8.0 TIFMAS VEHICLES

The objective of the TIFMAS apparatus (vehicle) grant is to strategically place firefighting assets within each of the seven TFS administrative jurisdictions called Branches. The assets are staffed with fully qualified local fire department personnel and may be mobilized at any time by the State of Texas to respond anywhere in the State. The assets will be consistent in design and markings to ensure consistency of type, identification on assignments, known capabilities, and cost-effective purchasing.

TIFMAS vehicle grants are approved once annually based upon the Branch rotation order. The Branch rotation order is as follows:

1) North Branch
2) West Branch
3) Northwest Branch
4) Panhandle Branch
5) Central Branch
6) East Branch
7) South Branch
8) South Central Branch

The Branch rotation schedule is implemented so that the first approval each year will begin in the Branch which immediately follows the last Branch that received approval the previous year.

An alternate recipient is identified in each Branch. In the event the first grant recipient declines the grant, the designated alternate is offered the grant.

TIFMAS vehicle grants are a 100% grant. The Texas A&M Forest Service orders the grant vehicle on behalf of the grant recipient, and pays the vehicle vendor in a third party reimbursement transaction.

The TFS Purchasing Department orders TIFMAS vehicles through the state or federal contract purchasing process. TIFMAS vehicles are ordered with a complete radio system installed and with a complete equipment complement.