to first alarm assignments in support of NFPA 1710/1720? You must include vehicles that are leased or on long-term loan as well as any vehicles that have been ordered or otherwise currently under contract for purchase or lease by your organization but not yet in your possession.



Filled riding positions

The number of filled riding positions must be equal or less than the number of frontline apparatus multiplied by the number of available riding positions.

Type or class of vehicles	Number of frontline apparatus	Number of available riding positions	Number of filled riding positions
Engines or pumpers (pumping capacity of 750 gallons per minute (GPM) or greater and water capacity of 300 gallons or more): pumper, pumper/tanker, rescue/pumper, foam pumper, CAFS pumper, type I, type II engine urban interface.	9	36	27
Ambulances for transport and/or emergency response.	15	45	30
Tankers or tenders (water capacity of 1,000 gallons or more).	5	10	1
Aerial apparatus: aerial ladder truck, telescoping, articulating, ladder towers, platform, tiller ladder truck, quint.	3	12	9
Brush/quick attack (pumping capacity of less than 750 GPM and water carrying capacity of at least 300 gallons): brush truck, patrol unit (pickup w/ skid unit), quick attack unit, mini-pumper, type III engine, type IV engine, type V engine, type VI engine, type VII engine.	9	18	0
Rescue vehicles: rescue squad, rescue (light, medium, heavy), technical rescue vehicle, hazardous materials unit.	2	12	0
Additional vehicles: EMS chase vehicle, air/light unit, rehab units, bomb unit, technical support (command, operational support/supply), hose tender, salvage truck, ARFF (aircraft rescue firefighting), command/mobile communications vehicle.	8	16	8

Is your department facing a new risk, expanding service to a new area, or experiencing an increased call volume?

Yes

Please explain how your department is facing a new risk, expanding service to a new area, or experiencing an increased call volume.

There are 3 risks facing MCFR that pose a challenge to maintaining level of service and firefighter safety. Call volume increases, insufficient firefighter assembly, and water supply deficiency are the factors driving policy decisions being made by both the leadership within MCFR administration and the Board of County Commissioners. The increase in emergency call volume in Martin County since 2009 has created a potential risk for delayed response times. The county has seen a 64% increase in call volume from 16,627 to 27,299 calls in 2023. However, the number of staffed emergency response vehicles

had not increased until last year. Prior staffing increases helped address firefighter safety and level of service by raising minimum daily staffing to three personnel on all fire suppression apparatus and adding advanced life support (ALS) capabilities. However, adding additional staffed resources to quell the impact of an increased workload without incurring significant overtime has remained a challenge. The increased call volume and demand for services have made it difficult for fire stations to manage the emergency incidents within their primary response zones without regularly tapping resources from adjacent areas. The average radius for each station's primary response zone is 5 miles so this is a significant factor in delayed response times. In 2022, the average fire station response time in-zone was 6 minutes and 30 seconds, versus 10 minutes and 50 seconds out-of-zone. When primary response zone units are unavailable due to an out-of-zone response and a structure fire call is received, the probability of meeting the requirements of NFPA 1710 is drastically reduced. The additional 4 minutes and 20 seconds of response time is extremely significant as it adversely impacts firefighter assembly, scene safety, property loss, and risk of injury or death. MCFR has tracked out-of-zone unit responses by station, and the results are alarming. The five busiest stations all had over 1,100 unit responses outside their primary zone, with one station topping over 2,700 unit responses. In 2022, MCFR staffed an additional transport unit (rescue) utilizing overtime at the 3 busiest stations with the intention of capturing most of the medical calls so that the suppression apparatus could remain available for fire emergencies. This strategy made an immediate impact but at a significant cost to overtime which ballooned to over \$3 million, doubling the budgeted amount. In 2023, the Board approved hiring 19 personnel to permanently staff those units utilizing the overtime savings as the funding source. However, the issues of firefighter assembly and water supply still remain. Also, as the popularity of South Florida continues to grow as a residential destination, the steady increase of call volume and the impact on response times will be an ongoing risk factor. MCFR has three

aerial units with one truck each strategically housed in a North, Central, and South station and staffed with three firefighters daily. One aerial unit (3 personnel) is dispatched to every structure fire call as part of the first alarm assignment along with two engines (3+3), two rescues (2+2), one water tender (1 overtime), one Battalion Chief (1), and one EMS Captain (1). On average, the total assembly in the first alarm assignment is 16 personnel. Currently, MCFR does not have enough staffing in the first alarm assignment to meet the assembly requirements of NFPA 1710. Finally, 12,500 of the County residents do not have access to water supply in the form of a hydrant. This has proven to be problematic on structure fire calls in those areas when the first arriving suppression units carry enough water to only last a few minutes. By staffing one additional firefighter on each of the three ladder trucks and permanently staffing the water tender, MCFR will be able to meet the minimum assembly requirement on every structure fire call with 17 personnel.

Community description

Please provide the following additional information about the community your organization serves.

