



Department
of Commerce

2021 Fire Department Joint Application Equipment Grant

Ohio Department of Commerce
Division of State Fire Marshal



December 9, 2020

Re: 2021 Fire Department Joint Applicant Equipment Grant Application

Dear Executive Official,

The Ohio Department of Commerce Division of State Fire Marshal (SFM) is pleased to announce that local units of government can combine their resources and jointly apply for the 2021 Fire Department Joint Applicant Equipment Grant.

Eligible joint applicants are small units of local governments that together intend to contract with the same fire department or private fire company to provide fire protection services for their communities. Joint applications are available online only December 16, 2020 and must be submitted no later than January 31, 2021 to be considered.

Please review the 2021 Fire Department Joint Applicant Equipment Grant Application in its entirety. We have included helpful information to assist with completing the 2021 Fire Department Joint Applicant Equipment Grant Application and Approved 2021 Equipment Worksheet.

If you have any questions or require additional assistance, please contact Ashley Campbell, Grant Program Administrator, at (800) 515-0023 or email commercegrants@com.state.oh.us.

Complete information and forms, including forms for joint applicants, can be found at: <http://www.com.ohio.gov/fire>.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Maxfield
Director, Ohio Department of Commerce

Kevin Reardon
State Fire Marshal

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2021 FIRE DEPARTMENT JOINT APPLICANT EQUIPMENT GRANT OVERVIEW

I. PURPOSE

The Ohio Department of Commerce Division of State Fire Marshal (SFM) is pleased to announce the availability of grant funding in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2021 for small units of eligible local governments that together intend to contract with the same fire department or private fire company to purchase equipment such as: firefighting or rescue equipment, or other equipment the local government may need to provide effective fire protection services. If you intend to apply as a sole applicant, please use the individual applicant form located at: <http://www.com.ohio.gov/fire>.

II. ELIGIBILITY

In accordance with the applicable rules regarding equipment grants [Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Section 1301:7-7-01(T), Ohio Fire Code (OFC) 120], as applied to this program, the following procedures will be followed by the SFM for the awards of the 2021 Fire Department Joint Applicant Equipment Grants.

For purposes of the following eligibility requirements a small municipality or small township is defined as a “duly constituted municipality or village under Title 7 of the Revised Code or township under Title 5 of the Revised Code having a population of less than 25,000 permanent residents.”

This joint applicant equipment grant application is for the small townships and/or small municipal corporations that together intend to contract with the same fire department or private fire company for fire protection services to jointly apply for an equipment grant. A small municipal corporation includes a village. A small township or small municipal corporation has a population of less than 25,000 permanent residents.

III. SPECIAL CONDITIONS FOR JOINT APPLICANTS

Purchases made with Equipment Grant funds become the property of the townships and/or municipal corporations.

The eligible recipients must agree to adhere to the following:

1. All sections of the application must be filled out completely and the required documentation must be submitted with the application. The grant application must be submitted online on or before the deadline. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered for a 2021 Fire Department Joint Applicant Equipment Grant.
2. The maximum amount of an award for each joint grant application shall be \$15,000 for equipment grants. Additional funds may be available for jurisdictions where a natural disaster has occurred during the fiscal year. (Eligible recipients may also apply for up to \$15,000 in training grants during the same state fiscal year as any equipment grants are awarded.)

3. The authorized person for each municipal corporation(s) and/or township(s) applying for this grant shall certify that the grant application is true and accurate.

