

**\*Financial Need** (4000 characters):

Please explain the applicant's need for financial assistance to carry out the proposed project(s). Provide detail about the applicant's total operating budget, including a high-level breakdown of the budget. Describe the applicant's inability to address financial needs without federal assistance. Discuss other actions the applicant has taken to meet their needs. Include information on efforts to obtain funding elsewhere and how similar projects have been funded in the past.

**\*This fiscal year, are you receiving Federal funding from any other grant program regardless of purpose?** (if yes) Please provide an explanation for other funding sources in the space provided below. (500 characters)

**\*Please describe your organization and/or community that you serve.** (4000 characters)

**\*Is this project a regional request? A regional request provides a direct regional and/or local benefit beyond your organization. You may apply for a regional request on behalf of your organization and any number of other participating eligible organizations within your region.**

If yes, please explain how this request benefits other organizations. (1000 characters)

**Program area: Fire prevention and safety**

**After adding and selecting a project:**

**\*Please provide a brief synopsis of the proposed project and then identify the specific goals and objectives of your project.** (1000 characters)

**\*Please explain your experience and ability in developing and conducting (i.e., timely and satisfactory project completion) past fire prevention and safety projects. Additionally, please demonstrate the experience and expertise you have in managing the type of project you are proposing.** (2000 characters)

**\*Sustainability:** Is it your organization's intent to deliver this program after the grant performance period? If so, how will the overall activity be sustained and what are the long-term benefits? Examples of sustainable projects can be illustrated through the long-term benefits derived from the delivery of the project, the presence of non-federal partners likely to continue the effort, or the demonstrated long-term commitment of the applicant. (2500 characters)

## *Narrative*

The narrative statements must provide all the information necessary for you to justify your needs and for FEMA to make an award decision. A panel of peer reviewers will evaluate the applications by using the narrative statements below to determine the worthiness of the request for an award. Please ensure that your narrative clearly addresses each of the following evaluation criteria elements to the best of your ability with detailed but concise information. You may either type your narrative statements in the spaces provided below or create the text in your word processing system and then copy it into the appropriate spaces provided below. Please note the narrative block does not allow for formatting. Do not type your narrative using only capital letters. Additionally, do not include tables, special fonts (i.e., quote marks, bullets, etc.), or graphs. Please review the Notice of Funding Opportunity for additional narrative details.

- **Commitment to Mitigation (*Fire Departments only*-5%) (3,000-character max)**
- **Vulnerability Statement (Fire Departments-15%, Interest Organizations-25%) (5,000-character max)**
- **Project Description (Fire Departments-20%, Interest Organizations-25%) (5,000-character max)**
- **Implementation Plan (Fire Departments-25%, Interest Organizations-30%) (5,000-character max)**
- **Evaluation Plan (Fire Departments-15%, Interest Organizations-15%) (5,000-character max)**
- **Cost-Benefit (Fire Departments-10%, Interest Organizations-5%) (2,500-character max)**

**\*Commitment to Mitigation (Fire Departments Only-5%) (3,000 characters maximum)**

- Fire Department applicants that can demonstrate their commitment and proactive posture to reducing fire risk will receive higher consideration. Applicants must explain their code adoption and enforcement (to include Wildland Urban Interface and commercial/residential sprinkler code adoption and enforcement) and mitigation strategies (including whether or not the jurisdiction has a FEMA-approved mitigation strategy). Applicants can also demonstrate their commitment to reducing fire risk by applying to implement fire mitigation strategies (code adoption and enforcement) via this application.

**\*Vulnerability Statement: (5000 characters)**

- The assessment of fire risk is essential in the development of an effective project goal, as well as meeting FEMA's goal to reduce risk by conducting a risk assessment as a basis for action. Vulnerability is a "weak link," demonstrating

high-risk behavior, living conditions, or any type of high-risk situation. The Vulnerability Statement should include a description of the steps taken to determine the vulnerability and identify the target audience. The methodology for determination of vulnerability (i.e., how the vulnerability was found) should be discussed in-depth in the application's Narrative Statement.