Type of jurisdiction served	County
What type of community does your organization serve?	Suburban
What is the square mileage of your first due response zone/jurisdiction served?	556
What percentage of your primary response area is protected by hydrants?	20

What percentage of your primary response area is for the following:	Percentage (must sum to 100%)
Agriculture, wildland, open space, or undeveloped properties	50
Commercial and industrial purposes	10

What percentage of your primary response area is for the following:	Percentage (must sum to 100%)
Residential purposes	40
Total	100

What is the permanent resident population of your first due response zone/jurisdiction served? **158431**

Do you have a seasonal increase in population? **Yes**

What is your seasonal increase in population (number of people)? **50000**

Please describe your organization and/or community that you serve.

MCFR serves an area of 556 square miles, encompassing urban, suburban, and agricultural/rural lands, with a population of 158,431. During the winter season, the population can swell to beyond 200,000. To serve this community, MCFR has 334 career firefighters working on a 24/48 shift schedule, stationed at 11 stations and one aeromedical hanger. Most of the population lives within the urban service boundary east of Interstate 95, and 10 of the fire stations are strategically located within that boundary, with a primary response zone radius of 5 miles and minimal overlap. The Village of Indiantown, located in Western Martin County, presents a unique challenge for MCFR. This area is mostly agricultural land and undeveloped, with the exception of the Village, which represents about 10% of the total population and has a mix of residential and commercial properties, including the largest steam-generated power plant in the United States. The station serving Indiantown and the surrounding rural area is staffed with 1 engine, 2 rescues, 1 2,000-gallon tender, and 2 brush trucks. All firefighters in MCFR are dual-certified as EMTs or paramedics, and the department provides fire suppression, advanced life support EMS and transport, air medical transport, hazmat response, technical rescue (confined space, trench, and elevated), water rescue, and public education. All rescues are staffed at a minimum with 1 Firefighter EMT and 1

Firefighter Paramedic and equipped with 3 air packs and individually assigned structural firefighting gear. In the event of a structure fire, the first alarm assignment includes 2 engines, 1 ladder truck, 2 rescues, 1 water tender, 1 Battalion Chief, and 1 EMS Captain. MCFR participates in an automatic aid agreement with the City of Stuart and has active mutual aid agreements with surrounding departments. Martin County is subject to numerous hurricane warnings during the Atlantic Hurricane season; the community has spent over \$15 million to address building/road damage, beach mitigation, and debris cleanup in recent years. A significant portion of the population is within 10 miles of the St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant and two major natural gas transmission pipelines traverse the area. Three major north-south thoroughfares – Interstate 95, Florida’s Turnpike, and U.S. 1 – are in Martin County, along with three separate cargo railways and one shared passenger rail. The only east coast/west coast navigable waterway in the state with associated water control structures passes through Martin County. Martin County is also home to the third busiest executive airport in Florida, trailing behind Ft. Lauderdale and Orlando. Martin County faces challenges regarding its water supply reliability.

Approximately 90% of the population resides in the eastern region of the County, confined within the corridor of Interstate 95, the Florida Turnpike, and the Atlantic shoreline. While roughly 88% of residents within the urban service boundary enjoy access to County water and fire hydrants, a mere 20% of the entire service area in Martin County benefits from accessible fire hydrants. Despite residential structures being limited to four stories, they are primarily populated with elderly residents. In addition, Martin County has 24 elderly adult living and care facilities (ALF) and 7 nursing homes. Overall, MCFR faces unique challenges in serving the diverse needs of Martin County, including rural and agricultural areas, elderly populations, and significant industrial and transportation infrastructure. Martin County is ethnically-diverse, with a minority population of 24.1%. According to the 2022 American Community Survey, 9.8% of residents live below the poverty line. A significant proportion of the

population suffers with a disability (14.2%). Census Tracts 8, 10, 12, 13.01, 14.07, 14.08, 18.01, and 18.02 in Martin County are identified as “disadvantaged” by the White House’s Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool.

Call volume

Summary

Summary of responses per year by category. Enter whole numbers only. If you have no calls for any of the categories, enter 0.

Summary of responses per year per category	2023	2022	2021
Fire - NFIRS Series 100	405	446	382
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire) - NFIRS Series 200	16	20	14
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident - NFIRS Series 300	19039	19451	18823
Hazardous Condition (No Fire) - NFIRS Series 400	314	426	337
Service Call - NFIRS Series 500	4712	3963	3827
Good Intent Call - NFIRS Series 600	2387	2461	2388
False Alarm & Falls Call - NFIRS Series 700	1138	1080	1218
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster - NFIRS Series 800	13	9	8
Special Incident Type - NFIRS Series 900	11	21	16
Total	28035	27877	27013

Fire

How many responses per year by category? Enter whole numbers only. If you have no calls for any of the categories, enter 0.

