

Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative

Rural Fire Department

Fiscal year 2026

General Guidelines

Purpose: Provide assistance to rural fire departments located in VVEC's service area that do not receive municipal funding. The intended results will be improved rural fire protection infrastructure and reduced fire insurance costs for our Members.

Eligible Activities:

- Capital Improvements. Land purchases for expansion of existing departments and the establishments of new fire departments (land, buildings, equipment, etc.)
- Dry hydrants. The ISO certifies dry hydrants. The rural fire defense program coordinator for the applying department must approve the need for the dry hydrants.
- Equipment. Examples of equipment include vehicles (assigned to rural fires) tools, pumps, hoses, clothing, communications, etc.

Eligible Criteria:

- The proposed projects must be located within the VVEC service area.
- The proposed project must maintain or reduce ISO ratings and/or show other economic benefits to the residents of the community or contribute to the well-being of the community.
- Communities imposing strict boundary limits, which exclude rural residents, part of the community, or using strict subscription response systems will not be considered in this program.

Selection Criteria:

In addition to eligibility, applications are evaluated on the following:

- Needs Assessment
- Other funding
- Assessment of Financial Feasibility
- Program Narrative

Grant Application Process:

- Completed application is submitted & received by deadline of ***Friday, March 20, 2026***.
- VVEC staff reviews application
- VVEC staff notifies fire department of application status (approval or denial)

Applications should be mailed to:

Misti Frazier and Suzy McClain, Grant Program Coordinators
Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative
P. O. Box 219
Collinsville, OK 74021

Please direct all questions to:

Misti Frazier, mfrazier@vvec.com
Suzy McClain, smcclain@vvec.com
Phone # (800) 870-5948 or (918) 371-2584

**Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative
Rural Fire Department Grant Application**

1. Legal Applicant _____ 2. Date _____

Department Name: _____

Department Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Sub-State Planning District: _____

Federal Employer Identification Number: _____

3. Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Please return application to:

**Attn: Misti Frazier or Suzy McClain
VVEC Member Relations/Public Relations
P. O. Box 219
Collinsville, OK 74021**

4. What is the **grant amount** of your fire department's application? \$ _____
5. What is the total area protected by your fire department (in sq. miles)? _____
(Please attach a map of your fire district)
6. In your fire district, what is the number of each of the following?
Residences _____ Commercial Business _____
Other (Please Describe) _____
7. If approved, will this grant/project contribute to lowering your current ISO Public Protection Classification Rating? _____
8. What percent of your fire fighters are volunteer? _____

9. Does your fire department provide services other than rural fire protection? (i.e., ambulance, emergency medical service, etc.) Please describe. _____

10. List the equipment/materials and the cost of the items your fire department intends to purchase with the Rural Fire Department Assistance Grant money and explain how it will benefit your fire department or your community.

FIRE DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

A. List the person (**name, address, phone number**) responsible for the following:

1. Filing Grant Forms: _____

2. Handling Invoices: _____

3. Ordering Equipment: _____

THE APPLICANT CERTIFIES THAT: To the best of my knowledge and belief, the application is true and correct, the documents have been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant, and the applicant will comply with the attached assurances if the grant is approved.

Signature of Substrate Rural Fire Defense Program Coordinator

Date

Preliminary approval to the grant applied for in the foregoing application is hereby given as follows:

Total Grant Amount Approved: \$ _____

Final approval is dependent upon the execution of satisfactory instruments.

Manager, Verdigris Valley Electric Cooperative

Date