



# Assistance to Firefighters Program: Distribution of Fire Grant Funding

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## Summary

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program, also known as fire grants or the FIRE Act grant program, was established by Title XVII of the FY2001 National Defense Authorization Act (P.L. 106-398). Currently administered by the Grant Programs Directorate of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the program provides federal grants directly to local fire departments and unaffiliated Emergency Medical Services (EMS) organizations to help address a variety of equipment, training, and other firefighter-related and EMS needs. A related program is the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Firefighters (SAFER) program, which provides grants for hiring, recruiting, and retaining firefighters.

The fire grant program is now in its ninth year. Over \$4.8 billion has been appropriated to the fire grant program since FY2001. The Fire Act statute was reauthorized in 2004 (Title XXXVI of P.L. 108-375) and provides overall guidelines on how fire grant money should be distributed. There is no set geographical formula for the distribution of fire grants—fire departments throughout the nation apply, and award decisions are made by a peer panel based on the merits of the application and the needs of the community. However, the law does require that fire grants be distributed to a diverse mix of fire departments, with respect to type of department (paid, volunteer, or combination), geographic location, and type of community served (e.g. urban, suburban, or rural).

On February 17, 2009, the President signed P.L. 111-5, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. The ARRA included an additional \$210 million in firefighter assistance grants for modifying, upgrading, or constructing state and local non-federal fire stations, provided that 5% be set aside for program administration and provided that no grant shall exceed \$15 million. The ARRA also included a provision that waives the matching requirement for SAFER grants in fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

For FY2010, the Obama Administration is proposing \$170 million for fire grants, a 70% decrease from the FY2009 level, and \$420 million for SAFER, double the amount appropriated in FY2009. The total amount requested for firefighter assistance (AFG and SAFER) is \$590 million, a 24% decrease from FY2009.

The Obama Administration's FY2010 budget proposal for firefighter assistance is likely to receive heightened scrutiny from the fire community, given what was viewed as inadequate past budget proposals by the Bush Administration, and given the national economic downturn and local budgetary cutbacks that many fire departments are now facing. Concerns over local fire departments' budgetary problems may also frame debate of the assistance to firefighters grant program reauthorization bill, which is expected to be considered during the first session of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress.

This report will be updated as events warrant.

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## Background

Firefighting activities are traditionally the responsibility of states and local communities. As such, funding for firefighters is provided mostly by state and local governments. During the 1990s, shortfalls in state and local budgets, coupled with increased responsibilities of local fire departments, led many in the fire community to call for additional financial support from the federal government. While federally funded training programs existed (and continue to exist) through the National Fire Academy, and while federal money was available to first responders for counterterrorism training and equipment through the Department of Justice,<sup>1</sup> there did not exist a dedicated program, exclusively for firefighters, which provided federal money directly to local fire departments to help address a wide variety of equipment, training, and other firefighter-related needs.

## Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program

During the 106<sup>th</sup> Congress, many in the fire community asserted that local fire departments require and deserve greater support from the federal government. The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG), also known as fire grants or the FIRE Act grant program, was established by Title XVII of the FY2001 National Defense Authorization Act (P.L. 106-398).<sup>2</sup> Currently administered by the Grant Programs Directorate of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the program provides federal grants directly to local fire departments and unaffiliated Emergency Medical Services (EMS) organizations to help address a variety of equipment, training, and other firefighter-related and EMS needs.

## Reauthorization

On October 28, 2004, the President signed the FY2005 National Defense Authorization Act (P.L. 108-375). Title XXXVI of P.L. 108-375 is the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program Reauthorization Act of 2004, which reauthorizes the fire grant program through FY2009. **Table 1** provides a summary of key provisions of the current reauthorization.

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<sup>1</sup> For a list of federal programs providing assistance to state and local first responders, see CRS Report RL32348, *Selected Federal Homeland Security Assistance Programs: A Summary*, by Shawn Reese.

<sup>2</sup> “Firefighter assistance” is codified as section 33 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2229).