How many responses per year per category?	2023	2022	2021
"Structure Fire" (Of the NFIRS Series 100 calls, NFIRS Codes 111-120)	81	98	75
"Vehicle Fire" (Of the NFIRS Series 100 calls, NFIRS Codes 130-138)	99	80	94
"Vegetation Fire" (Of the NFIRS Series 100 calls, NFIRS Codes 140-143)	153	189	149
Total	333	367	318

What is the total acreage of all vegetation fires? Enter whole numbers only. If you have no vegetation fires, enter 0.

Total acreage per year	2023	2022	2021
Total acreage of all vegetation fires	1143	597	535

Rescue and emergency medical service incidents

How many responses per year per category?	2023	2022	2021
"Motor Vehicle Accidents" (Of the NFIRS Series 300 calls, NFIRS Codes 322-324)	1379	1515	1429
"Extrications from Vehicles" (Of the NFIRS Series 300 calls, NFIRS Code 352)	0	3	0
"Rescues" (Of the NFIRS Series 300 calls, NFIRS Code 300, 351, 353-381)	106	163	117
EMS-BLS Response Calls	3971	3744	3288
EMS-ALS Response Calls	903	13886	13545
EMS-BLS Scheduled Transports	0	0	0
EMS-ALS Scheduled Transports	0	0	0
Community Paramedic Response Calls	0	0	0
Total	6359	19311	18379

Mutual and automatic aid

How many responses per year by category? Enter whole numbers only. If you have no calls for any of the categories, enter 0.

How many responses per year per category?	2023	2022	2021
Amount of times the organization received Mutual Aid	149	93	233
Amount of times the organization received Automatic Aid	91	148	178
Amount of times the organization provided Mutual Aid	131	171	281
Amount of times the organization provided Automatic Aid	465	451	328
Of the Mutual and Automatic Aid responses, amount that were structure fires	30	66	34
Total	866	929	1054

Grant request details



Instructions

You can add the positions you are requesting by using the add buttons below. Include all positions in a single item. Please answer all the questions for the overall Hiring activity as well as the required information for the requested positions.

Grand total: \$5,897,538.00

Program area: Hiring of firefighters



Activity: Hiring of Firefighters

\$5,897,538.00

Hiring of Firefighters activity questions

Staffing levels

SAFER intends to restore or improve local fire departments' staffing and deployment capabilities so they may more effectively respond to emergencies. With the enhanced staffing, a SAFER grant recipient's response time will be reduced sufficiently and an appropriate number of trained personnel will be assembled at the incident scene.

The following questions are designed to help us understand the staffing changes that have occurred in your department over the past several years and how the grant will assist in restoring or improving your staffing levels. The information provided must be a true and accurate depiction of your department on the timelines listed below.

For more information regarding these standards please see the Notice of Funding Opportunity or go to www.nfpa.org/freeaccess

Select the item that best describes **1710 - with aerial** the NFPA standard your department is attempting to meet:

What is the department's current (at the start of the application period) budgeted operational staffing level? Include all budgeted positions, even if they are not currently filled.

Current budgeted operational staffing level **334**

How many budgeted, but vacant operational positions does your department have at the start of the application period? **0**

Please enter information about your organization's staffing levels in the table [below](#)  .

Staffing levels	Total number of operational career personnel	Number of operational career officers	Number of NFPA support
Staffing levels at the start of the application period	334	105	331
Staffing levels at one year prior to the start of the application period	334	69	331
Staffing levels at two years prior to the start of the application period	315	66	315
If awarded this grant, what will the staffing levels be in your department?	352	105	349

Please provide details on the department's existing staffing model to include the number of shifts, number of positions per shift, chief level officer staffing per shift (i.e., Battalion Chief, District Chief, etc.), and contracted shift hours per week/pay period. If the contracted shift hours included FLSA overtime or Kelly Days, please be sure to include details.

Martin County Fire Rescue operates three (3) 24-hour shifts with 111 personnel per shift including three (3) Battalion Chiefs, four (4) EMS Captains, and one (1) District Chief assigned per shift. All personnel work a 48 hour work week. Martin County Fire Rescue does not use paid part-time personnel or reserve/relief firefighters. All shift personnel have a Kelly Day every 3 weeks so FLSA overtime is not utilized. When staffing levels fall below the minimum daily seat requirement, non-FLSA overtime is utilized to cover those shifts. The current minimum daily staffing includes 3 personnel on the ladder truck,

**3 personnel on the engine, and
2 personnel on the
rescue/ambulance unit.**

Does your department utilize part-time or reserve paid firefighters? **No**

Hiring of firefighters

Please provide the following additional information regarding your fire department.

Based on current staffing levels:

If your department utilizes overtime to fill positions to ensure you are meeting applicable NFPA staffing and deployment standards, you should remove the number of positions filled by overtime from your calculations.

How often does your department meet the NFPA assembly requirements as indicated in the table above for the department's first due response zone/jurisdiction served? **Never (0%)**

What is the average actual staffing level on your first arriving engine company or vehicle capable of initiating suppression activities on the number of structure fires indicated in the department call volume section of your application? **3**

Do you provide NFPA 1582 annual medical/physical exams? **Yes**

If awarded the number of positions requested in this application:

How often do you anticipate that your department will meet the NFPA assembly requirements as indicated in the table above? **Half of the time (40 to 59%)**

What will be the average actual staffing level on your first arriving engine company or vehicle **3.3**

capable of initiating suppression activities on the number of structure fires indicated in the department call volume section of your application?

