



2008 Grant Application Information

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program for 2008 opens on March 3rd and closes at 5 pm on April 4th.

This year, interested applicants may submit two separate applications for consideration under each of the following two program areas:

- **Operations and Safety Program Area:** Eligible activities for fire departments and non-affiliated EMS organizations are limited to training, equipment, personal protective equipment, wellness and fitness, and modifications to facilities.
- **Vehicle Acquisition Program Area:** Eligible apparatus available to fire departments under this program area include, but are not limited to, pumpers, brush trucks, tankers/tenders, rescue vehicles, ambulances, quints, aerials, foam units, and fire boats.

We are not involved in vehicles, training, PPE, wellness & fitness, or modifications to facilities. However, we work closely with an excellent grant writer who can assist you in these areas as well as our areas of interest (communications and vehicle intercoms). His name is Reid Vaughn and you can reach him at 205-499-6905 or contact him via email at FireMarshalC502@aol.com. His rates are quite reasonable, and he gets the job done!

We have several offerings that may be of interest for the current AFG program. The first is vehicle intercoms to provide compliance with NFPA and OSHA requirements. You can have two projects within the Operations and Safety Program Area. One of those projects should be vehicle intercoms for every vehicle you have – not from the viewpoint of better communications, which is a given, but for HEARING PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION!

We have prepared simple plug in narrative and budget information which is available for your use at www.info4u.us/narrative.pdf.

There are two other project areas that may be of interest to you. The first is paging. We don't have to tell you that the cost of voice pagers now exceeds that of a personal 2-way radio or that the charger problems with Minitor V and lack of quality and performance by other brands is a problem. The good news is that there is another alternative – it's called DIGITAL paging! The pagers are smaller, less expensive, and more reliable plus every pager has message retention. We know you think such system are expensive, that they are not approved by ISO, and that the pagers are not loud enough to wake you up. That was yesterday. Today, we can address and resolve ALL these issues! Complete information is available on request by calling us at 800.489.2611 or emailing sales@falcondirect.com, and before you ask – we CAN assist with grant application preparation! In the meantime, you may want to review the information at www.info4u.us/digitalpaggers.pdf.

The second project area is radio communications. The fact is that FEMA will fund complete new digital communications systems including repeaters, mobiles, and portables. Your chances for a grant will be greatly enhanced if you apply for a federal government approved P25 digital system and we have more choices at better prices in this area than anybody! Additional information is available at www.info4u.us/migration.pdf.

We know there are other digital systems available such as 6.25 FDMA (ICOM & Kenwood), MotoTRBO, and TETRA, but there is only ONE approved by all federal agencies and only ONE meeting Department of Homeland Security, FEMA, and SAFECOM standards, and that system is P25. For additional information, please visit www.info4u.us/Just_the_facts.pdf. When you're ready, give us a call at 800.489.2611 or email sales@falcondirect.com. We can help complete your application for a brand new DIGITAL radio system!