**Table I. Major Provisions of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program Reauthorization Act**

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Grant recipient limits:

- populations over 1 million—lesser of \$2.75 million or 0.5% of total appropriation
- populations of 500K to 1 million—\$1.75 million
- populations under 500K—\$1 million
- no single grant can exceed 0.5% of total funds appropriated for a single fiscal year

DHS can waive the funding limits for populations up to 1 million in instances of extraordinary need; however the lesser of \$2.75 million or 0.5% limit cannot be waived

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Nonfederal match requirements:

- 20% for populations over 50K
- 10% for populations 20K to 50K
- 5% for populations less than 20K
- No match requirement for non-fire department prevention and firefighter safety grants

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Authorized for five years:

- FY2005—\$900 million
- FY2006—\$950 million
- FY2007—\$1 billion
- FY2008—\$1 billion
- FY2009—\$1 billion

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Expands grant eligibility to emergency medical service squads, not less than 3.5% of fire grant money for EMS, but no more than 2% for nonaffiliated EMS

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Provides grants for firefighter health and safety R&D

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Requires the USFA Administrator to convene an annual meeting of non-federal fire service experts to recommend criteria for awarding grants and administrative changes

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Requires fire service peer review of grant applications

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Requires the USFA, in conjunction with the National Fire Protection Association, to conduct a \$300,000, 18-month study on the fire grant program and the need for federal assistance to state and local communities to fund firefighting and emergency response activities

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**Source:** Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program Reauthorization Act of 2004, Section XXXVI of P.L. 108-375, FY2005 National Defense Authorization Act

## Appropriations

From FY2001 through FY2003, the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program (as part of USFA/FEMA) received its primary appropriation through the VA-HUD-Independent Agencies Appropriation Act. In FY2004, the Assistance to Firefighters Program began to receive its annual appropriation through the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Homeland Security. The fire grant program is in its ninth year. **Table 2** shows the appropriations history for firefighter assistance, including AFG, SAFER, and the fire station construction grants provided in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Over \$4.8 billion has been appropriated to the AFG program since FY2001, its initial year. **Table 3** shows recent and proposed appropriated funding for the AFG and SAFER grant programs.

**Table 2. Appropriations for Firefighter Assistance, FY2001-FY2009**

	<b>AFG</b>	<b>SAFER</b>	<b>ARRA<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>Total</b>
FY2001	\$100 million			<b>\$100 million</b>
FY2002	\$360 million			<b>\$360 million</b>
FY2003	\$745 million			<b>\$745 million</b>
FY2004	\$746 million			<b>\$746 million</b>
FY2005	\$650 million	\$65 million		<b>\$715 million</b>
FY2006	\$539 million	\$109 million		<b>\$648 million</b>
FY2007	\$547 million	\$115 million		<b>\$662 million</b>
FY2008	\$560 million	\$190 million		<b>\$750 million</b>
FY2009	\$565 million	\$210 million	\$210 million	<b>\$985 million</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4.812 billion</b>	<b>\$689 million</b>	<b>\$210 million</b>	<b>\$5.711 billion</b>

a. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (P.L. 111-5) provided \$210 million in the firefighter assistance account for fire station construction grants.

**Table 3. Recent and Proposed Appropriations for Firefighter Assistance**

(millions of dollars)

	<b>FY2008 (P.L. 110-161)</b>	<b>FY2009 Admin. request</b>	<b>FY2009 (P.L. 110-329)</b>	<b>FY2010 Admin. request</b>
FIRE Grants (AFG)	560	300	565	170
SAFER Grants	190	0	210	420
<b>Total</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>590</b>

## FY2009

The Bush Administration proposed \$300 million for fire grants in FY2009, a 46% cut from the FY2008 level of \$560 million. No funding was proposed for SAFER grants. The total request for firefighter assistance was 60% below the FY2008 level for fire and SAFER grants combined. According to the budget justification, “the Administration believes that \$287 million is an appropriate level of funding given the availability of significant amounts of funding for first responder preparedness missions from other DHS grant programs which are coordinated with state and local homeland security strategies and, unlike AFG, are allocated on the basis of risk.” Priority would be given to applications that enhance capabilities needed for terrorism response and other major incidents. Funding would only be available for critical response equipment, training, and personal protective gear, and would not be available for wellness/fitness activities or modifications to facilities for firefighter safety.

On June 19, 2008, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved the FY2009 appropriations bill for the Department of Homeland Security (S. 3181; S.Rept. 110-396). The bill would provide

\$750 million for firefighter assistance, including \$560 million for fire grants and \$190 million for SAFER grants. This is the same funding level approved for FY2008. The Committee directed DHS to continue the present practice of funding applications according to local priorities and those established by the U.S. Fire Administration, and further directed DHS to continue direct funding to fire departments and the peer review process. Additionally, \$3 million was made available for foam firefighter equipment used in remote areas.