Will you provide the new hires with NFPA 1582 entry-level physicals? **Yes**

Will the personnel hired meet the minimum EMS training and certification as required by your Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)? **Yes**

Is it your department's intent to sustain the awarded positions after the completion of the period of performance? **Yes**

Please provide a brief description on how the positions will be sustained.

The Martin County Board of County Commissioners is committed to enhancing firefighter safety and has supported the department's push to improve the deployment and assembly standards outlined in NFPA 1710. The County is incurring overtime costs that are approaching \$750,000 with benefits to staff a tanker in the central part of the county to address water supply issues in the residential areas that lack hydrant protection. The additional positions would eliminate that overtime expense and that savings would be used to help offset the cost of the positions. In addition, MCFR will budget the remaining portion of the personnel cost into reserves in each of the 3 years of the performance period so that when the grant is no longer funding these positions, Martin County will already have the full budget allocation available and a tax increase will not be necessary.

Describe the department's step-by-step hiring process (application period, written test, physical, approval) and the timeline for each step.

The hiring process begins with an advertisement and an application period that typically lasts about three (3) weeks. From there, qualified candidates are invited to MCFR headquarters over the course of one (1) week to take a written test and a physical agility test/skills evaluation. The candidates that score the highest in these two assessments are invited back the following week to participate in the interview process. Upon conclusion of the interviews, the final recommendations are approved by the Fire Chief. The candidates are immediately notified with a contingent offer of employment upon successful completion of an entry-level physical including a drug screen. On the scheduled day of the physical, the candidates are fitted for all personal protective equipment and station uniforms. After the interviews conclude, it takes approximately four (4) weeks from the day of the written test to the first day of employment for chosen candidates. The entirety of the hiring process can be accomplished within sixty (60) days.

How many recruits can be trained in one academy class?

20

How long after award will the department be able to start a recruit class?

Within twenty-one (21) days of the grant award, the Martin County Board of County Commissioners would be able to accept the grant and make the appropriate budget resolution. Within sixty (60) days of the Board meeting, MCFR will be able to place all 18

personnel in the new hire academy for department orientation and NFPA 1001 and 1002 training

How often are your recruit classes held?

MCFR typically advertises and recruits twice per year. Due to a high volume of retirements in the last two (2) years, MCFR has conducted quarterly recruit classes.

Does the department need governing body approval to accept and implement the award?

Yes

Provide details on the timeline needed to accept the grant award.

Permission to accept the grant award would be presented to the Martin County Board of County Commissioners at one of their regularly scheduled meetings, which occur twice a month. Upon acceptance of the grant award, the Board would also pass a budget resolution. The entire process would not take more than 21 days to complete from the date of the award notification.

Is your request for hiring firefighters based on a risk analysis, staffing needs analysis, or an Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating?

Yes

Describe how the analysis was conducted and the outcome of the analysis or ISO rating.

In 2023, MCFR underwent a strategic plan update as well as an evaluation of the operation by ISO. Both reviews identified water supply and manpower as critical needs. MCFR successfully demonstrated a high proficiency to conduct water tender shuttles to provide the necessary fire flow to properly serve those properties within 5 road miles of a fire station but are without access to a fire hydrant. The official

results are still pending, but the expectation is that MCFR will improve from a 3 to a 2 for the PPC rating.

Does your department currently have a policy in place to recruit and hire veterans?

Yes

Please provide a brief description of the policy in place.

All qualified veteran applicants are provided a department interview regardless of their test scores. From all personnel interviewed, the hiring board makes recommendations to the Fire Chief based on overall qualifications.

Narrative statements

The narrative statements must provide all the information necessary for you to justify your needs and for FEMA to make an award decision. A panel of peer reviewers will perform the second phase of the applications' evaluations by using the narrative statements below to determine the worthiness of the request for an award.

Please ensure that your narrative clearly addresses each of the following evaluation criteria elements to the best of your ability with detailed but concise information. Provide only the information being requested for each element; if you provided information pertaining to the narrative elements elsewhere in the application you must still include it below. Failure to provide the information being requested may result in a lower score or the application not being funded.

Project description

Why does the department need the positions requested in this application?

MCFR is requesting \$5,897,538 to hire 18 new firefighter positions to increase staffing on the 3 ALS aerial units from 3 people to 4 people, and permanently staff 1 water tender with 1 firefighter daily in the central part of the county. The 18 new positions consist of 4 new daily staff x 3 shifts x 1.5 (factor to allow for sick/vacation/kelly day coverage) = 18 positions. In

2023, MCFR revised its strategic plan, pinpointing firefighter safety and water supply as critical short-term concerns, alongside the long-term issue of escalating response times as the county grows.

