ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR VFA GRANT APPLICANTS

The main criterion that must be met, to be eligible for VFA funding, is that it must benefit the rural population and/or communities with less than 10,000 in population. This criterion can be met by using the latest census data to confirm population and where the applicant is:

1. a single fire department serving a rural area or rural community with a population of 10,000 or less.

OR

2. a single community or county with a population greater than 10,000 that:
   a. that provides contractual fire protection to an adjoining rural community of 10,000 or less population, where the VFA funding is used entirely to support the rural community.

OR

   b. that has a single fire department with one or more fire stations, that serves a rural area or community that does not exceed 10,000. The VFA funding must be used only for the benefit of the rural population.

OR

   c. that is served by two or more fire districts operating entirely within the bounds of that county or town, as long as the service area includes a rural area or a rural community, or the population of the fire department’s jurisdiction is 10,000 or less. The VFA funding must be specifically used for the rural area.

OR

   d. that has an area fire department (fire districts, townships, etc.) serving an aggregate population of greater than 10,000, but which includes a rural area or rural community having a population of 10,000 or less, where the VFA funding is specifically used to benefit the rural population.

NOT ELIGIBLE: A single community fire department serving a population greater than 10,000 and not providing protection to a rural area or to a rural community is NOT eligible for VFA financial assistance.