On June 24, 2008, the House Appropriations Committee approved its version of the FY2009 appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security, and reported its bill on September 18, 2008 (H.R. 6947; H.Rept. 110-862). The Committee would provide \$800 million for firefighter assistance, consisting of \$570 million for fire grants and \$230 million for SAFER grants. The Committee directed FEMA to continue granting funds directly to local fire departments and to include the U.S. Fire Administration during the grant administration process, while also maintaining an all-hazards focus and not limiting the list of eligible activities. The Committee would continue the requirement that FEMA peer review grant applications that meet criteria established by FEMA and the fire service, rank order applications according to peer review, fund applications according to their rank order, and provide official notification detailing why applications do not meet the criteria for review. The Committee also directed FEMA to encourage regional applications.

The Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009 (P.L. 110-329)—which contains the FY2009 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act—provided \$775 million for firefighter assistance, including \$565 million for fire grants and \$210 million for SAFER. The DHS explanatory statement directed FEMA to continue the present practice of funding applications according to local priorities and those established by the USFA.

## **FY2010**

For FY2010, the Obama Administration is proposing \$170 million for AFG, a 70% decrease from the FY2009 level, and \$420 million for SAFER, double the amount appropriated in FY2009. The total amount requested for firefighter assistance (AFG and SAFER) is \$590 million, a 24% decrease from FY2009. The FY2010 budget proposal states that the firefighter assistance grant process “will give priority to applications that enhance capabilities for terrorism response and other major incidents.”<sup>3</sup>

## **Fire Station Construction Grants in the ARRA**

Since its inception, the traditional fire grant program has provided money specifically for health and safety related modifications of fire stations, but has not funded major upgrades or construction. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 (P.L. 111-5) provided an additional \$210 million in firefighter assistance grants for modifying, upgrading, or constructing state and local non-federal fire stations, provided that 5% be set aside for program administration and provided that no grant shall exceed \$15 million. The Conference Report (H.Rept. 111-16) cites DHS estimates that this spending will create 2,000 jobs. The ARRA also

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<sup>3</sup> Office of Management and Budget, *Appendix: Budget of the United States Government, FY2010*, p. 547.

included a provision (section 603) that waives the matching requirement for SAFER grants funded by appropriations in fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

ARRA fire station construction grants will be implemented as a competitive grant program using the existing AFG online grants management system, and will likely draw upon the existing programmatic structure of the AFG program. DHS is currently developing regulations for the new program, and is working towards opening an application period in the early summer of 2009.

## SAFER Grants

In response to concerns over the adequacy of firefighter staffing, the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress enacted the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Act as Section 1057 of the FY2004 National Defense Authorization Act (P.L. 108-136; signed into law November 24, 2003). The SAFER grant program is codified as Section 34 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2229a). The SAFER Act authorizes grants to career, volunteer, and combination fire departments for the purpose of increasing the number of firefighters to help communities meet industry minimum standards and attain 24-hour staffing to provide adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards. Also authorized are grants to volunteer fire departments for activities related to the recruitment and retention of volunteers. P.L. 108-136 authorizes over one billion dollars per year through FY2010 for SAFER.

Two types of grants are authorized by the SAFER Act: hiring grants and recruitment and retention grants. *Hiring grants* cover a four-year term and are cost-shared with the local jurisdiction. According to the statute, the federal share shall not exceed 90% in the first year of the grant, 80% in the second year, 50% in the third year, and 30% in the fourth year. The grantee must commit to retaining the firefighter or firefighters hired with the SAFER grant for at least one additional year after the federal money expires. Total federal funding for hiring a firefighter over the four-year grant period may not exceed \$100,000, although that total may be adjusted for inflation. While the majority of hiring grants will be awarded to career and combination fire departments, the SAFER Act specifies that 10% of the total SAFER appropriation be awarded to volunteer or majority-volunteer departments for the hiring of personnel.

Additionally, at least 10% of the total SAFER appropriation is set aside for *recruitment and retention grants*, which are available to volunteer and combination fire departments for activities related to the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters. Also eligible for recruitment and retention grants are local and statewide organizations that represent the interests of volunteer firefighters. No local cost sharing is required for recruitment and retention grants.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (P.L. 111-5) included a provision (section 603) that waives the matching requirement for SAFER grants in fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

**Table 4** shows the SAFER program's appropriations history. \$479 million has been appropriated to the SAFER program since FY2005, its initial year. For more information on the SAFER program, see CRS Report RL33375, *Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response: The SAFER Grant Program*, by Lennard G. Kruger.

