In accordance with the applicable rules regarding training and equipment grants, Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Section1301:7-7-01(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 2017 Fire Department Individual Equipment Grants.

**Equipment Grant Scoring Criteria:**

Based on the scoring system outlined below established by the State Fire Marshal, each eligible recipient 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 recipient with the lowest operating budget.
2. Eligible recipient with the largest protection area.
3. Eligible recipient 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. Applicants consisting of “paid” fire departments serving, or joint fire districts primarily serving, municipal or township 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 eligible recipient provides primary fire protection. There is no limit to square mile protection area.

3. **Operating Budget**: The total operating budget for the 2016 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 other miscellaneous tools and equipment. 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 two years, 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 59 of the 130th General Assembly that create the SFM’s Equipment Grant program, Ohio Administrative Code 1301:7-7-01(T), 2011 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/](http://www.com.ohio.gov/fire/) or contact Julie Riffle, Senior Financial Analyst, at (800) 515-0023 or CommerceGrants@com.state.oh.us ***