



# Fire District Resource Guide



**Cal OES**  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

December 2024

## Overview

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), Interagency Recovery Coordination includes six Recovery Support Function (RSF) teams to help communities identify resources to build back better after disasters. The Natural and Cultural Resources RSF has created this document to provide an overview of funding opportunities and technical assistance available to support fire district recovery and resilience in California. These resources cover a broad range of support, including grant funding, technical assistance, and equipment resources with the intent of empowering local communities to lead their own recovery efforts and build capabilities and resilience to future disasters.

For more information about opportunities presented in this document, as well as any questions or concerns, please reach out to us at:







[LongTermRecovery@caloes.ca.gov](mailto:LongTermRecovery@caloes.ca.gov).



## Contents

<b>Overview .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Current Funding Opportunities.....</b>	<b>4</b>
Federal.....	4
Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) Program.....	4
Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) .....	4
Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant .....	5
State.....	6
Regional Forest and Fire Capacity (RFFC) .....	6
Other.....	6
Equipment Grants/Available Used Equipment Donation .....	6
Public Safety Foundation Grant .....	7
<b>Technical and Other Assistance.....</b>	<b>8</b>
State Assistance for Fire Equipment (SAFE) Act Program .....	8

## Current Funding Opportunities

### Federal



Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) Program		
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)		
	<b>Application Deadline</b>	2025 Announcement anticipated in early 2025
	<b>Program Description</b>	<p>The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) is to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and non-affiliated emergency medical service organizations.</p> <p>AFG helps firefighters and other first responders obtain critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training and other resources necessary for protecting the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards.</p>
	<b>Eligibility</b>	Fire Departments
	<b>Funding Information</b>	2025 Announcement anticipated in early 2025
	<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.fema.gov/assistance-to-firefighters-grants">Assistance to Firefighters Grants   FEMA.gov</a>
	<b>Contact Information</b>	<a href="mailto:FireGrants@fema.dhs.gov">FireGrants@fema.dhs.gov</a>

Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER)		
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)		
	<b>Program Description</b>	Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants (SAFER) provides funding directly to fire departments and volunteer firefighter interest organizations to help them increase or maintain the number of trained, "front line" firefighters available in their communities and enhance the local fire departments' abilities to comply with staffing, response, and operational standards.
	<b>Eligibility</b>	Fire departments, national fire service interest organizations.

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



California Governor's Office of Emergency Services









	<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters/safer">https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters/safer</a>
	<b>Contact Information</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:Firegrants@fema.dhs.gov">Firegrants@fema.dhs.gov</a> Phone: 866-274-0960 Sandi R. Tripp, Region 9 Contact 510-627-7080 <a href="mailto:Sandra.Tripp@fema.dhs.gov">Sandra.Tripp@fema.dhs.gov</a>

## Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant


US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development






	<b>Application Deadline</b>	Ongoing
	<b>Program Description</b>	This program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial or business undertakings.
	<b>Eligibility</b>	Public bodies, community-based nonprofit corporations, and federally recognized tribes in rural areas including cities, villages, townships and towns, including Federally Recognized Tribal Lands, with no more than 20,000 residents
	<b>Funding Information</b>	Continuously awarded
	<b>Website</b>	<a href="#">Community Facilities Direct Loan &amp; Grant Program   Rural Development</a>
	<b>Contact Information</b>	<a href="mailto:Ca.info@usda.gov">Ca.info@usda.gov</a>







## State

<b>Regional Forest and Fire Capacity (RFFC)</b> California Department of Conservation	
 <b>Application Deadline</b>	TBD
 <b>Program Description</b>	Funding for regions to create fire-adapted communities and landscapes by improving ecosystem health, community wildfire preparedness, and fire resilience. Activities include conducting regional priority planning, administering project development activities, building capacity and sustainability among regional partners, and leading outreach and engagement.
 <b>Eligibility</b>	The Department provides block grants to regional entities (Regional Block Grantees) and to eligible coordinating organizations (Statewide Block Grantees) to support the statewide implementation of the program. Grantees often award subgrants within their region, enabling program funding to meet specific needs of hyperlocal areas.
 <b>Funding Information</b>	Check website for details.
 <b>Website</b>	<a href="#">Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program</a>
 <b>Contact Information</b>	Program Manager: Brian Newman-Lindsay <a href="mailto:brian.newman-lindsay@conservation.ca.gov">brian.newman-lindsay@conservation.ca.gov</a> Program Specialist: Jenny DiStefano <a href="mailto:Jenny.E.DiStefano@conservation.ca.gov">Jenny.E.DiStefano@conservation.ca.gov</a>

