

ASSISTANCE TO FIRE FIGHTERS GRANT PROGRAM (AFGP)

2005 AFG Program Workshop Schedule Released

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program has posted initial information for the 2005 Fire Grants on their website at <http://www.firegrantsupport.com>. Applicants for the competitive Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program may access a number of support items at this Web site that are designed to explain the program and provide assistance in completing the online application. The program is designed to assist local fire departments in protecting citizens and firefighters against the effects of fire and fire-related incidents.

This year, the Congress has appropriated over \$600M specifically for Fire Grants. The application period is tentatively scheduled for March 7 to April 8. In the coming days and weeks, the AFG Program expects to revise and update the schedule, as new locations are added or currently scheduled workshops are amended. Potential applicants are encouraged to check this website from time to time to verify information in the schedule.

The Fire Grants for this year are very similar to those from last year. There is little change. One change is that the Congress has directed the program office to award a limited number of grants (on a competitive basis) to Emergency Medical Service (EMS) organizations that are not affiliated with a fire department.

Questions about the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program may be directed by electronic mail to firegrants@dhs.gov, or you may call the toll free number at 1-866-274-0960.

WORKSHOPS: Information will be presented on the program and on the application process. Also, general assistance in the writing of a competitive narrative for a department's grant application will be discussed. Each workshop is approximately 2 hours in length and the content will be the same at all sites, with the exception of specific questions that are asked.

Workshops in Nebraska are scheduled as follows and all workshops begin at 7:00 pm:

February 19 **Grand Island** – Howard Johnson Riverside Inn, 3333 Ramada Road
Contact person: Joe D. Hanson 308.385.6893 or jhanson@sfm.state.ne.us

February 21 **North Platte** – Holiday Inn Express & Convention Center – 300 Holiday Frontage Road
Contact person: Joe D. Hanson 308.385.6893 or jhanson@sfm.state.ne.us

February 23 **Lincoln** – Lincoln Fire Fighters Reception Hall, 241 Victory Lane
Contact person: Joe D. Hanson 308.385.6893 or jhanson@sfm.state.ne.us

February 24 **South Sioux City** – South Sioux City-North Fire Station, 201 West 16th Street
Contact person: Joe D. Hanson 308.385.6893 or jhanson@sfm.state.ne.us

If anyone has questions, they can call the State Fire Marshal Training Division at 308.385.6893 or email Joe D. Hanson at jhanson@sfm.state.ne.us, or you can call Rex Jennings at 816.260.1327 or email at Rex.Jennings@dhs.gov