



First Responder Grant Guidelines

Grants are reserved for First Responder Departments. The Gary Sinise Foundation First Responder Outreach Team defines First Responders as “Those individuals called upon in the early stages of an incident that are responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, evidence, and the environment.”

Entities that fall under the described criteria above include:

- Law Enforcement Organizations
- Fire Fighting Organizations
- Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Organizations
- Search and Rescue (SAR) Organizations

Grant requests are limited to Equipment and Training.

- Building and operating costs, such as construction, utility, or land fees, are not covered under this grant.

First Responder Departments are limited to one (1) First Responder Outreach Grant application per calendar year regardless of approval/denial of the application.

All First Responder Departments mentioned above are eligible to submit grant applications. Please note that priority is given to volunteer and underfunded departments.

Fire Departments awarded grants for turnout gear will be sent Gary Sinise Foundation “Donated By” patches to be added to the coats, at no cost to the department.

NOTE: For Law Enforcement Departments, the Gary Sinise Foundation does NOT provide funding for weapons of any type. For the purpose of this grant “weapons” refers to objects, both lethal and non-lethal, that are used to inflict harm to any degree and may include, but are not limited to:

- Batons
- Explosives
- Firearms
- Pepper Spray
- Tasers
- Tear Gas

The Gary Sinise Foundation First Responder Outreach Team reserves the right to alter, edit, exempt, deny, and/or authorize grants on a case-by-case basis. All questions about the grant process, eligibility, timelines, etc., should be directed to the following email address:

firstresponder@garysinisefoundation.org.