Simultaneously, MCFR was undergoing an evaluation by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) to improve the rating for the Public Protection Classification (PPC) which currently stands at 3 for those residents within 5 road miles of a fire station and access to a fire hydrant.

However, there are approximately 12,500 residents within the urban service boundary with a PPC rating of 10 that do not have access to a fire hydrant but live within the required proximity to a fire station. This puts them at risk of high homeowner's insurance premiums or the inability to secure coverage. For those residents to qualify for the improved PPC rating, MCFR successfully demonstrated a high proficiency to conduct water tender shuttles to provide the necessary fire flow to properly serve those properties. To maintain the rating and immediately address the water supply issue, MCFR began to staff a 3,000 gallon tender with overtime in the station that would benefit the most residents without hydrant protection, but also be able to efficiently serve the other areas of the County as part of the first alarm assignment. However, the financial burden of staffing the tender with overtime is not a viable solution for the long term. By adding additional manpower

and a tender to the first alarm assignment, MCFR will be able to address the water supply issue and enhance firefighter safety and efficacy on the fire ground. The department's demographic composition is undergoing a shift, with one-third of the 334 firefighters having five years of experience or less. During high-risk and high-acuity calls, it is crucial for responders to possess adequate training and experience to handle tasks efficiently and safely. Nevertheless, due to staffing shortages during the first alarm, officers are compelled to allocate additional roles and responsibilities to less-seasoned individuals, which could otherwise be distributed more evenly. This combination of limited experience and added responsibilities is creating an environment where errors and injuries are more prone to occur. An examination of firefighter injuries on the fire ground over the past year indicated that 65% of the incidents occurred due to the necessity of rushing, highlighting a shortfall in manpower and an inefficient allocation of tasks. The most frequent injuries were to the knees and ankles, often sustained while jumping off apparatus and running.

How will the positions requested in this application be used within the department? (e.g., 4th on engine, open a new station, eliminate browned out stations, reduce overtime)?

Upon securing funding for these 18 positions, MCFR will be able to recruit, train, and assign an additional team member to each of the 3 ALS aerial units serving the community. This will elevate the daily staffing level from 3

individuals to 4 on each unit. Furthermore, MCFR will be equipped to permanently assign 1 firefighter daily to a 3,000-gallon water tender stationed centrally. This location serves approximately 12,500 homeowners within the primary response area who lack fire hydrant access. The augmentation in staffing is indispensable for adhering to national safety standards and minimizing community risk by ensuring adequate water supply and optimizing crew effectiveness. MCFR's aerial units possess suppression capabilities equivalent to those of the engines within the fleet. Additionally, they undertake numerous labor-intensive responsibilities demanding advanced training and technical proficiency beyond that of our engine companies. These tasks encompass laddering buildings (including roof operations) to ensure a minimum of two means of egress, rescuing victims from elevated locations, executing ventilation operations (both vertical and horizontal), conducting search and rescue missions, and serving as rapid intervention crews. Given that these duties necessitate the Driver Engineer's presence at the aerial unit, the current three-person crew is reduced to two individuals to fulfill these functions. Incorporating a fourth team member would empower crews to execute multiple truck company tasks simultaneously and substantially alleviate the physical strain on the entire crew. Presently, the tender position is funded through

overtime, incurring an annual expenditure of nearly \$750,000, inclusive of benefits. Grant funding will enable the department to establish permanent staffing for the tender, facilitating the redirection of these funds towards maintaining the positions once the performance period concludes and the grant funding expires.

What specific services will the requested positions provide to the fire department and community?

The requested positions will provide critical services to both the fire department and the community. By ensuring the presence of adequate personnel and a reliable water supply during initial alarm responses, firefighter safety, efficiency, and effectiveness in fire suppression operations will be significantly enhanced. An incident from last year underscores the importance of such provisions. Before the tender assignment was integrated into the initial alarm response, a structure fire occurred in the center of the County within the urban service boundary, originating in an attached garage. Despite the first suppression units arriving on scene within 8 minutes, they encountered the absence of a nearby fire hydrant. Consequently, they urgently requested dispatch to send a tender. However, the units depleted their water supply before the tender's arrival, resulting in the structure being completely consumed by the fire. Fortunately, there were no casualties in this incident. Having a dedicated water supply attached to every initial alarm

response will significantly enhance fire protection for residents without immediate access to fire hydrants. Moreover, it will lead to potential financial benefits for residents through reduced homeowner's insurance premiums. The additional personnel will offer firefighters increased support, allowing for more focused objectives and clearly defined roles, thus fostering a safer work environment. Furthermore, the presence of aerial units equipped with adequate personnel will enable prompt initiation of search and rescue operations without the need to wait for additional personnel to establish the required safety protocols.

Describe how funds awarded through this grant would enhance the department's ability to protect critical infrastructure within the primary response area.

