

The seal of the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal is a circular emblem. It features a central Maltese cross with a metallic, three-dimensional appearance. The cross is set against a dark blue background. The words "OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS" are written in a light blue, sans-serif font along the top arc of the circle, and "STATE FIRE MARSHAL" is written along the bottom arc. The entire seal is rendered with a slight transparency, allowing the text to be visible through it.

Office of the State Fire Marshal

2026 Update

Small Equipment Grant / FY26

Application period **August 2, 2025 – November 30, 2025**

\$26,000 grant award maximum

\$6 Million available

Last Grant period 2025:

\$26,000 grant award maximum

\$4 Million awarded

183 grant awards

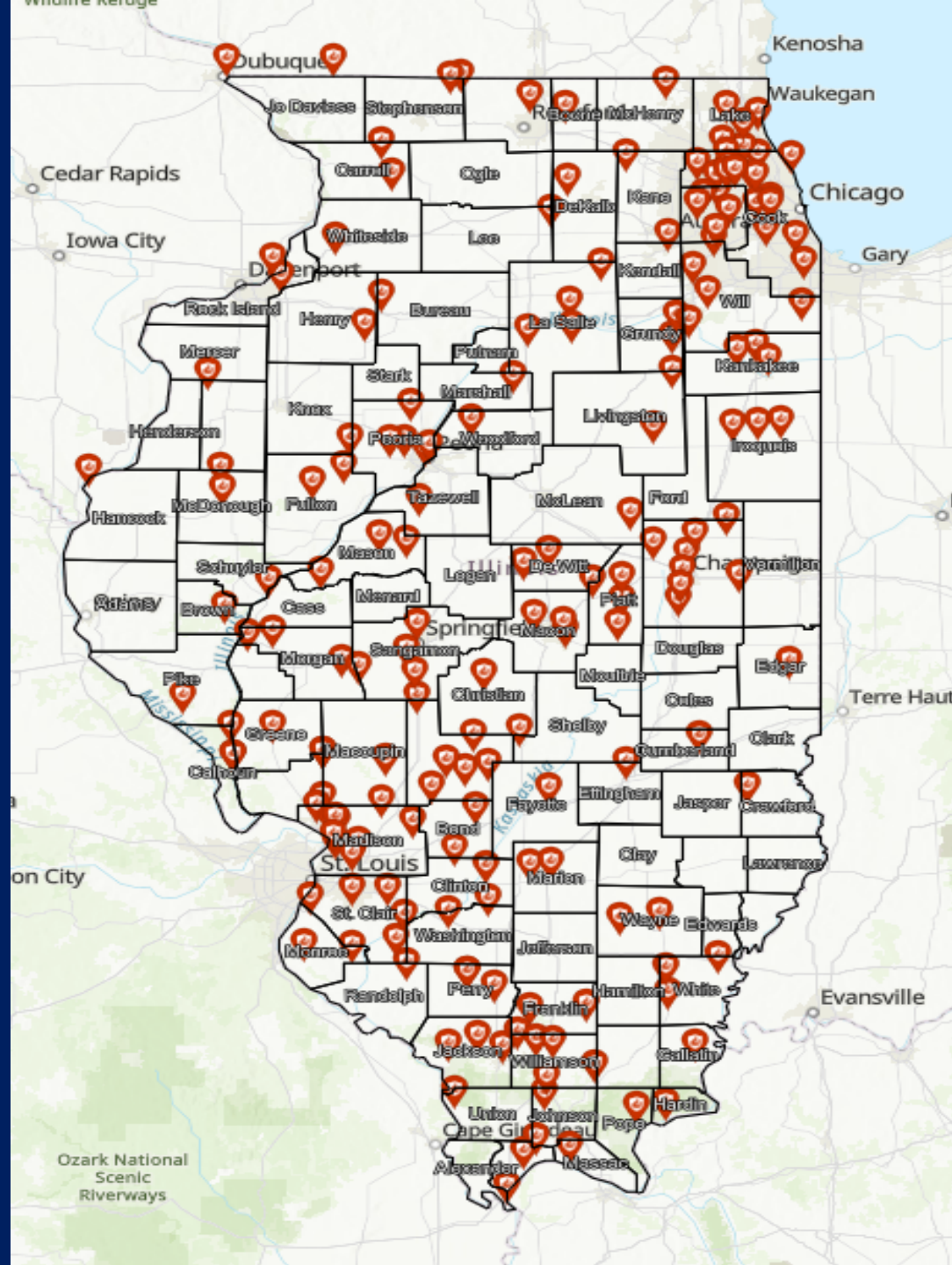
347 applications received

\$7.8 Million funding requested



Grant Awards

2025



183
Awards

\$4
Million

vs

347
Applications

\$7.8 Million
Requested



OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

James A. Rivera, State Fire Marshal

🌐 Select Language ▼



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Office of the Illinois
State Fire Marshal



Login Assistance

- If you are having problems with the login to GATA, please contact OMB.GATA@illinois.gov
- If you are having problems logging into the application system please see below:
- If you are receiving an error message when trying to log into Amplifund and apply for the Small Equipment Grant, please make sure you are using the correct link - <https://il.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/67138855-1c66-48ce-aae9-680707f42507> and logging in through the Illinois Authentication Portal.
- If you are still experiencing issues, please see the customer support contacts below:
 - AmpliFund Support:
 - AmpliFund Support Site: <https://il-amplifund.zendesk.com>
 - AmpliFund Support Email: support@il-amplifund.zendesk.com
 - AmpliFund Support Phone: (844) 407-3573

Reasons Applications are Disqualified- # 1 NFIRS Non-Compliance

NFIRS reporting issues

Requires NFIRS reporting compliance:
2 years prior to application.

