

Chapter - 16

Ready Reserve Program

A. Policy

The Readiness Reserve (RR) program has replaced the Rural Fire Assistance program. The emphasis of the RR program is to train rural cooperators in basic and advanced wildland firefighting courses. The purpose is to enhance wildland fire cooperators capabilities in initial and extended attack activities. The RR program is not a grant program.

B. Criteria For Rural Fire Departments To Participate

For rural fire departments (RFDs) to participate in the RR program, they must meet the following criteria:

1. The RFD must be a party to an agreement with the state forester (or equivalent) or Tribe or a cooperative agreement with a Department of the Interior (DOI) wildland fire bureau.
2. The RFD must have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number required for all grant applicants. The DUNS number is a required nine character identification number available free of charge from Dun & Bradstreet Inc.
3. The RFD serves a community with a population of 10,000 or less, and is in the vicinity of or within the wildland urban interface.
4. The RFD must be in close proximity to DOI land and communities within the wildland urban interface.
5. A local DOI bureau must be dependent on a RFD for response to wildfire incidents.

C. Implementation

The program will be administered by the DOI bureaus with each bureau responsible for implementation of the RR program within geographic areas. The program will be implemented through established state fire training academies.

The state fire academies will sponsor National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) wildland fire courses for basic and advanced firefighting positions to RFDs to become qualified firefighter Type 2 (FFT2), firefighter Type1 (FFT1), engine boss (STEN), and strike team leader engines (STEN). In

CHAPTER 16 - READY RESERVE

addition, providing funding is available, the state fire academy may provide personal protective equipment (PPE) to each RFD individual that attends training. PPE will be limited aramid pants, aramid shirts, leather gloves, hard hat, and fire shelter.

The state fire academies will select RFDs employees to attend training based on the following criteria:

1. The RFDs proximity to DOI managed land and protection role for the wildland urban interface.
2. DOI reliance on the RFD for expedient initial attack in DOI areas of responsibility. RFDs in close vicinity to DOI lands may play a major role in initial attack due to their close vicinity and have significance to the DOI bureau.
3. Evaluate the RFDs relationship in supporting initiatives, direction plans as the *10-year Comprehensive Strategy* and its *Implementation Plan*, state fire plans, community wildfire protection plans or equivalent and fire management plans

The DOI bureau representatives should work cooperatively work the state academies in the selection of RFD individuals to attend the training.

D. Reporting Requirements

State fire academies will be responsible to submit a report of the firefighters trained and PPE distributed at the completion of the training, number of courses offered, name of individual and their fire department, and an inventory of equipment purchased. Included will be a detailed report of expenditures and copies of all receipts should be made available.