- The specific vulnerability that will be addressed with the proposed project can be established through a formal or informal risk assessment. FEMA encourages the use of local statistics, rather than national statistics, when discussing the vulnerability.
- In a clear, to-the-point statement, the applicant should summarize the vulnerability the project will address, including who is at risk, what the risks are, where the risks are, and how the risks can be prevented, reduced, or mitigated.
- For the purpose of this NOFO, formal risk assessments consist of the use of software programs or recognized expert analysis that assess risk trends.
- Informal risk assessments could include an in-house review of available data (e.g., National Fire Incident Reporting System [NFIRS]) to determine fire loss, burn injuries or loss of life over a period of time, and the factors that are the cause and origin for each occurrence, including a lack of adoption or enforcement of certain codes.

**\*Project Description:** (5000 characters)

Applicants must describe in detail not only the project components but also how the proposed project addresses the identified capability gap, due to financial need and/or the vulnerabilities identified in the vulnerability statement. The following information should be included:

- Project Components
- Review of any existing programs or models that have been successful.
- Detailed description of how the proposed project components fill the identified capability gap
- If working with Fire Service Partners/Organizations, identify each partner/organization and the role(s) they will fill in the successful completion of the proposed project.

**\*Implementation Plan** (5000 characters):

Each project proposal should include details on the implementation plan which discusses the proposed project's goals and objectives. The following information should be included to support the implementation plan:

- Goals and objectives
- Details regarding the methods and specific steps that will be used to achieve the goals and objectives
- Timelines outlining the chronological project steps (this is critical for determining the likeliness of the project's completion within the period of performance)

- Where applicable, examples of marketing efforts to promote the project, who will deliver the project (e.g., effective partnerships), and the manner in which materials or deliverables will be distributed
- Requests for props (i.e., tools used in educational or awareness demonstrations), including specific goals, measurable results, and details on the frequency for which the prop will be utilized as part of the implementation plan. Applicants should include information describing the efforts that will be used to reach the high-risk audience and/or the number of people reached through the proposed project (examples of props include safety trailers, puppets, or costumes)
- Where human subjects are involved, describe plans for submission to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) (for further guidance and requirements, see the Human Subjects Research section of the NOFO)
- NOTE: For applicants proposing a complex project that may require a 24-month Period of Performance, please include significant justification and details in the implementation plan that justify the applicant's need for a Period of Performance of more than 12 months.

**\*Evaluation Plan** (5000 characters):

Projects should include a plan for evaluation of effectiveness and identify measurable goals. Applicants seeking to carry out awareness and educational projects, for example, should identify how they intend to determine that there has been an increase in knowledge about fire hazards, or measure a change in the safety behaviors of the audience. Applicants should demonstrate how they will measure risk at the outset of the project in comparison to how much the risk decreased after the project is finished. There are various ways to measure the knowledge gained about fire hazards, including the use of surveys, pre- and post-tests, or documented observations. Applicants are encouraged to attend training on evaluation methods, such as the National Fire Academy's "Demonstrating Your Fire Prevention Program's Worth."

**\*Cost Benefit** (2500 characters):

Projects will be evaluated and scored by the Peer Review Panelists based on how well the applicant addresses the fire prevention needs of the department or organization in an economic and efficient manner. The applicant should show how it will maximize the level of funding that goes directly into the delivery of the project. The costs associated with the project also must be reasonable for the target audience that will be reached, and a description should be included of how the anticipated project benefit(s) (quantified if possible) outweighs the cost(s) of the requested item(s). The application should provide justification for all costs included in the project in order to assist the Technical Evaluation Panel with their review.

**\*Additional Comments** (3000 characters) (Not Scored): If you have any additional comments about your project, please provide them here.