Compliance list available on OSFM website
Compliance list is updated Monthly

3 main NFIRS issues causing non-compliance.

Failed imports / 3rd Party software issues

Failed to file a 'No Activity' report

Did not verify report was valid



Reasons Applications are Disqualified- # 2

GATA Compliance

- All applicants must be compliant with the requirements of the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA). This includes:
 1. Having a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) issued by the federal government through SAM.gov
 2. Having an active registration in the state Grantee Portal

Information on how to complete these requirements can be found on our website under the Resources Tab/Grants and Loans and scrolling to the Small Equipment Grant and choosing the “How To” Pre-Qualification Guide

Reasons Grants are Not Awarded - # 1 Requesting Tier 2 Items

Equipment identification (Tier 1 vs Tier 2)

Tier 1 higher priority and better chance to get

Tier 2 may be awarded, but not until after all eligible Tier 1 applications have been considered.

Reasons Grants are Not Awarded - # 1 Requesting Tier 2 Items.

- **Tier 1 examples: (not an all-inclusive list)**

- **Personal Infection Control Items examples include:**

N-95 masks	Surgical masks	Face shields	Gowns
Medical gloves	Goggles	Boot covers	Anti-microbial wipes
Infection control kits	UV disinfecting lights		

- **Fire Fighter Safety Equipment examples include:**

PPE	Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus	Cylinder tanks & fill stations
Flashlights	Hand-held radios	Thermal imaging cameras
Turnout gear washers and dryers *		

*Approval will be given for equipment only; installation costs and detergent will not be approved])

- **EMS Emergency Response Equipment examples include:**

AED machines	Cardiac monitor	Backboards	Stair chairs
Oxygen regulators / ambulance based O2 bottles		Power cots	Portable suction units

- **Vehicle Rescue Equipment examples include:**

Extrication tools	Air lifting bags	Halligan bars	Reciprocating saw blades
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Reasons Grants are Not Awarded - # 1 Requesting Tier 2 Items.

