



OREGON FIRE SERVICE CAPACITY PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE GOAL?

The goal of the 2023 Oregon Fire Service Capacity Program is to provide Oregon fire agencies with resources to augment firefighting and fire prevention staffing. These agencies protect Oregon communities and play a pivotal role in the prevention and suppression of wildfires. This grant program is intended for small to medium Oregon fire agencies to encourage an increase of permanent local firefighters and fire prevention staffing.

WHO WAS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

Local fire agencies must be an established fire district or fire department which has been assigned a Fire Department Identification number ("FDID"). Priority will be given to fire agencies with an annual budget of \$10,000,000 or less, including grants, donations, and all other sources. Local fire agencies above this budget threshold will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

WHAT WERE THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS?

See the "Eligibility and Overview" of the [2023 Oregon Fire Service Capacity Program application guide](#).

WHO WAS ON THE GRANT SELECTION COMMITTEE?

The grant selection committee was made up of a wide range of members from across the Oregon fire service. Members were from the OSFM, OFSSC, OFCA, OVFA, OFMA, and OFDDA.

WHAT WAS THE CRITERIA THE GRANT SELECTION COMMITTEE USED TO SCORE APPLICANTS?

- Fire agencies serving areas at higher risk of wildfire
- Communities with high social vulnerability
- Consideration of previous grant awards
- Statewide distribution and allocation to protect all Oregonians



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ARE THESE ONE-TIME FUNDS?

This funding increased local on-duty capacity throughout the next three years; allows agencies to quickly mobilize to fires at the local, regional, and state (conflagration) levels; and helped better prepare communities to survive wildfires. More on-duty firefighters help keep fires small before they can impact communities.

IS THIS GRANT PART OF OR AN EXTENSION OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL STAFFING GRANT FROM THE SUMMER OF 2022?

No. The Oregon Fire Service Capacity Program is a separate grant program to promote permanent capacity in the Oregon fire service.

DOES SALARY INCLUDE BENEFITS, PERS, PAYROLL COSTS, ETC.?

Yes, it does include benefits or associated personnel costs.

CAN WE USE THE GRANT TO RETAIN EMPLOYEES?

Yes, you can use the funds to help sustain the position. Be aware that part of the application (the letter of commitment) asks how you plan to sustain the position (s) beyond the grant.

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT IF I HAVE A QUESTION?

Questions regarding grant specifics from applicants who are approved or denied should be directed to the OSFM grants manager: OSFM.Grants@osp.oregon.gov