



**GEORGIA FIREFIGHTER  
STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL**

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Executive Director

**GFSTC Fireworks Tax Monies Grant Policy**

Effective Date April 10, 2018

**PURPOSE:** To provide assistance to Georgia Fire Departments with current Certificates of Compliance through the GFSTC Grant Program. These grants will be funded through monies derived from taxes levied upon the sale of consumer fireworks in Georgia. Applicants shall demonstrate need for (1) the purpose of maintaining Certificate of Compliance, or (2) the purposes of maintaining or improving the communities Insurance Services Organization's (ISO) ratings.

**SCOPE:** All legally organized and compliant fire departments as recognized by the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council; fire service associations, and other fire service organizations within the State of Georgia.

GFSTC shall receive up to ten percent (10%) of the fireworks tax allotment for administrative and improvement expenses to maintain the process. GFSTC may also make additional grant request for monies based on providing resources to the statewide fire service.

**PROCEDURES:**

1. The GFSTC shall determine and announce the opening and closing dates for each application period. The Council shall also determine the monetary grant amounts available and whether the grant(s) will be partially or fully funded.
2. The GFSTC shall determine the scope of each award process. Example: If the grants are for equipment, awards might be combined with all requests for i.e. turnout gear being combined and making one purchase rather than 20 individual purchases.
3. Grant application(s) must be fully completed and submitted by established deadlines. Partially completed applications will not be considered.
4. GFSTC Grants shall be reviewed and considered on the need(s) demonstrated by the department in the application.
5. The GFSTC Director shall make recommendations on each application received and completed to a review committee appointed by the GFSTC chairman. This review committee shall be composed of five members. This committee shall make grant approval recommendations to the full council.

6. Monetary awards may be made on a percentage (25%, 50%, and 75% to 100%) of the request.
7. Awards recipients shall be responsible for expenditures of the grant and shall provide copies of receipts for purchases to the GFSTC. Signed copies of delivery information shall be forwarded to the GFSTC as proof of delivery of equipment. A letter from the awarded department shall be sent to the GFSTC Executive Director once each grant is completed.
8. Improper use of GFSTC grant funds shall be subject to review by the GFSTC and any resulting penalties shall be determined by the results of the investigation.
9. All grant and grant purchases shall be subject to open records laws and request. All purchases shall follow local and/or state purchasing polices.
10. A match of up to 10% of the grant request will be required of the applicant based upon population, funding, and need. This requirement may be waived by GFSTC in cases of extreme financial hardships.
11. Priorities for each funding cycle will be established by the GFSTC prior to the release of the application.
12. Service as a review committee member reference in item #5, shall not prohibit their individual department from applying for this grant opportunity. However, in this incident the committee member must excuse themselves from any discussion or vote on the application from their department.