



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY**



**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
ADVISORY BULLETIN 2008-4**

Issued June 20, 2008

RE: Federal Emergency Management Agency Emergency Operations Center Grant Program

Program Summary

On June 15, 2008 the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security received notification of a new grant opportunity from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The FY 2008 Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant Program is intended to improve emergency management and preparedness capabilities by supporting flexible, sustainable, secure, and interoperable EOCs with a focus on addressing identified deficiencies and needs. A total of \$14,572,500 nationwide is available for grants for construction or renovation of a State, local, or tribal government's primary Emergency Operations Center (EOC). This grant program is not intended to fund the construction or renovation of State, local, or tribal Fusion Centers.

Application Deadline

The Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) will be accepting applications (see attached) from eligible municipalities and tribal nations for the EOC Grant Program. The deadline for submitting applications to DEMHS is **July 18, 2008 at 4:00 PM EST**.

Funding Limits

Each State, local, or tribal EOC may request funding for **only one construction or renovation project**. "Construction" as defined in this program, refers to building a new facility or any changes to the footprint of an existing facility; while "renovation" refers to internal improvements to an existing facility. **EOCs may request up to \$1,000,000 for construction projects or up to \$250,000 for renovation projects through the FY 2008 EOC Grant Program**. Construction or renovation projects selected for funding will receive the full amount requested.

Cost Share Requirement

In FY 2008, the EOC Grant Program has a 75 percent Federal and 25 percent grantee cost share cash or in-kind match requirement. Unless otherwise authorized by law, Federal funds cannot be used as a match for the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant Program.

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Eligible Applicants

To be eligible to receive FY 2008 EOC Grant Program funding, applicants must meet NIMS compliance requirements. State, Territory, Tribal, and local governments are considered to be in full NIMS compliance if they have adopted and/or implemented the FY 2007 compliance activities, as determined by the National Incident Management System Capability Assessment Support Tool (NIMSCAST) or other accepted means. Additional information on achieving compliance is available through the FEMA National Integration Center (NIC) at <http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/>.

Allowable Costs

EOC Grant Program funds may only be expended for EOC construction or renovation costs. Funds must be spent in compliance with rules and regulations noted in the EOC Grant Program Guidance and Application Kit available at http://www.iaem.com/publications/news/documents/fy08_eoc_grant_program.pdf. In addition, planning costs to support the EOC construction or renovation activities are allowable.

Allowable equipment categories for FY 2008 EOC Grant Program are listed on the web-based version of the Authorized Equipment List (AEL) on the Responder Knowledge Base (RKB), which is sponsored by FEMA at <http://www.rkb.us>.

The select allowable equipment includes equipment from the following AEL categories:

- Explosive Device Mitigation and Remediation (Category 2)
- Information Technology (Category 4)
- Cyber-Security Enhancement Equipment (Category 5)
- Interoperable Communications Equipment (Category 6)
- Power Equipment (Category 10)
- CBRNE Reference Materials (Category 11)
- Physical Security Enhancement Equipment (Category 14)
- CBRNE Logistical Support Equipment (Category 19)
- Other Authorized Equipment (Category 21)

If State agencies and/or local governments have questions concerning the eligibility of equipment not specifically addressed in the AEL, they should contact their FEMA Headquarters Program Analyst at **1-800-368-6498** for clarification.

States that are using EOC Grant Program funds to purchase Interoperable Communications Equipment (Category 6) must consult SAFECOM's coordinated grant guidance which outlines standards and equipment information to enhance interoperable communications. This guidance can be found at <http://www.safecomprogram.gov>.

Unallowable Costs

EOC Grant Program funds may not be spent towards organization, training, or exercises costs. In addition, EOC Grant Program funds may not be spent towards:

- Expenditures for items such as general-use software (word processing, spreadsheet, graphics, etc), general-use computers and related equipment (other than for allowable M&A activities, or otherwise associated preparedness or response functions), general-use vehicles, licensing fees, weapons systems and ammunition.

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Unallowable Costs (Continued)

- Costs to support the hiring of emergency managers or the hiring of sworn public safety officers for the purposes of fulfilling traditional public safety duties or to supplant traditional public safety positions and responsibilities.
- Activities unrelated to the completion and implementation of EOC construction or renovation.
- Other items not in accordance with the portions of the AEL and allowable costs listed in Part III, Section A.

Technical Assistance

Technical assistance pertaining to the EOC Grant application may be directed to your DEMHS Regional Coordinator. If State agencies and/or local governments have questions concerning the eligibility of equipment not specifically addressed in the AEL, they should contact their FEMA Headquarters Program Analyst at **1-800-368-6498** for clarification.

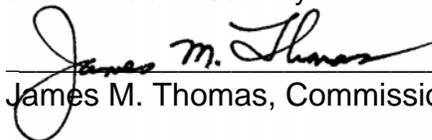
Grant Review

DEMHS will review all grant applications using a pre-defined list of criteria provided by FEMA. All projects will be prioritized and sent to FEMA for review and final approval. *Please note per federal guidelines only one application from the State of Connecticut may be approved.*

Statutory Authority

Section 614 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196c), as amended by section 202 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-53)

Issued by Order of the Commissioner of the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security:


James M. Thomas, Commissioner

June 20, 2008
Date