2021 FIRE DEPARTMENT JOINT APPLICANT EQUIPMENT GRANT OVERVIEW

4. All applicants/associated fire departments must be in compliance with R.C. §3737.24 (Reporting Fire Incidents). The applicant/associated fire department should confirm NFIRS compliance by logging onto <https://apps.com.ohio.gov/fire/IncidentReports/> and click on “Monthly Total of ALL Incidents by FDID” prior to submitting an application. If there are discrepancies or assistance is needed, contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at (888) 243-0305 or (614) 752-7123. Applicants not in compliance with this section will be disqualified from further consideration for the grant.
5. If applicable, applicants/associated fire departments must be in compliance with R.C. Chapter 146 (Volunteer Firefighters’ Dependents Fund). If applicant/associated fire department is uncertain of their status, contact Ashley Campbell at (614) 752-7122 or CommerceGrants@Com.state.oh.us for verification or if needed, instructions on how to become compliant. Applicants not in compliance with this section will be disqualified from further consideration for the grant.
6. Upon request, items purchased with grant monies must be made available for inspection by a representative of the SFM. Because the grant involves public funds, the grant recipients must comply with all applicable laws and regulations. The grant recipients shall maintain auditable records of all charges pertaining to this grant and shall make such records available to SFM upon request.
7. Grant recipients shall not purchase requested equipment until after the grant recipient receives from the SFM a grant agreement notifying the recipient of an award, signs the grant agreement, and returns the signed grant agreement to the SFM. All variances and extensions must be submitted in writing to the State Fire Marshal and approved in advance.
8. All grant recipients shall submit to SFM copies of all paid invoices by October 1, 2021. The paid invoices shall be sent to:

Ohio Department of Commerce – Fiscal East
Grants Administration
P.O. Box 4009
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-9009
9. If a joint applicant is awarded a grant, the State Fire Marshal shall, if feasible, proportionally award the grant and any equipment purchased with grant funds to each of the joint applicants based upon each applicant’s contribution to and demonstrated need for fire protection services.

10. If the equipment to be purchased cannot be readily distributed or possessed by multiple recipients, each of the joint applicants shall be awarded by the State Fire Marshal an ownership interest in the equipment so purchased in proportion to each applicant's contribution to and demonstrated need for fire protection services. The joint applicants shall then mutually agree on how the equipment is to be maintained, operated, stored or disposed.
11. If, for any reason, the joint applicants cannot agree as to how jointly owned equipment is to be maintained, operated, stored or disposed or any of the joint applicants no longer maintain a contract with the same fire protection service provider as the other applicants, then the joint applicants shall, with the assistance of the State Fire Marshal, mutually agree as to how the jointly owned equipment is to be maintained, operated, stored, disposed or owned.
12. If the joint applicants cannot agree how the grant equipment is to be maintained, operated, stored, disposed or owned, the State Fire Marshal may, in its discretion, require all of the equipment acquired by the joint applicants with grant funds to be returned to the State Fire Marshal. The State Fire Marshal may then award the returned equipment to any eligible recipients.

IV. WHEN AND WHERE TO APPLY

The 2021 Fire Department Joint Applicant Equipment Grant application period is December 16, 2020 thru January 31, 2021. The State Fire Marshal's original application must be answered completely to be considered for grant funds and submitted online. The 2021 Joint Applicant Equipment Grant Application is available on-line only at our website:

<http://www.com.ohio.gov/fire>

There is a worksheet guidance document available for use in gathering information to submit the online application.

All applications shall be completed on line.

V. NOTIFICATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF AWARDS

Award and non-award letters will be mailed to the eligible applicant(s) in spring 2021. Grant funds will be disbursed shortly after all grant agreements have been executed and returned. Grant recipients may begin to make purchases after the executed grant agreement has been returned.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING 2021 FIRE DEPARTMENT JOINT APPLICANT EQUIPMENT GRANT APPLICATION

All equipment purchased under the provisions of the Fire Department Joint Applicant Equipment Grant must meet the applicable requirements of the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) standards, most current edition, where such standards apply. Please read the entire application and follow the instructions for each of the following items. If you have questions, please contact Ashley Campbell, Program Administrator, at (800) 515-0023 or commercegrants@com.state.oh.us

LINE BY LINE INSTRUCTIONS:

Line #

1. Identify the government entity name, address and phone number for each municipal corporation and/or township applying for this grant.
2. Fire Department Identification Number (FDID #) Enter the five (5) digit number used to identify the fire department or private fire company providing services to the applicants on the state fire incident report forms. (Please utilize the identification number of the fire department or private fire company in contract with the joint applicants to provide fire protection services on all correspondence.)
3. Enter number of full time firefighters: (In Ohio, full time paid firefighters will be members of the Police and Firemen's Pension Fund).
4. Number of firefighters who are part time or paid per call: Enter the number of firefighters who are not full time but who do receive some form of monetary compensation.
5. Number of firefighters who are not paid: Enter the number of firefighters who do not receive compensation.
6. Total combine population protected: Enter the individual and total population of the area for which the fire department or private fire company identified in item #2 of this section provides **primary fire protection** for the eligible recipients. Only include territory under contract if **primary fire protection** is provided. Do not include territories where the fire department or private fire company only responds under a mutual aid agreement to provide supplemental protection. This figure should be as accurate as possible.
7. Source of population protected figures: Indicate where you obtained the population figures. (e.g. Census or Government Agency)
8. Combined square miles protected: Enter the individual and combined total square miles of the area for which the fire department or private fire company identified in item #2 of this section will be providing **primary fire protection** for the eligible

recipients. Include territory under contract if **primary fire protection** is provided. Do not include territory where the fire department or private fire company responds under mutual aid agreement to provide supplemental protection. This figure should be as accurate as possible.

9. 2020 Total operating budget: Provide the individual and total amount of the contracts between the eligible recipients' and the fire department or private fire company identified in item #2 of this section. Do not include capital expenses for new trucks, buildings or EMS budgets.
10. Total number of fires: Provide the individual and the total number of fire incidents/calls/responses requiring a NFIRS report for November 1, 2020 thru October 31, 2021 as requested.
11. Did any of the eligible recipients receive an equipment grant from the State Fire Marshal in 2019 or 2020? If yes, check the year or years, identify the eligible recipient(s), and write the amount in the space provided. Check no if applicable.
12. Fire Incident Reports for calendar year 2020: In accordance with Ohio Fire Code 104.6.3.1: "Fire reports: The reports of fire investigations requires by sections 3737.23 and 3737.24 of the Revised Code shall be reported using coding information and procedures prescribed by the United States Fire Administration in the "National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS)" and sent to the [state] fire marshal in a manner approved by the [state] fire marshal. The applicant/associated fire department should confirm 2020 NFIRS compliance by logging onto <https://apps.com.ohio.gov/fire/IncidentReports/> and click on "Monthly Total of ALL Incidents by FDID" prior to submitting an application. If there are discrepancies or assistance is needed, contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at (888) 243-0305 or (614) 752-7123." Fire departments associated with the eligible applicants that have not submitted their fire incident reports to the State Fire Marshal for the previous calendar year, as required by the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Fire Code, will not be considered for grant funds.
13. Volunteer Firefighters' Dependents Fund (VFDF) (if applicable): When required in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code Chapter 146, each political subdivision or fire district having a fire department employing volunteer firefighters is a member of the volunteer firefighter dependents' fund and shall be in compliance. All applicants are cross referenced with the VFDF database. If applicant/associated fire department is unsure of their status, contact Ashley Campbell at (614) 752-7122 or Commercegrants@com.state.oh.us for verification or if needed instructions on how to become compliant. Non-compliant fire departments will be disqualified from receiving grants from the State Fire Marshal's office until compliant.
14. If, during the preceding or current fiscal year of the grant award, the eligible recipient is in a jurisdiction that has had a natural disaster as declared by the Governor, the recipient may receive up to \$25,000 in a fiscal year from the grant for firefighting or

rescue equipment, gear or similar items or for other fire department needs related to the provision of fire protection services. Upon review of your application, a copy of the declaration by the Government may be requested.

15. Enter the Federal Tax Identification number for each eligible recipient: Example: This number usually starts with the number "31" and will look something like this "31-1234567". Contact the financial officers listed on question 15 to obtain this number. A Federal Tax Identification number is required to receive a grant.
16. Enter the eligible recipient, financial officer name/title, address, daytime telephone number. The grant award will be sent to the financial officers for each eligible recipient.
17. Enter contact information for the individual who should be contacted during business hours (8 a.m. - 5 p.m.) within 48 hours with questions about the joint application.
18. Certification: Joint Applicants (Government Entities): The chief executive official of each of the township(s) and/or municipal corporation(s) submitting this application must complete the Certification.