Awarded grant funds would significantly bolster MCFR's capabilities to safeguard vital infrastructure across its primary 556-square-mile response territory, which encompasses both urban and rural areas. Given that only 20% of this area benefits from fire hydrant access, the grant would address a critical need for maintaining adequate fire flow essential for protecting life, property, and the environment. MCFR's proficiency in water supply management has been validated by passing ISO's tender shuttle assessment. The grant would allow for the permanent staffing of a 3,000-gallon tender, ensuring its inclusion in initial fire response efforts, thereby broadening the scope of fire suppression capabilities across all incident locations. Adding a fourth firefighter to each aerial

unit would secure a sufficient number of personnel for responding to every structural fire incident, enhancing operational efficiency and safety. Examination of 2023 NFIRS Series 100 calls indicated perfect compliance in assembling firefighters following the early-year implementation of the tender assignment and the manual addition of a fourth position to the aerial units. Additionally, close to half of these calls would have satisfied the 8-minute response time standard, a substantial enhancement from the initial rate of 0% before these changes were made. Moreover, Martin County faces unique challenges, including the recent inauguration of a U.S. customs facility, elevating international travel, and necessitating heightened security measures. As an "At Risk County," it's vulnerable to natural calamities and the adverse effects of climate change, as evidenced by hurricanes Matthew, Irma, and Dorian. The recent introduction of a high-speed passenger train on a shared rail line, contributing to crossing fatalities and emergency response hurdles, underscores the critical need for enhanced emergency services. The grant would empower MCFR to allocate additional personnel more effectively within the first alarm response, allowing for more specialized role assignment and thereby increasing operational efficacy. Given the county's vast areas without hydrants, including

highways, rail lines, and the wildland-urban interface, a guaranteed water supply via the tender is crucial. This ensures that firefighters have the essential resources to protect infrastructure against an array of risks, furthering the department's mission to safeguard the community comprehensively.

Impact on daily operations

Explain how the community and the current firefighters employed by the department are at risk without the positions requested in this application.

MCFR is striving to meet the NFPA 1710 Standard, which recommends at least four firefighters per fire suppression unit and a minimum of 17 firefighters for effective response to structure fires involving aerial devices within eight minutes. Currently, the department averages three firefighters per unit and can assemble only 16 firefighters at a structure fire, falling short of the standard. To align with NFPA 1710 and enhance safety and effectiveness, MCFR aims to add one firefighter to each of the three aerial units and permanently staff a 3,000-gallon tender in Martin County. This will ensure sufficient water supply and meet personnel requirements for initial structure fire responses, addressing the needs of residents without hydrant access—identified by ISO with a PPC rating of 10—thus facing high insurance costs or difficulty obtaining coverage. This lack of resources puts these homeowners at a greater risk of property damage or loss of life. With over 23,000 medical calls annually, including

more than 16,000 patient transports, the rescue units' manpower, cross-trained as EMTs or Paramedics, is crucial. They assist first-arriving suppression units to comply with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) 2-in-2-out rule for entering Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) atmospheres. However, if rescue units are occupied with medical calls, search and rescue operations could be delayed until additional support arrives. The department's demographic shift, with a third of its 334 firefighters having five or fewer years of experience, exacerbates the situation. High-risk calls require proficient handling for safety and efficiency, but staffing shortages force the distribution of extra responsibilities among less experienced firefighters. This can lead to an environment where mistakes and the risk of injury are more likely. 65% of the Injuries reported in the last year on the fire ground frequently cited the need for rapid movement or rushing, often resulting in unsafe practices like jumping from equipment or running, which contradicts safety protocols. This grant would address critical staffing and resource gaps, thereby reducing risks for the community and firefighters alike by ensuring more strategic and safer fire and emergency responses.

How will that risk be reduced if awarded?

Upon receiving the ISO evaluation, the operations division of MCFR demonstrated

its ability to effectively conduct water tender shuttles. This capability enables the provision of necessary fire flow to homes beyond hydrant reach but within a 5-mile radius of a fire station, aligning their risk classification with that of properties having direct hydrant access and a PPC rating of 3. This expertise is pivotal in substantially diminishing the economic burden and risk of property damage for these homeowners. While augmenting staff on the tender through overtime has produced immediate benefits, this approach is not viable for the long term. Increasing the crew on the aerial unit to four members will cut down the time needed to achieve the OSHA-required two-person entry and exit standard for search and rescue tasks. Moreover, it will expedite the gathering of a sufficient firefighting team at the scene, addressing the shortfall in the initial alarm response for effectively managing structure fires, which present the highest risk and demand high mental focus. The prospect of a SAFER grant would equip incident command with the necessary manpower for an effective division of labor. Given the department's largely inexperienced workforce, redirecting training and focus toward achievable on-site roles will heighten the chances of success and minimize injury risks. In 2023, MCFR reported 70 injuries leading to workers' compensation claims, with 25 occurring during suppression activities on the fireground. Among these, 16 were deemed

preventable if safe work practices had been followed. This underscores the issue of personnel being stretched too thin during operations. By bolstering staffing levels and ensuring proper team assembly, incident commanders will be able to distribute tasks more evenly, thereby lessening the incidence of such injuries.

