



# FEMA

## Assistance to Firefighters Grants



# FY 16 Appropriations



\$ 310,500,000



\$ 345,000,000



\$34,500,000



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# FY16 Program Updates



Application period  
October 11th – Nov 18th



Application period - Winter



Application period - Winter



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***FY 2016  
Funding  
Priorities***

# FY16 AFG Activities

- Ops & Safety - Training
  - Training evaluated using national or state standards.
  - Training that brings a department into compliance with recommended NFPA or other national standards.
- Ops & Safety - Modifications to Facilities
  - Departments requesting direct, source capture exhaust systems, sprinkler systems, or smoke/fire detectors
  - Occupancy considerations



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# FY16 AFG Activities

- Ops & Safety - Wellness & Fitness
  - Initial medical exams
  - Job-related immunization
  - Annual medical and fitness evaluation
  - Behavioral health
- Vehicles
  - Replace old / unsafe vehicles
  - See NOFO for list of vehicle priorities by community type



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# FY16 AFG Activities

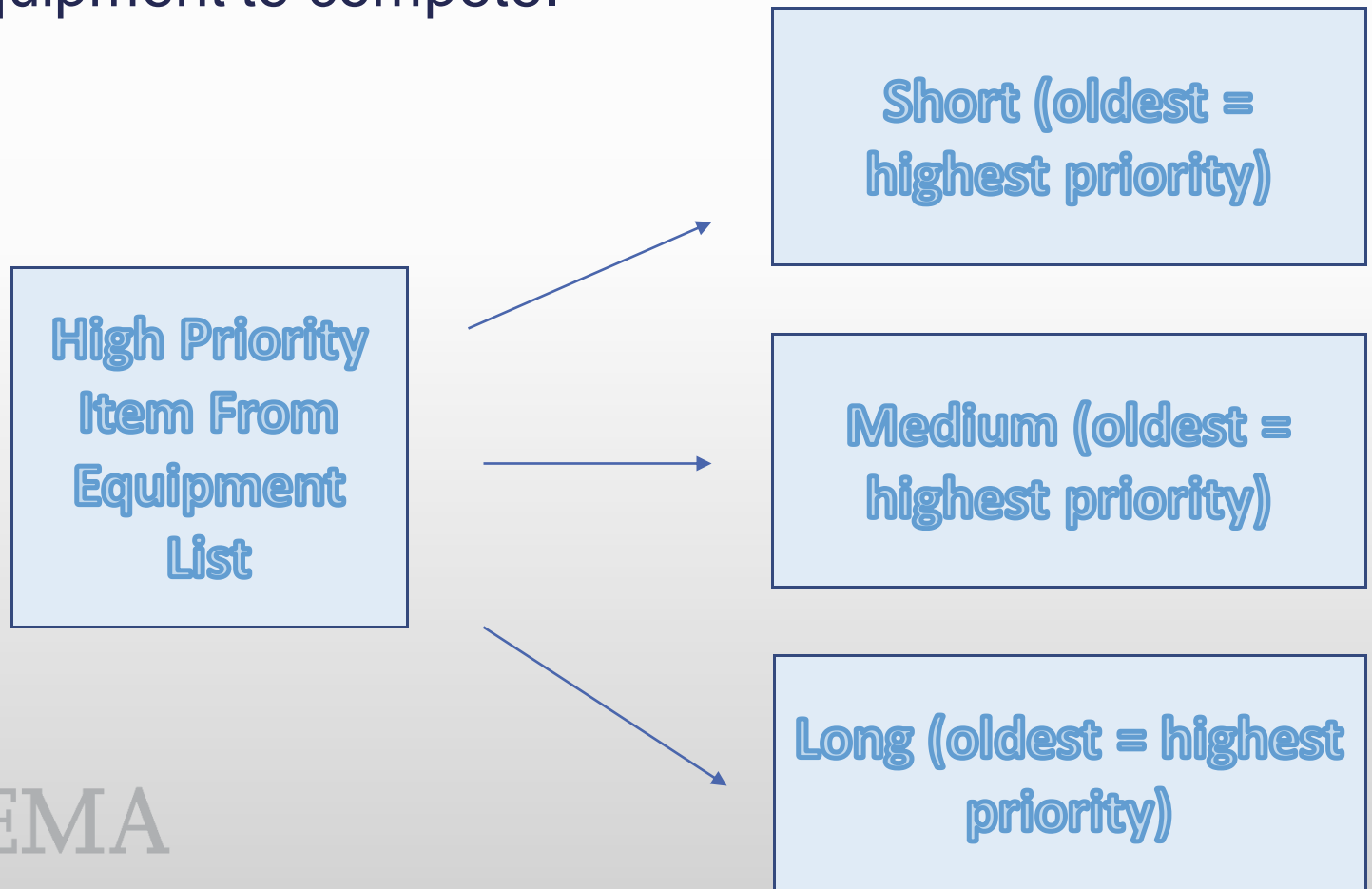
- Ops & Safety – PPE
  - Departments requesting new PPE for the first time
  - Departments replacing obsolete or damaged PPE
  - 2 gloves - 2 hoods = complete set
  - Urban/Rural/Suburban age considerations
- Ops & Safety - Equipment
  - First-time purchase (**never owned by applicant**)
  - Replace obsolete or damaged equipment
  - **Age of technology**