*****Please retain a copy for your records.*****

**2021 FIRE DEPARTMENT JOINT APPLICANT
EQUIPMENT GRANT APPLICATION**

The State Fire Marshal's **original** application must be answered completely to be considered for grant funds on line no later than January 31, 2021 to be considered. Where applicable, list each township or municipal corporation co-applying and specific information as requested. If more than two (2) joint applicants, provide applicable information on a separate sheet of paper which includes the fire department identification number as listed in Item #2.

1. Please provide the names, addresses, and phone numbers for all applicants.
 - a. _____
Government Entity Applicant Address/City/State/Zip Daytime phone number
 - b. _____
Government Entity Applicant Address/City/State/Zip Daytime phone number
2. Fire Department Identification Number (FDID #): ___ - ___ - ___ (Example: 99-999)
Fire Department Name: _____
3. Number of full time paid firefighters associated with the eligible recipients: _____
4. Number of firefighters that are part time or paid per call: _____
5. Number of unpaid firefighters associated with the eligible recipients: _____
6. List eligible recipient and population of primary protection for each eligible recipients:
 - a. _____ 2020 population: _____
 - b. _____ 2020 population: _____Total population protected: _____
7. Source of your population figure: (check where appropriate)
 - a. _____ Census Government Agency
 Fire Department Estimate Other: (please list source) _____
 - b. _____ Census Government Agency
 Fire Department Estimate Other: (please list source) _____
8. List each eligible recipient and the total square miles of primary protection provided:
 - a. _____ square miles: _____
 - b. _____ square miles: _____Total square miles: _____

**2021 FIRE DEPARTMENT JOINT APPLICANT
APPLICANT EQUIPMENT GRANT APPLICATION**

9. 2020 Total Operating Budget. Enter the eligible recipients' 2020 contracts for fire protection services as provided by the fire department or private fire company listed in item #2 of this form. Do not include capital expenses for new trucks, buildings, or EMS budgets.

a. _____ 2020 contract amount: _____

b. _____ 2020 contract amount: _____

Total 2020 contract amount: _____

10. List the total number of fire incidents/calls/responses requiring a NFIRS report in the following categories for the calendar year 2020:

Department A

Primary Protection Area _____ Structure _____ Vehicle _____ Other _____
Mutual Aid Given _____ Structure _____ Vehicle _____ Other _____

Department B

Primary Protection Area _____ Structure _____ Vehicle _____ Other _____
Mutual Aid Given _____ Structure _____ Vehicle _____ Other _____

Total: Structure: _____ Vehicle: _____ Other: _____
Total fire incidents/calls/responses: _____

11. In the past two years, did any of the eligible recipients receive an equipment grant from the State Fire Marshal? If yes, check the year(s): 2019 2020 No

12. In accordance with the O.R.C. 3737.24, has the fire department or private fire company listed in item #2 of this form reported fire incidents to the State Fire Marshal for November 1, 2019 thru October 31, 2020? For clarification, see Instructions #13. Yes No

13. If applicable, is the fire department or private fire company listed in item #2 of this form in compliance with the Volunteer Firefighters' Dependents Fund (O.R.C. 146)? Yes No
For clarification, see Instructions #14.

14. Was the eligible recipient's fire department in a jurisdiction where the Governor declared a natural disaster? Yes No

15. List the Federal Taxpayer Identification number for each eligible recipient. (i.e. 31-1234567).

a. _____ Federal Tax Id.: _____

b. _____ Federal Tax Id.: _____

16. For each eligible recipient, print the financial officers' information.

a. _____ Eligible Recipient	Name of Financial Officer/Title	Daytime Telephone
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Address City State Zip

b. _____
Eligible Recipient Name of Financial Officer/Title Daytime Telephone

Address City State Zip

17. Print the name, daytime telephone number and email address of the individual we may contact and can respond within 48 hours with questions about this application.