**Table 4. Appropriations for SAFER Program, FY2005-FY2009**

<b>Fiscal year</b>	<b>Appropriation</b>
FY2005	\$65 million
FY2006	\$109 million
FY2007	\$115 million
FY2008	\$190 million
FY2009	\$210 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$689 million</b>

## Program Evaluation

On May 13, 2003, the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) released the first independent evaluation of the Assistance to Firefighters Program. Conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Leadership Development Academy Executive Potential Program, the survey study presented a number of recommendations and concluded overall that the program was “highly effective in improving the readiness and capabilities of firefighters across the nation.”<sup>4</sup> Another evaluation of the fire grant program was released by the DHS Office of Inspector General in September 2003. The report concluded that the program “succeeded in achieving a balanced distribution of funding through a competitive grant process,”<sup>5</sup> and made a number of specific recommendations for improving the program.

At the request of DHS, the National Academy of Public Administration conducted a study to help identify potential new strategic directions for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program and to provide advice on how to effectively plan, manage, and measure program accomplishments. Released in April 2007, the report recommended consideration of new strategic directions related to national preparedness, prevention vs. response, social equity, regional cooperation, and emergency medical response. According to the report, the “challenge for the AFG program will be to support a gradual shift in direction without losing major strengths of its current management approach—including industry driven priority setting and its well-respected peer review process.”<sup>6</sup>

The Administration’s FY2008 budget proposal was accompanied by program evaluations called the Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART). For assessment year 2007, PART gave the fire grant program a rating of “Effective,” (an improvement from the previous rating of “Results Not Demonstrated”). The PART directed DHS to embark on an improvement plan encompassing three

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<sup>4</sup> For full report see <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/affgp-fy01-usda-report.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> Department of Homeland Security, Office of Inspections, Evaluations, and Special Reviews, “A Review of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program,” OIG-ISP-01-03, September 2003, p. 3. Available at [http://www.dhs.gov/xoig/assets/mgmt/rpts/OIG\\_Review\\_Fire\\_Assist.pdf](http://www.dhs.gov/xoig/assets/mgmt/rpts/OIG_Review_Fire_Assist.pdf).

<sup>6</sup> National Academy of Public Administration, *Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program: Assessing Performance*, April 2007, p. xvii. Available at [http://www.napawash.org/pc\\_management\\_studies/Fire\\_Grants\\_Report\\_April2007.pdf](http://www.napawash.org/pc_management_studies/Fire_Grants_Report_April2007.pdf).

elements: establishing a continuing strategic planning process, improving program transparency, and increasing outreach.<sup>7</sup>

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-161), in the accompanying Joint Explanatory Statement, directed the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to review the application and award process for fire and SAFER grants. Additionally, FEMA was directed to peer review grant applications that best address the program's priorities and criteria as established by FEMA and the fire service. Those criteria necessary for peer-review must be included in the grant application package. Applicants whose grant applications are not reviewed must receive an official notification detailing why the application did not meet the criteria for review. Applications must be rank-ordered, and funded following the rank order.

## **Distribution of Fire Grants**

The FIRE Act statute prescribes 14 different purposes for which fire grant money *may* be used (see 15 U.S.C. 2229(b)(3)). These are: hiring firefighters; training firefighters; creating rapid intervention teams; certifying fire inspectors; establishing wellness and fitness programs; funding emergency medical services; acquiring firefighting vehicles; acquiring firefighting equipment; acquiring personal protective equipment; modifying fire stations for health and safety; enforcing fire codes; funding fire prevention programs; educating the public about arson prevention and detection; and providing incentives for the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters. The DHS has the discretion to decide which of those purposes will be funded for a given grant year. Since the program commenced in FY2001, the majority of fire grant funding has been used by fire departments to purchase firefighting equipment, personal protective equipment, and firefighting vehicles.

Eligible applicants are limited primarily to fire departments (defined as an agency or organization that has a formally recognized arrangement with a state, local, or tribal authority to provide fire suppression, fire prevention and rescue services to a population within a fixed geographical area). Emergency Medical Services (EMS) activities are eligible for fire grants, including a limited number (no more than 2% of funds allocated) to EMS organizations not affiliated with hospitals. Additionally, a separate competition is held for fire prevention and firefighter safety research and development grants, which are available to national, state, local, or community fire prevention or safety organizations (including, but not limited to, fire departments). For official program guidelines, frequently-asked-questions, the latest awards announcements, and other information, see the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program web page at <http://www.firegrantsupport.com/>.

