



Arlington Fire District

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For Emergencies
DIAL 911

"Safeguarding Our Community"

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 17, 2021

Arlington Fire District Awarded \$770,000 Grant

The Arlington Fire District is receiving a grant in the amount of \$770,000 through the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant program. Grant funds will be used to send our firefighter/EMTs to Paramedic training, enabling them to become certified as NYS Firefighter/Paramedics. The grant requires a local contribution of 10%, with the remaining \$700,000 coming directly from the Federal Government.

According to Fire Chief William Steenbergh, "Providing high-quality emergency medical Services to the community is a critical part of our mission. We typically treat more than 500 patients every month in Arlington, and provide a highly-skilled team of responders to the patient with an average response time of about 4½ minutes district-wide. Maintaining a roster of certified firefighter/paramedics is central to maintaining this level of service. Recent promotions and retirements have reduced the number of our paramedics to an unacceptably low level. This grant will allow us to send 10 of our experienced firefighter/EMTs to a 1400+ hour paramedic certification training program. The 15-month training program will culminate in certification by the NYS Department of Health. Paramedics represent the highest level of pre-hospital care possible, through the administration of IV medications, advanced airway procedures, 12-lead cardiac monitoring, and other medical treatments previously only available in hospital Emergency Departments.

We are most grateful to FEMA for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, and for selecting our application for funding. We also recognize and thank our elected representatives in Washington, DC; Senators Schumer & Gillibrand, Congressmen Sean Patrick Maloney & Anthony Delgado, for their continued support in funding the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program."