Thermal Imaging Grants for the Fire Service

Funding for Thermal Imagers
In the United States in 2005, on average someone died in a fire about every two hours, and someone was injured every 29 minutes. With statistics like these, you want to be sure your department has the equipment necessary to fight fires and save lives. When looking for funding to purchase fire equipment, like thermal imagers, be sure to take a comprehensive approach and look at all aspects. Grants, (federal and private) and local fundraising are great places to begin. Find information about local fundraising at http://www.bullard.com/funding or by e-mailing funding@bullard.com.

• Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)

  What is it?
  AFG provides funding to fire departments and nonaffiliated EMS organizations that lack the tools and resources necessary to more effectively protect the health and safety of the public and their emergency response personal.

  How much money?
  $547 million appropriated to Fiscal Year 2007

  Can I apply?
  Eligible applicants are limited to Fire Departments and nonaffiliated EMS.

  When can I apply?
  Annual application period: Spring.

  How do I apply?

• Rural Fire Assistance (RFA)

  What is it?
  RFA offers funding to enhance the fire protection capabilities of rural and volunteer fire departments through training, equipment purchases and fire prevention work on a cost-shared basis.

  How much money?
  Maximum award is $20,000 per department.

  Can I apply?
  Application period: Varies by state. Contact your local Department of Interior agency to determine your state application period.

  How do I apply?
  www.raconline.org/funding, click “browse by topic.”

• Fireman’s Fund

  What is it?
  The Fireman’s Fund Heritage program is Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company’s commitment to support firefighters for safer communities. Fireman’s Fund employees and agents award grants and provide volunteer support for local fire departments, national firefighter organizations and burn prevention/treatment organizations. They focus on providing funds for equipment, fire prevention tools, firefighter training, fire safety education and community emergency response programs.

  How much money?
  Over $10 million has been awarded to fire departments and fire prevention organizations since the inception of the program in 2004.

  When can I apply?
  Application period: Ongoing

  How do I apply?
  www.firemansfund.com/heritage.

• 500 for Life

  What is it?
  500 for Life is a charitable organization that provides thermal imagers to fire departments that do not have the available funding to purchase them on their own.

  How much money?
  Varies based on donations and fund raising efforts of 500 for Life.

  How do I apply?
  www.500forlife.org, or email info@500forlife.org.

*Remember to routinely check for additional grants and updates at www.grants.gov. To receive grant updates, sign up to receive Get The Picture e-mail newsletter at http://www.bullard.com/Thermalimager/Get_The_Picture.
Thermal Imaging Grants for Law Enforcement

In today’s world, the demands of homeland security and counter-terrorism are at their highest. In order to meet these demands, the Federal Government has issued a number of grants that provide funding to law enforcement agencies which can’t afford the latest technology, such as Bullard TacSight Thermal Imagers. Grants, both federal and private, can be an excellent resource to purchase thermal imagers for law enforcement agencies.

• **Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP)**
  
  **What is it?**
  CEDAP is designed to assist smaller communities in acquiring and using commercially available equipment.

  **How much money?**
  $33.7 million awarded during Fiscal Year 2007.

  **Can I apply?**
  All departments are eligible except those who received funding from Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI).

  **When can I apply?**
  Annual application period: Spring.

  **How do I apply?**
  [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/equipment_cedap.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/equipment_cedap.htm).

• **Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)**
  
  **What is it?**
  UASI program provides financial assistance towards multidiscipline planning, operations, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density urban areas.

  **How much money?**
  More than $24 million awarded for Fiscal Year 2007.

  **Can I apply?**
  States, territories, urban areas and local agencies are eligible.

  **When can I apply?**
  Annual application period: Winter.

  **How do I apply?**
  [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp).

• **Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETPP)**
  
  **What is it?**
  LETPP provides grant funding to build capabilities that enhance homeland security including authorized expenditures such as planning, organization, equipment, training, exercise, personnel, management and administration.

  **How much money?**
  $1.6 awarded during Fiscal Year 2007.

  **Can I apply?**
  Any state and local law enforcement communities in the U.S.

  **When can I apply?**
  Annual application period: Winter.

  **How do I apply?**
  [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp).

• **Buffer Zone Protection Program (BZPP)**
  
  **What is it?**
  BZPP provides funds to build capabilities at the State and local levels to prevent and protect against terrorist incidents primarily done through planning and equipment acquisition.

  **How much money?**
  $48.5 million will be awarded during Fiscal Year 2007.

  **Can I apply?**
  BZPP grant awards may be used for planning, equipment and management of protective actions anywhere in the United States.