The FIRE Act statute provides overall guidelines on how fire grant money will be distributed and administered. The law directs that volunteer departments receive a proportion of the total grant funding that is not less than the proportion of the U.S. population that those departments protect (currently 55%). The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program Reauthorization Act of 2004 (Title XXXVI of P.L. 108-375) raised award caps and lowered nonfederal matching requirements (based on recipient community population), extended eligibility to nonaffiliated emergency

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<sup>7</sup> Office of Management and Budget, [ExpectMore.gov](http://ExpectMore.gov), Detailed Information on the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Grants and Training Office Assistance to Firefighters Grants Assessment, Assessment Year 2007, available at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/expectmore/detail/10001071.2007.html>.

medical services (i.e. ambulance services not affiliated with fire departments), and expanded the scope of grants to include firefighter safety R&D.

There is no set geographical formula for the distribution of fire grants—fire departments throughout the nation apply, and award decisions are made by a peer panel based on the merits of the application and the needs of the community. However, the law does require that fire grants should be distributed to a diverse mix of fire departments, with respect to type of department (paid, volunteer, or combination), geographic location, and type of community served (e.g. urban, suburban, or rural).<sup>8</sup> The Fire Act's implementing regulation provides that:

In a few cases, to fulfill our obligations under the law to make grants to a variety of departments, we may also make funding decisions using rank order as the preliminary basis, and then analyze the type of fire department (paid, volunteer, or combination fire departments), the size and character of the community it serves (urban, suburban, or rural), and/or the geographic location of the fire department. In these instances where we are making decisions based on geographic location, we will use States as the basic geographic unit.<sup>9</sup>

According to the FY2009 Program Guidance for the Assistance to Firefighters Program, career (paid) departments will compete against other career departments for up to 45% of the available funding, while volunteer and combination departments will compete for at least 55% of the available funding.<sup>10</sup> However, given that less than 10% of fire grant applications are historically received from career departments, funding levels are likely not to reach the 45% ceiling for career departments. Additionally, each fire department that applies is classified as either urban, suburban, or rural. In FY2005, 4.3% of the total number of fire grant awards went to urban areas, 17.8% to suburban areas, and 77.7% to rural areas. Of the total amount of federal funding awarded, 7.7% went to urban areas, 18.2% to suburban areas, and 73.9% to rural areas.<sup>11</sup>

Finally, in an effort to maximize the diversity of awardees, the geographic location of an applicant (using states as the basic geographic unit) is used as a deciding factor in cases where applicants have similar qualifications. **Table 5** shows a state-by-state breakdown of fire grant funding for FY2001 through FY2007, while **Table 6** shows a state-by-state breakdown of SAFER grant funding for FY2005 through FY2007. **Table 7** provides an in-depth look at the FY2007 fire grants, showing, for each state, the number of fire departments in each state,<sup>12</sup> the number of fire grant applications, the total amount requested, the total amount awarded, and the amount of funds awarded as a percentage of funds requested. As **Table 7** shows, the entire pool of fire department applicants received, to date, about 16% of the funds they requested in FY2007. This is down from 21% in FY2006, 22% in FY2005, 28% in FY2004, and 34% in FY2003. This reflects the fact that

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<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 2229(b)(9).

<sup>9</sup> 44 CFR Part 152.6(c).

<sup>10</sup> For the FY2008 round of awards, no less than 34% of AFG funds must be awarded to combination departments, and no less than 21% of AFG funds must be awarded to all-volunteer departments. See Department of Homeland Security, *Fiscal Year 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grants: Guidance and Application Kit*, April 2009, p. 25.

<sup>11</sup> Department of Homeland Security, Grant Programs Directorate, Grant Development and Administration Division, *Report on Fiscal Year 2006 Assistance to Firefighters Grants*, p. 11.

<sup>12</sup> The fire grant program sets a limit of up to three applications per fire department per year (a vehicle application, an application for operations and safety, and a regional application). Thus, the number of fire departments in a state plays a major factor in the number of fire grant applications submitted and the amount of total funding awarded within a given state. For example, because Pennsylvania has—by far—the largest number of fire departments, it is not surprising that it leads the nation in the number of fire grants applications and the amount of funding awarded.

the number of applications and federal funds requested have trended upward over these years, while appropriations for the fire grant program have declined over the same period.

## Issues in the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress

The Obama Administration's FY2010 budget proposal for firefighter assistance is likely to receive heightened scrutiny from the fire community, given what was viewed as inadequate past budget proposals by the Bush Administration, and given the national economic downturn and local budgetary cutbacks that many fire departments are now facing. Concerns over local fire departments' budgetary problems may also frame debate of the assistance to firefighters grant program reauthorization bill, which is expected to be considered during the first session of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress. Possible reauthorization issues might include whether the scope and size of the program should be altered, as well as how grant allocation rules and criteria might be modified.

