
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1099 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY MASTRIANO, BROOKS, BROWN, COSTA, DILLON, GEBHARD,
HUTCHINSON, PENNYCUICK, ROTHMAN, BAKER, REGAN, SCHWANK, VOGEL
AND J. WARD, MARCH 12, 2024

REFERRED TO VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,
MARCH 12, 2024

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in grants to fire companies and
3 emergency medical services companies, further providing for
4 publication and notice and for award of grants, repealing
5 provisions relating to COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and
6 Emergency Medical Services Grant Program and to Emergency
7 Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program, further
8 providing for expiration of authority, repealing provisions
9 relating to expiration of authority relating to COVID-19
10 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services Grant
11 Program and to expiration of authority relating to Emergency
12 Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program and further
13 providing for annual reports.

14 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
15 hereby enacts as follows:

16 Section 1. Sections 7812, 7813(a)(7), (a.2) and (d), 7822
17 and 7823(a)(7) of Title 35 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
18 Statutes are amended to read:

19 § 7812. Publication and notice.

20 The commissioner shall publish notice of the grant program
21 availability through the Legislative Reference Bureau for
22 publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin by August 8 for each

1 fiscal year. The commissioner shall post a notice of the grant
2 program and application for the grant program on the Office of
3 the State Fire Commissioner's publicly accessible Internet
4 website. To the greatest extent possible, the commissioner shall
5 utilize the Department of Community and Economic Development's
6 Single Application for Assistance.

7 § 7813. Award of grants.

8 (a) Authorization.--The commissioner is authorized to make a
9 grant award to each eligible fire company for the following:

10 * * *

11 [(7) Revenue loss for grants issued in 2021 and 2022.]

12 * * *

13 [(a.2) Additional grants.--Each fire company with not more
14 than 20 members who are certified by the National Board on Fire
15 Service Professional Qualifications or by the International Fire
16 Service Accreditation Congress and are verified by the
17 Pennsylvania State Fire Academy at a minimum level of
18 Firefighter 1 on or before July 1 of the year of the grant
19 application shall be eligible to receive additional grants under
20 a certification bonus point system as administered by the
21 commissioner.]

22 * * *

23 (d) Eligibility.--To receive grant funds under this chapter,
24 a fire company must:

25 (1) Have actively responded to at least 15 fire or
26 rescue emergencies during the previous calendar year.

27 (2) Be actively participating in the Pennsylvania Fire
28 Information Reporting System under a signed agreement. The
29 commissioner shall develop and publish guidelines specifying
30 the criteria necessary to determine the level of

1 participation in the Pennsylvania Fire Information Reporting
2 System to remain eligible for grant funds.

3 (3) Have on record with the commissioner up-to-date
4 point-of-contact information for the fire company, fire chief
5 and president, including mailing address, telephone number
6 and email addresses.

7 (4) Be registered with the appropriate public safety
8 answering point as an active response agency.

9 * * *

10 § 7822. Publication and notice.

11 The commissioner shall publish notice of the grant program
12 availability through the Legislative Reference Bureau for
13 publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin by August 8 for each
14 fiscal year. To the greatest extent possible, the commissioner
15 shall utilize the Department of Community and Economic
16 Development's Single Application for Assistance.

17 § 7823. Award of grants.

18 (a) Authorization.--The commissioner is authorized to make a
19 grant award to each eligible EMS company for the following:

20 * * *

21 [(7) Revenue loss for grants issued in 2021 and 2022.]

22 * * *

23 Section 2. Subchapter C.1 of Chapter 78, section 7832.2 and
24 Subchapter E of Chapter 78 of Title 35 are repealed:

25 [SUBCHAPTER C.1

26 COVID-19 CRISIS FIRE COMPANY AND

27 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM

28 Sec.

29 7827.1. Establishment.

30 7827.2. Publication and notice.

1 7827.3. Award of grants.

2 § 7827.1. Establishment.

