

CHAPTER 20. FORESTRY

SUBCHAPTER 3. RURAL FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM FUND ACT

PART 3. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

35:20-3-8. Financial assistance certification of eligible fire departments

(a) **Certification procedure.** Each Rural Fire Coordinator shall certify each year the eligibility of fire departments in their assigned District to receive state grants and awards. Fire departments shall complete and submit appropriate forms provided by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry to the respective Rural Fire Coordinator no later than April 30 of each year. The fire department shall submit the following, at a minimum:

(1) Name, address, and contact information;

~~(2) The fire department's OFIRS reporting number and a statement that a report of fire runs was reported to the State Fire Marshall's Office for the previous year. Fire departments formed after the end of the previous calendar year shall be exempt;~~

~~(3)~~(2). Proof of a public listing of an emergency telephone number or statement indicating the fire department is a part of the 911 system.

~~(4)~~(3). Proof of workers' compensation insurance on its firefighters;

~~(5)~~(4). Proof of liability insurance on each fire department vehicle acquired from the Department;

~~(6)~~(5). A statement indicating the fire department has formally adopted NIMS and is actively participating in NIMS training and compliance activities; ~~and~~

(6) The fire department shall report each of their wildfire incident responses utilizing the internet-based Wildfire Reporting Tool. The Wildfire Reporting Tool is available free-of-charge from the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry – Forestry Services Division; and

(7) Compliance with all other applicable state and federal laws.

(b) **Ineligibility.** New fire departments formed after April 30 shall not be eligible for funds in that year. Fire departments submitting the forms for certification after April 30 shall not be eligible for funding in that year.

(c) **Certified list of Rural Fire Departments.** From the fire department forms submitted, the Rural Fire Coordinators shall provide a written list of the certified incorporated cities, towns and rural fire departments, and the name and address of the fire chief or other official contact person to the Department as soon as practicable after notification.

(d) **Review and approval of lists.** The Department shall review the Rural Fire Coordinator's lists of certified fire departments and amounts, and submit them to the State Board of Agriculture for consideration and approval.