Print Name of Contact Title

Daytime/Cell Telephone Email Address

CERTIFICATION

18. Applicants certify that the information contained in this application is correct to the best of knowledge and that the political subdivision represented has the intention to complete this project should the grant be awarded. Falsifying information on this application may result in rejection of the application.

Joint Applicant Name: _____

X _____
Chief Executive Official/Authorized Person Date

Chief Executive Official/Authorized Person Title

Mailing Address

City State Zip Daytime Telephone

Joint Applicant Name: _____

X _____
Chief Executive Official/Authorized Person Date

Chief Executive Official/Authorized Person Title

Mailing Address

City State Zip Daytime Telephone

*****Please retain a copy for your records.*****

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING APPROVED 2021 EQUIPMENT WORKSHEET

Approved Equipment Request

1. The purpose of the "Approved 2021 Equipment Worksheet" is to indicate the type, quantity, and cost of the requested equipment from the approved equipment list. These grant funds are intended to provide supplemental funding to meet state requirements for protective clothing and self-contained breathing apparatus as well as communications, miscellaneous tools or other fire department needs related to the provision of fire protection services. Estimates should be obtained from your supplier and itemized on the chart. This is not a matching grant and the maximum amount awarded is \$15,000. If you are awarded a grant, equipment cannot be purchased before the award letter is signed and returned by the chief executive officers. The full amount awarded must be spent in accordance with your application.

Please adhere to the following instructions when completing Approved Equipment Worksheet:

- a) Complete the requested fire departmental information; AND
- b) Indicate the unit cost, quantity, and the total price for each item chosen; AND
- c) Calculate each category's subtotal; AND
- d) For total cost calculation, add subtotals from sections I - V.

Please read all instructions and verify worksheet is complete prior to submitting. Applications must be submitted online no later than March 13, 2021.

All questions concerning the Equipment Grant should be forwarded to Ashley Campbell, Program Administrator, at 1 (800) 515-0023 or CommerceGrants@com.state.oh.us

Note: In parenthesis after some of the equipment listed on the equipment worksheet is an NFPA standard. When an NFPA standard is included in parenthesis after a particular piece of equipment, the indicated equipment purchased as part of this grant must meet this standard.

APPROVED 2021 EQUIPMENT WORKSHEET

Fire Department ID: _____ Fire Department Name: _____

Fire Department ID: _____ Fire Department Name: _____

I. Personal Protective Equipment

Name of Item	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost
Helmet (NFPA 1971, 2020 edition)			
Eye Shields (NFPA 1971, 2020 edition)			
Nomex or PBI Hood (NFPA 1971, 2020 edition)			
Bunker Coats (NFPA 1971, 2020 edition)			
Bunker Pants & Suspenders (NFPA 1971, 2020 edition)			
Boots (NFPA 1971, 2020 edition)			
Gloves – firefighting (NFPA 1971, 2020 edition)			
Washer/Dryer Units (NFPA 1851, 2021 edition covers cleaning but does not specifically set a standard for W/D)			
Other, describe:			
		Subtotal:	

II. SCBA

Name of Item	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost
Personal Alarm Safety System (PASS) Devices (NFPA 1982, 2020 edition)			
Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) (NFPA 1852, 2021 edition for Selection and NFPA 1981, 2021 edition for pack specs.)			
Individual SCBA Face piece (NFPA 1981, 2021 edition)			
SCBA Cylinders (NFPA 1981, 2021 edition)			
SCBA Voice Amplifiers (NFPA 1981, 2021 edition)			
SCBA Eye Glass Holders (NFPA 1981, 2021 edition)			
Other, describe:			
		Subtotal:	

III. Communications

Name of Item	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost
Portable Radio (P25 Compliant)			
Portable Repeaters			
Radio Interconnect System			
Portable Radio Support Equipment, including Battery Chargers and Battery Conditioners			
Mobile Radios for Fire Department vehicles (P25 Compliant)			
Pagers			
Other, describe:			
		Subtotal:	