3 The COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency Medical
4 Services Grant Program is established and shall be administered
5 by the agency. Grants provided under the program shall be used
6 by fire companies and EMS companies to provide services during
7 the novel coronavirus pandemic as identified in the proclamation
8 of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020,
9 published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and any renewal of
10 the state of disaster emergency.

11 § 7827.2. Publication and notice.

12 The agency shall transmit notice of the COVID-19 Crisis Fire
13 Company and Emergency Medical Services Grant Program
14 availability to the Legislative Reference Bureau for publication
15 in the Pennsylvania Bulletin within 30 days of the effective
16 date of this section.

17 § 7827.3. Award of grants.

18 (a) Authorization.--The agency shall make a grant award from
19 the COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services
20 Grant Program to:

21 (1) Each eligible fire company that received a grant
22 award in fiscal year 2019-2020 under section 7813 (relating
23 to award of grants) for the purposes under section 7813(a)
24 and (a.1).

25 (2) A fire company that did not apply for or receive a
26 grant award in fiscal year 2019-2020 under section 7813 and
27 that applies for a grant under this subchapter for the
28 purposes under section 7813(a) and (a.1).

29 (3) Each eligible EMS company that received a grant
30 award in fiscal year 2019-2020 under section 7823 (relating

1 to award of grants) for the purposes under section 7823(a).

2 (4) An EMS company that did not apply for or receive a
3 grant award in fiscal year 2019-2020 under section 7823 and
4 that applies for a grant under this subchapter for the
5 purposes under section 7823(a).

6 (b) Amount of award.--The amount of the grant award under
7 this subchapter shall be the same amount of the grant award for
8 fiscal year 2019-2020 to:

9 (1) An eligible fire company under section 7813.

10 (2) An eligible EMS company under section 7823.

11 (c) Application not required.--

12 (1) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2), no
13 additional application shall be required for a grant under
14 this subchapter.

15 (2) A fire company under subsection (a)(2) and an EMS
16 company under subsection (a)(4) must file an application for
17 a grant under this subchapter.

18 § 7832.2. COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency Medical
19 Services Grant Program.

20 The following shall apply to any appropriation from money
21 received by the Commonwealth under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief,
22 and Economic Security Act (Public Law 116-136, 134 Stat. 281)
23 for purposes of making grants under Subchapter C.1 (relating to
24 COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services
25 Grant Program):

26 (1) The sum of \$44,000,000 of the amount appropriated
27 shall be expended for the purpose of making grants to
28 eligible fire companies.

29 (2) The sum of \$6,000,000 of the amount appropriated
30 shall be expended for the purpose of making grants to

1 eligible EMS companies.

2 (3) Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2), the agency
3 may use up to \$200,000 of unencumbered funds from the amount
4 appropriated for administrative costs for the implementation
5 of Subchapter C.1.

6 SUBCHAPTER E

7 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

8 COVID-19 RECOVERY GRANT PROGRAM

9 Sec.

10 7841. Establishment.

11 7842. Award of grants.

12 7843. Funding and costs.

13 7844. Report.

14 § 7841. Establishment.

15 The Emergency Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant
16 Program is established and shall be administered by the Office
17 of the State Fire Commissioner in consultation with the
18 Department of Health. Grants provided under the Emergency
19 Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program shall be used
20 by EMS companies to provide services in response to the novel
21 coronavirus pandemic.

22 § 7842. Award of grants.

23 (a) Application not required.--No application shall be
24 required to receive a grant under this subchapter.

25 (b) Notification.--The Office of the State Fire Commissioner
26 shall notify in writing each EMS company, as defined under
27 section 7802 (relating to definitions), of the availability of
28 grants from the Emergency Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery
29 Grant Program for the purposes under section 7823(a) (relating
30 to award of grants).