Cost benefit

Describe the benefits (e.g., quantifying the anticipated savings and/or efficiencies) the department and community will realize if awarded the positions requested in this application.

The Federal funding request of **\$5,897,358** over 3 years is **\$1,965,846** per year. If that cost is divided by the population of **Martin County Fire Rescue's** service area (158,431) that is **\$12.41** per citizen divided by 18 new firefighter positions which is 69 cents each. MCFR is already paying overtime for 1 of those positions at a cost per citizen of **\$4.73** each. With the grant award and subsequent reduction in overtime, the savings per citizen would be **\$4.04**. Homeowner's insurance rates have skyrocketed throughout the region in the last 2 years with several major providers pulling out of Florida citing environmental risks as the determining factor. By permanently staffing 1 tender without overtime in the most vulnerable part of Martin County as it pertains to water supply deficiency, nearly **12,500** residents will benefit from significant reductions in their insurance costs when their properties are recognized at a PPC rating of 3 instead of 10. Injuries among firefighters not only bear substantial financial

costs but also significantly affect operations. An incident leading to a firefighter's absence from work can burden the county with expenses running into hundreds of thousands of dollars due to health insurance claims and the need for overtime to fill the gap, with the severity and duration of the absence amplifying costs. A claim cost comparison over the last 3 years revealed that Martin County spent \$1.3 million for lost time injuries. Minimizing preventable injuries through adequate staffing for initial structure fire responses would provide considerable economic savings and benefits for county resources and firefighter well-being. Moreover, ensuring a reliable water supply for MCFR to carry out effective fire suppression is crucial for the success of operations. Enhancements in water supply, alongside the strategic increase in aerial unit staffing to bolster firefighter deployment and assembly, will significantly improve operational efficiency and safety, creating lasting positive effects on overall fire response effectiveness.

Additional information

If you have any additional information you would like to include about the department and/or this application in general, please provide below.

The Martin County Board of County Commissioners has been dedicated to ensuring the safety and success of the Martin County Fire Rescue (MCFR) department since its inception in 1994. However, ongoing and future challenges threaten the operations of MCFR, particularly in the wake of the COVID-19

pandemic. The mental health load on frontline personnel, including firefighters, was already significant before the pandemic, and studies show that many first responders are experiencing debilitating stress, leading to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Inadequate staffing is exacerbating the risk of long-term mental health issues for MCFR personnel. A recent study by the Ruderman Family Foundation found that more firefighters and police officers died by suicide in 2017 than all line-of-duty deaths combined. The study also highlighted that little has been done to address PTSD and depression in responders, even though they are five times more likely than civilians to suffer from these symptoms. By reducing the need for overtime, the addition of 18 new firefighters will help lower the stress levels of MCFR personnel and improve their mental health. As Martin County continues to grow, with plans for 2,000 new homes in the Central region alone, the need for additional firefighting personnel will only become more acute. The Board of County Commissioners recognizes the importance of providing financially sustainable solutions for increased demand for services. The SAFER support will enable MCFR to build capacity in the department, enhance its service delivery, and ultimately contribute to a safer community for all.

Position



Position: New, Additional Firefighter(s) \$5,897,538.00

What benefits are included in the annual benefits amount? You must provide details on the dollar amounts or percentages for each benefit being provided (health costs (family, employee only, employee plus one), dental, vision, FICA, life insurance, retirement/pension, etc.). Note: Failure to provide this information may result in reductions to the requested amounts.

The annual salary includes base pay plus holiday pay which is calculated by taking the hourly rate and multiplying it by 101 hours. The benefits include costs for FICA (6.2%), Medicaid (1.45%), State of Florida Retirement System Pension contribution (32.67%), and the average cost of medical coverage at \$13,372 per position (Average of 9 positions at single coverage \$7,481 and 9 at family coverage \$19,263). The assumption is that all 18 firefighters would be hired at the firefighter paramedic level and progress through the salary table as outlined in the collective bargaining unit with the firefighter's union.

How many full-time firefighter positions are you requesting? "Full-time" is considered 2,080 hours or more worked per year.

Number of firefighters

18

What are the anticipated annual costs per position, per year? Annual costs include the base salary (exclusive of non-FLSA overtime) and the standard benefits package (including the average health cost, dental, vision, FICA, life insurance, retirement/pension, etc.) offered by the fire department. To get the "average" health care costs, average the annual cost among various health insurance plans offered (i.e., self only, family, etc). Do not use figures that assume all employees will select self or family coverage.

Year	Annual Salary	Annual Benefits	Total per firefighter
1	64363.00	39323.00	\$103,686.00

Year	Annual Salary	Annual Benefits	Total per firefighter
2	68225.00	40880.00	\$109,105.00
3	72319.00	42531.00	\$114,850.00
3 YEAR TOTAL	\$5,897,538.00		

Grant request summary

Is your proposed project limited to one or more of the [following activities](#) : Planning and development of policies or processes. Management, administrative, or personnel actions. Classroom-based training. Acquisition of mobile and portable equipment (not involving installation) on or in a building.