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# FY16 AFG Activities

- Ops & Safety – Equipment
  - grouping items by age of equipment allows “like” equipment to compete.



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# Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards

2 C.F.R. Part 200  
“Super Circular”



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# Procurement

## §200.318 General Procurement Standards

The **non-Federal entity alone must be responsible**, in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgment, **for the settlement of all contractual and administrative issues arising out of procurements**. These issues include, but are not limited to, source evaluation, **protests**, disputes, and claims. These standards do not relieve the non-Federal entity of any contractual responsibilities under its contracts. The Federal awarding agency will not substitute its judgment for that of the non-Federal entity unless the matter is primarily a Federal concern. **Violations of law will be referred to the local, state, or Federal authority having proper jurisdiction.**



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# Substantive Change from 44 C.F.R. Part 13

## §200.319 Competition

All procurement transactions **must be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition consistent with the standards of 2 C.F.R. Part 200.**

There is a new clarification: In order to ensure objective contractor performance and eliminate unfair competitive advantage, **contractors that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, and invitations for bids or requests for proposals must be excluded from competing for such procurements.**



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# More on Competition

## §200.319 Competition

Some of the situations considered to be restrictive of competition include but are not limited to:

- (1) Placing unreasonable requirements on firms in order for them to qualify to do business;
- (2) Requiring unnecessary experience and excessive bonding;
- (3) Noncompetitive pricing practices between firms or between affiliated companies;
- (4) Noncompetitive contracts to consultants that are on retainer contracts;
- (5) Organizational conflicts of interest;
- (6) Specifying only a “brand name” product** instead of allowing “an equal” product to be offered and describing the performance or other relevant requirements of the procurement; and
- (7) Any arbitrary action in the procurement process.**



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# More on Competition

## §200.319 Competition

The non-Federal entity must have written procedures for procurement transactions. These procedures must ensure that all solicitations:

Incorporate a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for the material, product, or service to be procured. Such description **must not**, in competitive procurements, **contain features which unduly restrict competition**. The description may include a statement of the qualitative nature of the material, product or service to be procured and, when necessary, must set forth those minimum essential characteristics and standards to which it must conform if it is to satisfy its intended use. **Detailed product specifications should be avoided if at all possible.**

When it is impractical or uneconomical to make a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements, a **“brand name or equivalent” description may be used** as a means to define the performance or other salient requirements of procurement. **The specific features of the named brand which must be met by offers must be clearly stated.**



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# Substantive Changes from 44 C.F.R. Part 13

## §200.320 Methods of Procurement to be Followed

- **Micro-purchase** (new) – procurements in aggregate of \$3,000 or less
- **Small purchase procedures** – for goods or services that do not cost more than the Simplified Acquisition Threshold (new threshold: \$150,000). Price or rate quotations must be obtained “from an adequate number of qualified sources.”
- **Procurement by sealed bids** (formal advertising) – Bids are “publicly solicited” and a firm fixed price contract is awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Fixed Price.
- **Competitive proposals** – Generally used when conditions are not appropriate for the use of sealed bids. Fixed price or cost-reimbursement. RFPs must be publicized, identify all factors, and their relative importance.
- **Procurement by noncompetitive proposal** - (i.e., Sole Source)



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# Support

- Help Desk: 1-866-274-0960
- E- Mail: [firegrants@dhs.gov](mailto:firegrants@dhs.gov)
- Website: [www.fema.gov/firegrants](http://www.fema.gov/firegrants)
- Regional Fire Program Specialist

[www.fema.gov/fire-grant-contact-information](http://www.fema.gov/fire-grant-contact-information)



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