  **When can I apply?**
  Annual application period: Winter.

  **How do I apply?**

• **Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS)**
  
  **What is it?**
  The MMRS program provides funding to designated localities to assist in maintaining plans, delivering training, purchasing equipment and pharmaceuticals, and conducting exercises to develop and sustain the capabilities necessary to respond to a mass casualty event.

  **When can I apply?**
  Annual application period: Winter.

  **How do I apply?**
  [www.fema.gov/mms](http://www.fema.gov/mms).

• **Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)**
  
  **What is it?**
  EMPG provides critical assistance to sustain and enhance state and local emergency management capabilities by supporting personnel, planning, equipment, training and exercises.

  **When can I apply?**
  Annual application period: Fall.

  **How do I apply?**
  [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/grants_programs.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/grants_programs.htm).

• **Justice Assistance Grants Program (JAG)**
  
  **What is it?**
  JAG funds can be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, training, personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support and information systems for criminal justice.

  **For more information:**
  [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/jag.html](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/jag.html).

• **Asset Forfeitures**
  
  **What?**
  The primary mission of the Department of Justice Asset Forfeiture Program is to employ asset forfeiture powers in a manner that enhances public safety and security. This is accomplished by removing the proceeds of crime and other assets relied upon by criminals and their associates to perpetuate their criminal activity against our society. Asset forfeiture has the power to disrupt or dismantle criminal organizations that would continue to function if we only convicted and incarcerated specific individuals. For specific applicability, seek legal advice from your local prosecutor.

  **How can I find out more?**
  For more information on asset forfeitures, visit [www.usdoj.gov/jmd/afp/](http://www.usdoj.gov/jmd/afp/).

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* Remember to continually check for additional grants and updates at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). To receive grant updates, sign up to receive Get The Picture Law Enforcement e-mail newsletter at [www.bullard.com/Tacsight](http://www.bullard.com/Tacsight).
Grant Writing Tips

- **Keep it clear, keep it simple, keep it right.**
  Your proposal should leave no room for interpretation of what you are saying. Be clear, concise and accurate.

- **Deadlines show no mercy.**
  If your application is not in by the deadline, it’s not being considered, period.

- **Beat the calendar, with the calendar.**
  If a grant application deadline is March 31, write it down as March 24 or March 17. Set an earlier "personal deadline" to give yourself some buffer time. This will cut down the chances of a last-minute rush, or worse, missing the deadline – and your department’s shot at that funding.

- **Those who fail to prepare, should be prepared to fail.**
  Before a grant application period opens, gather information. Where could your department best use the money? How has a lack of funding affected your department’s ability to respond, train and operate? What information and data would make your case stronger? Work on bits and pieces like this beforehand, and when the application period opens you’ll be ready.

- **Type your application and narrative in any word processing software, such as Word, Word Perfect, Notepad, etc.**
  This allows you to draft and revise many times, and allow others to read and proof-read your application prior to you submitting it. When you’re ready to submit everything, copy and paste it into your program narratives. Also check the application guidelines to see if they specify file formats you can use, if you may send via e-mail or if there is an online submission process.

- **Use the Internet to make the application process easier.**
  More and more grants are using the Internet to make the grant application process easier. Be sure that you complete and are satisfied with your grant before you submit it online. Many times, you cannot go back and change something on your application once it has been submitted.

- **Get members of the community to read and comment on your proposal.**
  If it does not make common sense to them, it won’t make common sense to a reviewer. Write using an 8th-grade level of education as your standard. Keep your language simple. Leave out jargon or technical words; the reviewer might not know them.

- **Will it meet standards?**
  If the grant guidelines talk about meeting a standard, then make sure in your narrative that you quote that the equipment, training, etc., will meet the standard.

- **“Should” or “Shall” = “MUST”.**
  Whenever you see the words “should” or “shall” in a grant application, interpret that word as being “MUST”. For example, if your grant application states that you “SHOULD” or “SHALL” provide demographic data of your city that support your problem statement in your narrative, then you “MUST” provide the demographic data.

- **Eligible activities change.**
  Activities that may not have been funded in previous years may be allowed this year. Review your past unsuccessful grants to see if those activities may now be eligible.

- **Let Bullard review your grant.**
  Once you have completed your grant, send it to our Grant Assistance Reviewer at funding@bullard.com. We’ll review your grant and offer helpful suggestions. Remember, it’s always good to have an extra set of eyes take a look at your grant before you submit it!

Find more information about federal grants, private grants and other fundraising options at www.bullard.com/thermalimager/get_funding.