NEW YORK STATE | Homeland Security and Emergency Services | Fire Prevention and Control

Combined SFY2025, 2026 & 2027 Fire Loss Investigations and Community Risk Reduction (FLI-CRR) Grant Program: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

New and/or updated FAQs will be highlighted in red.
Please check the DHSES website frequently for updates

I. Due Date and Application Instructions

1) **Question: What is the application due date for the Combined SFY2025, 2026 & 2027 Fire Loss Investigations and Community Risk Reduction (FLI-CRR) Grant Program?**

   Answer: Applications are due to the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services-Grants Program Administration on December 2, 2026, by 5:00 P.M.

2) **Question: How do I submit my application for the Combined SFY2025, 2026 & 2027 FLI-CRR Grant Program?**

   Answer: Applications must be submitted via the DHSES E-Grants System.

3) **Question: What are the consequences of not reviewing the E-Grants Tutorial?**

   Answer: You are strongly encouraged to go through the E-Grants tutorial, as it is designed to help you navigate the application process, especially if you are new to the grant process. Any questions concerning E-Grants can be directed to the grants e-mail address at: Grant.Info@dhses.ny.gov.

4) **Question: I am having trouble submitting my application in E-Grants and/or having problems downloading the appropriate documents that must be submitted as a required attachment with my application (e.g., file incompatibility). How can I receive assistance with this process?**

   Answer: The E-Grants Tutorial for the Combined SFY2025, 2026 & 2027 FLI-CRR Grant Program provides a step-by-step guide for successfully submitting your application via the E-Grants system. The tutorial is available at the following link: https://www.dhses.ny.gov/state-funded-programs.

   If you have questions or concerns about E-Grants after reviewing the tutorial, please contact DHSES at Grant.Info@dhses.ny.gov or 866-837-9133 for assistance.

5) **Question: What will happen if I fail to answer all the required sections of the application?**

Answer: Applicants are required to answer all the questions in the application worksheet. Failure to answer all the required questions may lead to a delay in your award.

6) **Question: What are the consequences of requesting budget items that are not allowable?**

Answer: If you request budgetary items that are not allowed under the Combined SFY2025, 2026 & 2027 FLI-CRR Grant Program, those items will not be considered. Please refer to the Combined SFY2025, 2026 & 2027 FLI-CRR Grant Program RFA for more details on permissible and non-permissible costs.

7) **Question: Who should complete the Notice of Endorsement (Exhibit A in the RFA)?**

Answer: The Notice of Endorsement should be completed and signed by the County Fire Coordinator only if applying on behalf of a local (non-county) Fire Investigations team. A signed and scanned copy should be included as an attachment to the application. This document will be available as a standalone resource on the DHSES website upon the program's release.

II. Grant Program Eligibility

1) **Question: Who is eligible to apply for the Combined SFY2025, 2026 & 2027 FLI-CRR Grant Program?**

Answer: All New York State counties and New York City are eligible to apply for funding through this grant program. The five boroughs that comprise New York City (Bronx, Kings, Queens, New York and Richmond) must apply as a single entity. Local non-county level fire investigation teams may be represented in an application by their respective county, who would apply on their behalf.

III. Permissible Costs

1) **Question: Are construction costs allowable under this grant program?**

Answer: No, costs associated with construction projects are not allowable under this grant opportunity. Please refer to Section IV of the Request for Applications (RFA) Authorized Program Expenditures (pages 4-6), for more information regarding permissible costs.

2) **Question: Would vehicles/trailers/Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) be allowable expenses under this grant program?**

Answer: The purchase of response vehicles, trailers and UAS are allowable under this grant opportunity. Response vehicles and trailers must be used for the transportation of CRR supplies and/or personnel. Please refer to Section IV of the Request for Applications (RFA)

Authorized Program Expenditures (pages 4-6), for more information regarding permissible costs.

3) **Question: Is software allowable under this grant program?**

Answer: Yes, software for the purpose of gathering and managing data to aid in fire investigations is considered an allowable expense under this grant opportunity. Community Risk Reduction software is also allowable for the purpose of gathering and managing data and aiding fire prevention. Please refer to Section IV of the Request for Applications (RFA) Authorized Program Expenditures (pages 4-6), for more information regarding permissible costs.

4) **Question: Can this funding be used to support the creation of public safety information videos?**

Answer: Yes, the creation of videos is allowable under this grant program. Please note that the videos must be related to Community Risk Reduction and/or aimed at aiding in fire prevention. Please refer to Section IV of the Request for Applications (RFA) Authorized Program Expenditures (pages 4-6), for more information regarding permissible costs.

5) **Question: If an applicant pays for a project prior to being awarded, could they be reimbursed through this grant, or should they wait for the project until after the grant is awarded?**

Answer: Projects cannot be reimbursed if started or completed prior to being awarded. As noted in Section VIII, page 8 of the FLI-CRR Request for Applications (RFA), "The period of performance for contracts supported by the Fire Investigations and Community Risk Reduction Grant Program funds will be three (3) years from the date of the award. The final performance period will be communicated to applicants and/or grantees by DHSES. Although the contract format may vary, the contract will include such standard terms and conditions included in DHSES grant contracts available for review on the DHSES website: https://www.dhses.ny.gov/grant-reporting-forms." Please also note that all phases of project implementation, to include the procurement/bidding process, may only occur during the period of performance of the grant.

V. Other

1) **Question: I have additional questions that were not addressed in this Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) bulletin. Whom should I contact?**

Answer: Questions should be directed in writing to the following email address: Grant.Info@dhses.ny.gov. This FAQs bulletin will be updated based on questions that are submitted by prospective applicants. Please check the DHSES website (https://www.dhses.ny.gov/state-funded-programs) frequently for updates.