1 (c) Certification.--The Office of the State Fire
2 Commissioner shall include with the written notification under
3 subsection (b) a form for each eligible EMS company to certify
4 that a grant received under this subchapter shall be used for
5 the purposes under section 7823(a) and provide a deadline by
6 which an EMS company must return the certification form.

7 (d) Amount.--Grants shall be awarded under this subchapter
8 in an amount equal to the total amount of funds appropriated
9 under section 7843 (relating to funding and costs) less the
10 amount used under section 7843(b) divided by the total number of
11 EMS companies that returned the certification under subsection
12 (c).

13 (e) Report.--No later than July 30, 2022, each EMS company
14 receiving a grant award under this subchapter shall report to
15 the Office of the State Fire Commissioner how it will use the
16 grant money awarded under subsection (d).

17 § 7843. Funding and costs.

18 (a) Appropriation.--The sum of \$25,000,000 of Federal funds
19 in the COVID-19 Response Restricted Account is appropriated to
20 the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency for the Emergency
21 Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program under this
22 subchapter. The provisions of section 111-C(g) of the act of
23 April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), known as The Fiscal Code, shall
24 not apply to the amount appropriated under this section.

25 (b) Administrative costs.--The Office of the State Fire
26 Commissioner may use up to \$200,000 of unencumbered funds from
27 the amount appropriated under subsection (a) for administrative
28 costs for the implementation of this subchapter.

29 § 7844. Report.

30 (a) Contents.--The commissioner shall prepare a report on

1 the Emergency Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program.

2 The report shall include all of the following information:

3 (1) The total number of EMS companies that were notified
4 of the grant program.

5 (2) The total number of EMS companies that submitted a
6 certification for the grant program.

7 (3) The total number of EMS companies that received a
8 grant.

9 (4) The total amount of the grant received by each EMS
10 company.

11 (5) A summary of how each EMS company will use the grant
12 money awarded under the program.

13 (b) Submission.--The commissioner shall submit the report by
14 September 1, 2022, to all of the following:

15 (1) The chair and minority chair of the Veterans Affairs
16 and Emergency Preparedness Committee of the Senate.

17 (2) The chair and minority chair of the Veterans Affairs
18 and Emergency Preparedness Committee of the House of
19 Representatives.

20 (3) The chair and minority chair of the Appropriations
21 Committee of the Senate.

22 (4) The chair and minority chair of the Appropriations
23 Committee of the House of Representatives.

24 (c) Posting.--The commissioner shall post the annual report
25 on the Office of the State Fire Commissioner's publicly
26 accessible Internet website.]

27 Section 3. Section 7891 of Title 35 is amended to read:

28 § 7891. Expiration of authority.

29 The authority of the commissioner to award grants under
30 Subchapters B (relating to fire company grant program) and C

1 (relating to emergency medical services grant program) shall
2 expire [June 30, 2024] December 31, 2034.

3 Section 4. Sections 7892 and 7893 of Title 35 are repealed:

4 [§ 7892. Expiration of authority relating to COVID-19 Crisis
5 Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services Grant
6 Program.]

7 The authority of the agency to award grants under Subchapter
8 C.1 (relating to COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency
9 Medical Services Grant Program) shall expire six months after
10 the effective date of this section.

11 § 7893. Expiration of authority relating to Emergency Medical
12 Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program.]

13 The authority of the Office of the State Fire Commissioner to
14 award grants under Subchapter E (relating to Emergency Medical
15 Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program) shall expire June 30,
16 2022.]

17 Section 5. Section 7895(a) (5) of Title 35 is amended to
18 read:

19 § 7895. Annual reports.

20 (a) Contents.--The commissioner shall prepare an annual
21 report on the Fire Company Grant Program and Emergency Medical
22 Services Grant Program. The annual report shall include all of
23 the following information:

24 * * *

25 [(5) A list of the fire companies as delineated by
26 county that received additional grants under section
27 7813(a.2) (relating to award of grants).]

28 * * *

29 Section 6. This act shall take effect in 60 days.