- Tier 2 examples:

- Apparatus equip Soap for washer / extractors
- Base Station Radios Software / Installation of
- Fire Hoses / Appliances Specialized Rescue equip
- Fit Testing equipment Tools for Vehicles
- Misc. Hand Tools Ventilation Fans
- Installation / Labor costs Water Rescue Suits, equip
- Insurance costs UV / Sanitizing equip / Station Use
- Mobile Vehicle Radios Warranty Costs

Reasons Grants are Not Awarded - # 2 Lack of Adequate Justification

Equipment justification is missing or incomplete

Tell us:

1. What exact equipment you are requesting
2. Why the equipment needs to be purchased or replaced
3. Why the department is unable to purchase the equipment without a grant
4. Demographic factors/trends affecting the need for the purchase
5. Any other information you believe justifies your grant request

Reasons Grants are Not Awarded - # 3

Incomplete Applications

Applications should include all information that has been requested

- Demographic Information
- Budget Information – 2 most recent years of budget and expenditures
- Revenue Information
 - Tax levies
 - Other revenues

FILL OUT THESE SECTIONS COMPLETELY

If an item is not-applicable then put N/A in the box as the application has required sections and it will not let you submit with a blank box

Common Application Mistakes

Application Name – Your Application Name should be the name of your Department

Budget Categories – Your detailed budget should be descriptive enough to determine what you are requesting. For example, “turnout gear” is not sufficient. You need to detail out what exactly you are requesting – pants, coats, boots.

Justification – Your justification should go in the DESCRIPTION Box and NOT the Narrative Box. The Narrative Box should be left BLANK.

APPLICATIONS WITH THESE OR OTHER MISTAKES WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU TO FIX

Grant Information and assistance

OSFM will be offering 2 more virtual information sessions thru WebEx for you to ask questions about your grant preparation and submission. Each Session is 1 hour

Saturday November 1, 2025 – 1600hrs.

Monday November 3, 2025 – 1400hrs.

Grant Information and assistance

Go to OSFM Home Page

Current Focus = "Small Equipment Grant Application Q&A Sessions"

Choose "More information and links to Sessions"

Follow the instructions



Grant Information and assistance

The Office has provided several valuable resources on our website to help you fill out your application. Those include:

“How To” Application Guide

“How To” Application Video

“How To” Pre-Qualification Guide

You are encouraged to utilize these resources. They walk you through how to pre-qualify for the grant and how to fill out the grant application. Many of your questions can be answered with these guides.

Any Questions or concerns contact OSFM

Application Process Questions / Assistance

Roger Branson

Phone 217-785-4717

roger.d.branson@illinois.gov

NFIRS Questions / Assistance

Lee Buxton

Phone 217-785-1030

Lee.Buxton@illinois.gov



NFIRS Website

All applications are accessed at:

<https://nfirs.fema.gov/NFIRSWeb/login>

Microsoft Edge is the recommended web browser.
Incidents can be directly created here.

Bulk Importing from a third-party Report Management Software:

After you submit your files, you will see a notification that your files were “Uploaded Successfully”.

This only means the file has been uploaded for processing, it does **NOT** mean the reports have been successfully imported.

You will receive an email from NFIRSBulkImport@dhs.gov with a link to a zipped folder that contains the results of what was accepted.



NFIRS Compliance

Your NFIRS data must be current to be eligible for grant and loan programs!

Compliance for the Small Equipment Grant: You must be in compliance from **November 1st, 2023, to October 31, 2025**, to qualify.

Link to the compliance report on our website:

<https://sfm.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/sfm/sfmdocuments/documents/publications/nfirs-compliance-report/nfirs-monthly-compliance-report.pdf>

How to read the compliance report:

1. If any of your months are in red, this means you are not in compliance.
2. Your number of incidents should be consistent. (Example: All months show 500, but 1 month only shows 2. This means your incidents did not upload successfully for that month.)

NFIRS Website

- **No Activity:**
- Click on “Create Incident.” Check the “No Activity” box. Add 0000000 as the incident number, and set the incident date to the last day of the month with no activity. Click Save, and you’re good to go!

Create Incident

*Red asterisk (*****) indicates a field is required.*

Key Information

☒ No Activity

Incident Number *	Incident Date *	Exposure Number *
0000001	11/01/2024	000
Fire Department State *	Station	
Illinois	Station	
Fire Department ID *		
BD194:Malden FPD		

Incident Details

Key Information

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[Create Exposure](#) [PDF](#)

OMB no: [1660-0069](#)

Expiration date: June 30, 2024

Incident History

Last Exported Date:
Incident Last Updated:
Last Saved By:
Original Save Date:
Originally Saved By:

We're here to help. Send your questions to SFM.Nfirshelp@illinois.gov