

January 2012

TO: Rural Fire Departments

RE: Volunteer Fire Assistance for 2012

FOR FULL CONSIDERATION: APRIL 15, 2012 OR EARLIER POSTMARK!

READ THE APPLICATION AND GUIDE CAREFULLY!

Enclosed is an application for Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) for 2012. This program assists communities and unincorporated areas with a population of less than 10,000 in the improvement or establishment of fire protection. If qualified and approved, these areas may receive up to 50% matching funds toward the purchase of communication equipment, SCBA, protective clothing, training materials or other fire suppression and prevention equipment. **First priorities will go to wildland and urban interface fire equipment!**

Please review the pre-printed labels on the Cover page (page 1), as it reflects the contact information we currently have on file. Make corrections in the box on the right marked **Address/Personnel Corrections**. Use an officially recognized fire department/city/county/township mailing address. If at all possible, provide an address that does not change with personnel changes. If you have provided the Kansas Fire Marshals Office with an "official" address and it is recognized by the US Postal Service, this would be best address to use. The State of Kansas will not issue a reimbursement check to an address that is currently not in the USPS database. Using an unrecognized address will cause reimbursement delays!

This year's funding, as in 2011, has not been set at this time.

Kansas Fire Service feels it is best to allow local departments the latitude to make their own purchasing decisions. You are allowed to purchase from the vendor of your choosing and the make, model, style, etc that best serves your needs. We do encourage you to shop around for the best deals, and if possible-shop locally. It is usually in your best interest.

VERY IMPORTANT! Question 3. Has the applying department/districts(s) submitted Kansas-Fire Incident Reports to the KS Fire Marshals Office? *It is a VFA requirement that Incident Reports be filed to receive Federal funding, including "No Activity" reports. Answering "YES" to this question if no reports were submitted is considered Fraud!!!!*

DONE! NOT DELAY, ACT NOW! Applications must be postmarked no later than April 15, 2012 to receive full consideration. After that date, applications will be accepted on a daily basis until we receive the funding from the Federal Government. Kansas Forest Service will let everyone know the status of their application as soon as possible. Approved applicants will have until **December 31, 2012** to make purchases and file paperwork with our office.

Ross Hauck
Fire Management Coordinator