APPROVED 2021 EQUIPMENT WORKSHEET

Fire Department ID: _____
 Fire Department ID: _____

Fire Department Name: _____
 Fire Department Name: _____

IV. Miscellaneous

Name of Item	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost
Rescue Saws/Chain Saws			
Extrication tools including spreaders, cutters, rams, etc. (N/A) (NFPA 1936, 2021 edition)			
Reciprocating Saws			
Portable Generator			
Hand Tools (Halligans, axes, pry bars, etc.)			
Ropes (Rescue & Individual Safety and Hardware) (NFPA 1983, 2019 edition)			
Hose (NFPA 1961 Fire Hose, 2021 edition & 1963 Connectors, 2020 edition)			
Nozzles (NFPA 1964, 2020 edition)			
Smoke Ejector - PPV Blower / Fan			
Portable Fire Pumps			
Portable Water Tanks			
Thermal Imaging Camera (NFPA 1801, 2020 edition)			
Gas Monitoring Device			
Portable lighting, lanterns, flashlights, etc...			
Other, describe:			
		Subtotal:	

Total Request

Name of Item	Subtotals:
I. Personal Protective Equipment	
II. SCBA	
III. Communications	
IV. Miscellaneous	
Total Cost:	

*****Please retain a copy for your records.*****

2021 FIRE DEPARTMENT JOINT APPLICANT EQUIPMENT GRANT SCORING

In accordance with the applicable rules regarding training and equipment grants, Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Section 1301:7-7-01(T), Ohio Fire Code (OFC) 120, as applied to this program, the following procedures will be followed by the Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of State Fire Marshal (SFM) for the awards of the 2021 Fire Department Joint Applicant Equipment Grants.

Joint Applicant Equipment Grant Scoring Criteria:

Based on the scoring system outlined below established by the State Fire Marshal, eligible recipients (including individual and joint applicants) will accumulate points based on specific information contained in their grant application. Applicants with the highest scores that meet eligibility requirements will be awarded grants based upon the availability of funds. In the event of a score tie, the available funds will be awarded according to the following priorities:

1. Eligible recipients with the lowest operating budget.
2. Eligible recipients with the largest protection area.
3. Eligible recipients with the largest population.

The scoring system generated for this grant cycle is calculated based upon the following:

1. Resident Population Protected: An increasing number of points are awarded for the total resident population protected up to 25,000 residents (per applicant). Applicants which serve populations greater than 25,000 will not be considered.
2. Fire Protection Area Size: An increasing number of points are awarded based on the square mile protection area for which the fire department provides primary fire protection. There is no limit to square mile protection area.
3. Operating Budget: The eligible recipients total contract/operating budget for the 2020 calendar year is included in determining points awarded. There is no minimum or maximum budget requirement however smaller budgets generally receive more points.
4. Number of fire incidents/calls/responses requiring a NFIRS report: During the applicable calendar year, an increasing number of points are awarded for a higher number of structure, vehicle and wildland fire incidents/calls/responses requiring a NFIRS report responded to in the primary fire protection area. This number must be consistent with submitted NFIRS reports.
5. Equipment Requests: Equipment requests for protective clothing and SCBA will be awarded higher points than communications and miscellaneous. If the eligible recipient does not apply for protective clothing and/or SCBA, the eligible recipient may still be awarded this grant.
6. If the eligible recipient received the SFM Equipment Grant the previous year, points are deducted from the current application. This does not disqualify an eligible recipient; however, it is intended to reduce the chances of the same eligible recipient receiving this grant each year.

*** For copies of the portions of House Bill 166 of the 133rd General Assembly that create the SFM's Equipment Grant program, Ohio Administrative Code 1301:7-7-01(T), 2020 Ohio Fire Code Section 120 (Grants administration), Chapter 146 of the Revised Code (Volunteer Firefighters Dependent's Fund), and the sections of Ohio law regulating the reporting of fires to the SFM, please go to the following website: <http://www.com.ohio.gov/fire/> or contact Ashley Campbell, Grant Program Administrator, at (800) 515-0023 or commercegrants@com.state.oh.us ***