**Table 5. State-by-State Distribution of Fire Grants,  
FY2001-FY2007**

(millions of dollars)

	<b>FY2001</b>	<b>FY2002</b>	<b>FY2003</b>	<b>FY2004</b>	<b>FY2005</b>	<b>FY2006</b>	<b>FY2007</b>	<b>Total</b>
AL	3.085	12.503	23.329	25.097	20.836	22.027	19.903	126.78
AK	1.303	2.641	5.242	2.522	3.111	0.754	2.454	18.027
AZ	1.37	3.6	7.490	9.808	7.905	4.041	4.932	39.146
AR	1.337	4.635	10.675	13.680	10.402	7.699	7.799	56.227
CA	5.905	18.978	30.060	29.793	25.631	17.856	18.730	146.953
CO	1.003	3.968	6.168	5.585	6.073	3.213	4.742	30.752
CT	1.828	4.675	10.841	9.991	7.287	5.479	6.630	46.731
DE	0.132	0.372	1.096	1.755	1.161	1.107	0.518	6.141
DC	0	0.22	0	0	0.453	0	0.376	1.049
FL	2.865	10.16	16.344	15.969	17.922	6.787	8.288	78.335
GA	2.375	6.079	13.791	11.857	10.168	8.887	9.068	62.225
HI	0	1.182	0.947	0.864	1.205	0.264	0.436	4.898
ID	0.916	2.744	6.001	4.828	4.684	2.712	4.297	26.182
IL	2.417	13.398	28.810	27.238	25.433	21.120	21.923	140.339
IN	2.703	8.739	20.456	18.646	15.779	14.447	13.831	94.601
IA	1.301	7.284	16.087	16.430	13.119	10.064	9.298	73.583
KS	1.153	5.118	10.850	10.211	7.165	4.984	5.502	44.983
KY	2.215	7.896	19.832	16.150	14.215	13.308	13.081	86.697
LA	3.344	10.084	12.248	11.101	11.630	6.935	5.473	60.815
ME	1.296	4.319	10.323	10.031	6.124	6.702	5.486	44.281
MD	0.739	4.08	8.153	10.227	8.771	10.368	7.712	50.05
MA	2.301	8.386	15.715	13.958	13.529	8.957	11.644	74.49

*Assistance to Firefighters Program: Distribution of Fire Grant Funding*

	<b>FY2001</b>	<b>FY2002</b>	<b>FY2003</b>	<b>FY2004</b>	<b>FY2005</b>	<b>FY2006</b>	<b>FY2007</b>	<b>Total</b>
MI	2.815	8.948	17.247	20.005	15.088	15.798	15.399	95.3
MN	2.133	8.149	17.510	18.609	14.894	14.718	16.600	92.613
MS	1.763	6.755	15.679	11.329	9.856	7.885	8.052	61.319
MO	3.079	10.291	19.573	17.757	14.246	13.202	10.611	88.759
MT	1.164	3.726	8.361	7.271	6.656	5.839	7.330	40.347
NE	1.034	2.392	7.820	6.577	5.116	4.399	4.443	31.781
NV	0.282	1.446	3.312	1.405	1.946	0.857	1.530	10.778
NH	0.594	1.887	4.584	5.694	4.563	3.307	3.219	23.848
NJ	2.596	6.339	19.982	16.488	14.691	12.386	13.266	85.748
NM	1.455	3.463	5.048	3.653	2.259	1.461	1.367	18.706
NY	3.978	14.728	34.320	35.030	36.009	33.804	22.664	180.533
NC	1.949	10.239	22.864	22.360	19.315	18.309	20.031	115.067
ND	0.546	2.613	5.105	3.391	2.673	2.459	3.100	19.887
OH	2.731	13.742	26.997	29.107	27.344	25.380	26.433	151.734
OK	1.864	4.939	10.540	10.393	8.757	10.852	7.220	54.565
OR	1.596	4.892	9.896	10.122	10.014	9.288	5.943	51.751
PA	2.89	16.97	45.179	47.898	39.233	41.259	43.610	237.039
RI	0.407	1.507	2.327	1.917	2.129	2.025	0.855	11.167
SC	1.554	5.257	11.832	14.150	10.544	8.028	10.470	61.835
SD	0.904	3.142	5.602	4.693	3.570	2.989	2.474	23.374
TN	2.46	11.509	19.306	18.686	15.047	11.209	12.955	91.172
TX	3.697	15.644	29.264	30.118	23.480	18.035	17.691	137.929
UT	0.9	2.754	4.628	3.880	2.188	2.213	3.378	19.941
VT	0.451	1.971	5.163	4.747	2.071	1.456	1.820	17.679
VA	2.066	8.79	15.816	16.668	14.357	8.317	10.403	76.417
WA	1.535	7.544	18.808	19.565	15.763	16.150	12.951	92.316
WV	1.067	3.966	9.942	9.133	10.143	5.838	7.164	47.253
WI	2.077	7.518	18.234	19.668	17.685	13.994	19.439	98.615
WY	1.09	1.612	3.507	1.811	2.032	1.197	1.645	12.894
PR	0.657	0.382	1.643	1.140	1.104	0.528	0.019	5.473
MP	0.145	0.225	0	0	0.220	0.172	0	0.762
GU	0	0.016	0	0	0	0.287	0	0.303
AS	0.164	0	0	0.284	0	0	0	0.448
VI	0.741	0	0.544	0	0	0	0	1.285
<b>Tot.</b>	<b>91.972</b>	<b>334.417</b>	<b>695.121</b>	<b>679.305</b>	<b>585.619</b>	<b>491.375</b>	<b>494.221</b>	<b>3372.03</b>