## Other

<b>Equipment Grants/Available Used Equipment Donation</b> Brothers Helping Brothers	
 <b>Application Deadline</b>	Ongoing





 <b>Program Description</b>	Brothers Helping Brothers is dedicated to supporting small and rural fire departments across the United States of America by providing essential life-saving equipment. They aim to assist underfunded fire departments by supplying them with the necessary tools and equipment to fulfill their duty of saving lives and protecting property safely and efficiently. Equipment grants as well as gently used equipment are provided; equipment may be donated instead of funding.
 <b>Eligibility</b>	Fire departments or EMS organizations. Applicant organization must serve a population of fewer than 10,000 people, or organization must have less than 30 employees. Majority of employees must be volunteer or paid-per-call personnel.
 <b>Funding Information</b>	TBD. Total value of equipment donated to date is \$83,700.
 <b>Website</b>	<a href="#">Home   Brothers Helping Brothers</a>
 <b>Contact Information</b>	<a href="mailto:contactus@brothershelpingbrothers.org">contactus@brothershelpingbrothers.org</a> (937) 999-1355





<b>Public Safety Foundation Grant</b>	
Firehouse Subs	
 <b>Application Deadline</b>	Dates are subject to change and applications will close after receiving a maximum 600 applications per quarter. Below is the 2025 schedule: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quarter 1 2025: Thursday, October 10, 2024</li> <li>• Quarter 2 2025: Thursday, January 9, 2025</li> <li>• Quarter 3 2025: Thursday, April 3, 2025</li> <li>• Quarter 4 2025: Thursday, July 10, 2025</li> <li>• Quarter 1 2026: Thursday, October 9, 2025</li> </ul>
 <b>Program Description</b>	Provides lifesaving equipment and prevention education tools to first responders, non-profits, and public safety organizations.
 <b>Eligibility</b>	Public safety organizations, first responders, and nonprofits.
 <b>Funding Information</b>	Maximum award \$50,000
 <b>Website</b>	<a href="https://firehousesubsfoundation.org">https://firehousesubsfoundation.org</a>
 <b>Contact Information</b>	<a href="mailto:Foundation@firehousesubs.com">Foundation@firehousesubs.com</a>

## Fire District Resource Guide

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services

## Technical and Other Assistance

Grant Writing Resources	
International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF)	
 <b>Program Description</b>	<p>The IAFF Grants Administration Department oversees the IAFF's national grant programs, which total more than \$20 million per year. General grant writing information is available on the website.</p> <p>In addition to overseeing national grant programs, the Grants Administration Department can assist IAFF members' grant writing efforts in their departments and assists with questions and requests for information from IAFF affiliates interested in grants for their departments.</p>
 <b>Eligibility</b>	IAFF affiliates and members
 <b>Website</b>	<a href="#">Grants Administration - IAFF</a>
 <b>Contact Information</b>	<a href="mailto:firegrants@iaff.org">firegrants@iaff.org</a> (202)-824-1559

State Assistance for Fire Equipment (SAFE) Act Program	
California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)	
 <b>Program Description</b>	Cal OES has surplus apparatus available for purchase. These apparatuses come with a standard complement of equipment, excluding radios.
 <b>Eligibility</b>	Fire districts, local governments
 <b>Website</b>	<a href="#">Surplus Fire Equipment   California Governor's Office of Emergency Services</a>
 <b>Contact Information</b>	<a href="mailto:Fire.Rescue.Fleet-Repairs@caloes.ca.gov">Fire.Rescue.Fleet-Repairs@caloes.ca.gov</a>