No

EHP screening form attachment (optional)

Please download the EHP Screening form available at <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/90195>. Once you have been awarded the grant and have accepted the award, please complete and send your screening form and attachments to GPDEHPinfo@fema.dhs.gov.

Filename	Date uploaded	Uploaded by	Label	Description	Action

Budget summary

Budget summary

Object class categories	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Personnel	\$1,158,534.00	\$1,228,050.00	\$1,301,742.00	\$3,688,326.00

Object class categories	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Fringe benefits	\$707,814.00	\$735,840.00	\$765,558.00	\$2,209,212.00
Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Contractual	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Construction	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total direct charges	\$1,866,348.00	\$1,963,890.00	\$2,067,300.00	\$5,897,538.00
Indirect charges	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$1,866,348.00	\$1,963,890.00	\$2,067,300.00	\$5,897,538.00
Non-federal resources				
Applicant				\$0.00
State				\$0.00
Other sources				\$0.00
Remarks				
Total Federal and Non-federal resources				
Federal resources	\$1,866,348.00	\$1,963,890.00	\$2,067,300.00	\$5,897,538.00
Non-federal resources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$1,866,348.00	\$1,963,890.00	\$2,067,300.00	\$5,897,538.00
Program income				\$0.00

Contact information

Did any individual or organization assist with the development, preparation, or review of the application to include drafting or writing the narrative and budget, whether that person, entity, or agent is compensated

or not and whether the assistance took place prior to submitting the application?

No

Secondary point of contact

Please provide a secondary point of contact for this grant.

The Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) who submits the application will be identified as the primary point of contact for the grant. Please provide one secondary point of contact for this grant below. The secondary contact can be members of the fire department or organizations applying for the grant that will see the grant through completion, are familiar with the grant application, and have the authority to make decisions on and to act upon this grant application. The secondary point of contact can also be an individual who assisted with the development, preparation, or review of the application.

<p>Stephanie Merle OMB Director</p> <p>smerle@martin.fl.us</p>	<p>Primary phone 7724632868 Work</p> <p>Fax</p>	<p>Additional phones 7722212350 Work</p>
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Assurance and certifications

OMB number: 4040-0007, Expiration date: 02/28/2025 [View burden statement](#)

SF-424B: Assurances - Non-Construction Programs

OMB Number: 4040-0007

Expiration Date: 02/28/2025

Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have any questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books,

- papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
 4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
 5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
 6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee- 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
 7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
 8. Will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
 9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
 10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
 11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved

- State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
 13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
 14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
 15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
 16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
 17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
 18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
 19. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

Certifications regarding lobbying

OMB Number: 4040-0013

Expiration Date: 02/28/2025

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress,

- an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions.
3. The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

OMB number: 4040-0013, Expiration date: 02/28/2025 [View burden statement](#)

SF-LLL: Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

OMB Number: 4040-0013

Expiration Date: 02/28/2025

Complete only if the applicant is required to do so by 44 C.F.R. part 18. Generally disclosure is required when applying for a grant of more than \$100,000 and if any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Further, the recipient shall file a disclosure form at the end of each calendar quarter in which there occurs any event described in 44 C.F.R. § 18.110(c) that requires disclosure or that materially affects the accuracy of the information contained in any disclosure form previously filed by the applicant.

The applicant is not currently required to submit the SF-LLL.

Notice of funding opportunity

I certify that the applicant organization has consulted the appropriate Notice of Funding Opportunity and that all requested activities are programmatically allowable, technically feasible, and can be completed within the award's Period of Performance (POP).

Equal Opportunity Hiring

By signing this application, I certify that the organization will, to the extent practicable, seek, recruit, and hire members of racial and ethnic minority groups and women to increase their ranks within our organization.

By signing this application, I certify that, if awarded under the Hiring of Firefighters Activity, the organization assures a policy will be put into place, or is currently in place, ensuring that positions filled under this grant are not discriminated against, or prohibited from, engaging in volunteer firefighting activities in another jurisdiction during off-duty hours.

Accuracy of application

I certify that I represent the organization applying for this grant and have reviewed and confirmed the accuracy of all application information submitted. Regardless of intent, the submission of information that is false or misleading may result in actions by FEMA that include, but are not limited to: the submitted application not being considered for award, enforcement actions taken against an existing award pending investigation or review, or referral to the DHS Office of Inspector General.

Authorized Organizational Representative for the grant

By signing this application, I certify that I understand that inputting my password below signifies that I am the identified Authorized Organization Representative for this grant. Further, I understand that this electronic signature shall bind the organization as if the application were physically signed and filed.

Authorization to submit application on behalf of applicant organization

By signing this application, I certify that I am either an employee or official of the applicant organization and am authorized to submit this application on behalf of my organization; or, if I am not an employee or official of the applicant organization, I certify that the applicant organization is aware I am submitting this application on its behalf, that I have written authorization from the applicant organization to submit this application on their behalf, and that I have provided contact information for an employee or official of the applicant organization in addition to my contact information.