**Source:** Department of Homeland Security. As of March 27, 2009, FY2008 grants continue to be awarded. For the latest state-by-state statistics for FY2008 fire grants, see [http://www.firegrantsupport.com/afg/awards/08/2008afg\\_winners\\_states.aspx](http://www.firegrantsupport.com/afg/awards/08/2008afg_winners_states.aspx)

**Table 6. State-by-State Distribution of SAFER Grants,  
FY2005-FY2007**  
(millions of dollars)

	<b>FY2005</b>	<b>FY2006</b>	<b>FY2007</b>	<b>Total</b>
Alabama	1.611	6.215	4.236	12.062
Alaska	1.051	0.205	0.418	1.674
Arizona	1.560	3.559	4.428	9.547
Arkansas	0.394	1.820	0.377	2.591
California	5.221	5.212	4.259	14.692
Colorado	1.584	3.479	1.730	6.793
Connecticut	0.130	0.191	0.856	1.177
Delaware	0	0.135	0	0.135
District of Columbia	0	0	0	0
Florida	6.576	9.329	6.217	22.122
Georgia	5.354	2.085	2.842	10.281
Hawaii	0	0	0	0
Idaho	0.063	0.621	0.626	1.31
Illinois	1.340	4.463	9.933	15.736
Indiana	0	0.099	2.687	2.786
Iowa	0.169	0.144	0.980	1.293
Kansas	0.667	0.045	1.029	1.741
Kentucky	0.152	2.890	0.429	3.471
Louisiana	3.430	3.078	4.728	11.236
Maine	0.081	0	0.316	0.397
Maryland	0.096	1.862	1.526	3.484
Massachusetts	1.300	2.079	4.372	7.751
Michigan	1.759	0.592	0	2.351
Minnesota	0.300	1.089	0.375	1.764
Mississippi	0.756	0.594	0.115	1.465
Missouri	1.467	3.547	4.551	9.565
Montana	0.034	0.255	2.635	2.924
Nebraska	0	0.873	0.632	1.505
Nevada	1.500	1.714	0.632	3.846
New Hampshire	0.400	1.035	1.528	2.963
New Jersey	6.374	3.971	2.953	13.298
New Mexico	0	3.123	1.309	4.432
New York	1.540	2.991	2.845	7.376

*Assistance to Firefighters Program: Distribution of Fire Grant Funding*

	<b>FY2005</b>	<b>FY2006</b>	<b>FY2007</b>	<b>Total</b>
North Carolina	2.155	5.533	5.371	13.059
North Dakota	0	0.609	0	0.609
Ohio	1.319	1.881	2.255	5.455
Oklahoma	0.147	0.699	0.531	1.377
Oregon	1.710	2.141	2.649	6.5
Pennsylvania	1.244	1.475	2.633	5.352
Rhode Island	0.400	0	0.105	0.505
South Carolina	0.456	0.863	3.218	4.537
South Dakota	0.063	0.311	0.211	0.585
Tennessee	2.700	2.719	3.683	9.102
Texas	0.951	10.961	8.779	20.691
Utah	0.900	3.312	2.098	6.31
Vermont	0	0.621	0.632	1.253
Virginia	2.091	3.554	0.782	6.427
Washington	2.298	2.897	7.340	12.535
West Virginia	0	0.187	0.681	0.868
Wisconsin	0	0.072	1.223	1.295
Wyoming	0	0	0.316	0.316
Puerto Rico	0	0	0	0
Northern Mariana Islands	0	0	0	0
Marshall Islands	0	0	0	0
Guam	0	0	0	0
American Samoa	0	0	0	0
Virgin Islands	0	0	0	0
Republic of Palua	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>61.356</b>	<b>105.142</b>	<b>113.665</b>	<b>280.163</b>

