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Application Period to Open: Assistance to Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grant

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recently made available for public viewing the Program Guidance for the Assistance to Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grants. **The application period for the Station Construction Grants (SCG) is scheduled to begin on June 11, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time. Applications for these grants must be received by July 10, at 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time).**

SCG was established as part of the Administration's economic stimulus package under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). SCG will provide financial assistance directly to fire departments on a competitive basis to build new or modify existing fire stations in order for departments to enhance their response capability and protect the community they serve from fire and fire-related hazards. The grants will be administered by the DHS/Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Grant Programs Directorate in coordination with the U.S. Fire Administration by the AFG Program Office.

The e-application and an applicant tutorial are available through the www.firegrantsupport.com website. The tutorial provides you with valuable grant information and walks you through the preparation and submittal of competitive applications. In addition, the applicant tutorial provides an overview of the funding priorities and evaluation criteria.

During the application period, the help desk will operate Monday to Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturdays (Eastern Time). However, the helpdesk will close at 4:30 p.m., on Friday, July 3rd and will not be open on Saturday, July 4th. Applicants who have questions regarding the Fire Station Construction Grants opportunity should contact the help desk at 1-866-274-0960 or at firegrants@dhs.gov.

The AFG Program is administered by the DHS/FEMA Grants Program Directorate in coordination with the U.S. Fire Administration.

Assistance to Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grants Program Guidance - visit <http://www.firegrantsupport.com/docs/2009SCGguidance.pdf>

Assistance to Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grants FAQs – will be available through the www.firegrantsupport.com website.

The United States Fire Administration recommends everyone should have a comprehensive fire protection plan that includes smoke alarms, residential sprinklers, and practicing a home fire escape plan.

