

**TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE PROGRAM ELEMENTS AND COST-SHARE RATE PROGRAM PROCEDURES**

**3.2 TRAINING TUITION GRANT GUIDELINES FOR FIREFIGHTER TRAINING**

The program will provide grants for tuition for firefighters in Texas to attend initial and recurrent training.

Tuition grants under this program are subject to the following standards.

**3.21 Eligibility**

Only firefighters from departments qualifying for assistance under the TIFMAS Grant Assistance Program are eligible.

**3.22 Approved Courses**

Courses certified by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection, the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas, the Texas Fire Chief's Association, or the National Wildfire Coordinating Group are eligible. Courses leading to the following firefighter certifications and credentials are eligible:

- *Structural Firefighting*
- *Wildland Firefighting*
- *Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting*
- *Marine Fire Fighting*
- *Industrial Firefighting*
- *Rescue*
- *Driver/Operator*
- *Fire Inspector*
- *Fire Instructor*
- *Fire Investigator*
- *Wildland Urban Interface*
- *Fire Service Officer*
- *First Responder/Emergency Care Attendant (ECA)*
- *Hazardous Materials Technician*
- *Incident Command System*
- *Public Fire Educator*
- *Texas Fire Chiefs Academy*

Other courses in addition to those shown above may also be eligible. Most fire courses offered by the TEEX ESTI are eligible, with some exceptions. Training leading to the EMT or Paramedic credential is not eligible. Training leading to a law enforcement certification is not eligible. Non-fire related courses are not eligible.

**TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE PROGRAM ELEMENTS AND COST-SHARE RATE  
PROGRAM PROCEDURES**

NWCG courses, other than S-130 and S-190, must be taught by an NWCG member agency. NWCG courses not offered or sanctioned by an NWCG member agency are not eligible for grant assistance.

**All training courses must be taught within the State of Texas.**

**3.23 Approved Schools**

Most fire schools administered or facilitated by the Texas Engineering Extension Service Emergency Services Training Institute (ESTI) are approved, which includes the Fireman's Training School at Texas A&M University and all TEEX Area schools.

Most programs administered by state agencies and state universities are approved, provided they are certified by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection, the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association, the Texas Fire Chiefs Association, or the National Wildfire Coordinating Group.

Most regional schools are approved, provided the curriculum is certified by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection, the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association, the Texas Fire Chiefs Association, or the National Wildfire Coordinating Group.

All other training schools and courses not leading to a certification by the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association, Texas Commission on Fire Protection, the Texas Fire Chiefs Association, or qualifications under the National Wildfire Coordinating Group "Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide" will not be approved. If a course is not conducted by a state agency or university, it must be reviewed and approved in advance by the Texas A&M Forest Service.

Registration fees for certain statewide conferences are eligible provided they are approved in advance by the Texas A&M Forest Service.

**3.24 Instructors and Training Facilities**

Training must be conducted by a lead instructor holding the Texas Instructor I credential or higher.

NWCG training must be conducted by a qualified lead instructor holding qualifications as required by the NWCG Field Manager's Course Guide, PMS 901-1.

Training fields, classrooms, and training facilities should be certified by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection.

**TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE PROGRAM ELEMENTS AND COST-SHARE RATE PROGRAM PROCEDURES**

**3.25 Other Approved Training**

The program will provide reimbursement grants for registration fees for attendance at the following conferences:

Industrial Fire World Annual Conference  
State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas Annual Conference  
Texas Association of Fire Educators Annual Conference  
Texas Fire Chiefs Association Annual Conference  
Texas State Association of Fire and Emergency Districts (SAFE-D) Conference.

**3.26 Limitations**

Grant assistance is not available for reimbursement of transportation, meals, or lodging expense. However, dorm and meal card expenses at the TEEEX Summer Municipal Fire School may be eligible for reimbursement, provided the charges are invoiced by TEEEX. Federal VFA grant funds may be used to fund this room and meal card component. Applicants must have adopted NIMS in order to qualify for federal VFA funds and must also meet the eligibility qualifications of the federal VFA and NFP programs.

Training Tuition grants under this program will be provided up to a maximum of \$122 per day, not to exceed \$610 per trainee per school.

Training tuition grants are limited to a maximum of \$6,100 per department per school.

The maximum amount of training tuition grant assistance a department may receive in a fiscal year (September through August) is \$12,000.

Written application for a training tuition grant must be received by the Texas A&M Forest Service before the course start-date. An application received on or after the course start-date is not eligible for grant assistance.

**3.27 Training Tuition Payments**

Grant payments for training tuition to the TEEEX Spring Fire School and the TEEEX Summer Municipal Fire School may be made directly to TEEEX on behalf of the grant recipient. Grant payments for tuition at all other schools will be made directly to the recipient fire department.

**TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE PROGRAM ELEMENTS AND COST-SHARE RATE  
PROGRAM PROCEDURES**

Dorm lodging and meal card expenses at the TEEX Summer Municipal Fire School may be eligible for reimbursement, provided the charges are invoiced by TEEX, and provided the FD applicant has adopted NIMS. Federal VFA grant funds may be used to fund this lodging and meal card component. The applicant must also meet the eligibility requirements for federal VFA and NFP funds.

Grant payments for Training Tuition to the Capital Area Interagency Wildfire and Incident Management Academy may be paid directly to the Texas A&M Forest Service on behalf of the grant recipient.