**Source:** Department of Homeland Security. As of March 27, 2009, FY2008 grants continue to be awarded. For the latest state-by-state statistics for FY2008 fire grants, see [http://www.firegrantsupport.com/safer/awards/08/2008safer\\_winners\\_states.aspx](http://www.firegrantsupport.com/safer/awards/08/2008safer_winners_states.aspx)

**Table 7. Requests and Awards for Fire Grant Funding, FY2007**

State	Number of fire/EMS departments <sup>a</sup>	Number of applications	Federal funds requested (\$millions)	Federal funds awarded (\$millions)	Funds awarded as a % of funds requested
Alabama	958	720	91.230	19.903	21.8%
Alaska	72	72	13.759	2.454	17.8%
Arizona	281	166	36.489	4.932	13.5%
Arkansas	826	458	58.209	7.799	13.3%
California	802	499	100.560	18.730	18.6%
Colorado	371	197	29.258	4.742	16.2%
Connecticut	393	220	40.017	6.630	16.5%
Delaware	77	32	6.217	0.518	8.3%
District of Columbia	18	2	0.418	0.376	89.9%
Florida	748	293	60.133	8.288	13.7%
Georgia	792	331	57.090	9.068	15.8%
Hawaii	18	4	1.168	0.436	37.3%
Idaho	211	111	18.762	4.297	22.9%
Illinois	1081	858	130.841	21.923	16.7%
Indiana	656	480	83.228	13.831	16.6%
Iowa	862	531	61.512	9.298	15.1%
Kansas	674	298	36.207	5.502	15.1%
Kentucky	797	618	86.117	13.081	15.1%
Louisiana	555	256	40.891	5.473	13.3%
Maine	426	300	41.620	5.486	13.1%
Maryland	408	202	40.003	7.712	19.2%
Massachusetts	407	339	65.842	11.644	17.6%
Michigan	858	755	107.539	15.399	14.3%
Minnesota	768	574	74.210	16.600	22.3%
Mississippi	756	498	64.418	8.052	12.4%
Missouri	862	587	76.915	10.611	13.7%
Montana	279	232	36.531	7.330	20.0%
Nebraska	485	201	23.130	4.443	19.2%
Nevada	159	27	6.640	1.530	23.0%
New Hampshire	255	143	18.716	3.219	17.1%
New Jersey	1037	609	93.805	13.266	14.1%
New Mexico	337	99	14.804	1.367	9.2%
New York	1880	1238	162.786	22.664	13.9%
North Carolina	1407	721	112.471	20.032	17.8%

State	Number of fire/EMS departments <sup>a</sup>	Number of applications	Federal funds requested (\$millions)	Federal funds awarded (\$millions)	Funds awarded as a % of funds requested
North Dakota	322	163	20.217	3.100	15.3%
Ohio	1332	984	160.235	26.433	16.4%
Oklahoma	772	478	59.814	7.221	12.0%
Oregon	358	202	31.343	5.943	18.9%
Pennsylvania	2624	2031	299.338	43.611	14.5%
Rhode Island	98	71	13.980	0.855	6.1%
South Carolina	591	381	53.721	10.471	19.4%
South Dakota	345	172	19.604	2.474	12.6%
Tennessee	642	634	84.878	12.955	15.2%
Texas	1873	826	128.511	17.691	13.7%
Utah	219	123	18.785	3.378	17.9%
Vermont	254	115	17.402	1.820	10.4%
Virginia	810	318	56.800	10.403	18.3%
Washington	538	359	74.687	12.951	17.3%
West Virginia	476	299	48.579	7.164	14.7%
Wisconsin	898	746	103.653	19.439	18.7%
Wyoming	134	45	8.843	1.645	18.6%
Puerto Rico	Not available	109	7.420	0.019	0.2%
Northern Marianas	Not available	1	0.204	0	0%
Guam	Not available	1	0.451	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,822</b>	<b>20,731</b>	<b>3100.309</b>	<b>494.221</b>	<b>15.94%</b>

**Source:** Department of Homeland Security.

a. Data from <http://firehouse.com>, updated January 2008.

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