

**Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) GRANT
STIPEND POINT SYSTEM
Year 1 of Grant Operations**

PURPOSE of the SAFER Grant: The Department of Homeland Security/FEMA has provided the Bowie Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) with a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant. This grant is designed to provide an incentive for the recruitment and retention of Volunteer Emergency Responders, and to increase the participation level of our current Responding Volunteers.

Any Volunteer who *responds** to emergency calls is eligible to earn these benefits. The primary objective of these benefits is to recruit and retain trained frontline Volunteer Emergency Responders; therefore, positions such as admin roles in the department are not eligible.

All interested, eligible members MUST sign a Memorandum of Agreement with the BVFD prior to receiving any benefit under the SAFER Grant.

Initial Eligibility: Once a volunteer has an ID# and is eligible to ride apparatus, they can begin earning points toward the stipend program. This means that the volunteer has to have background/medical clearance, an ID# issued with an ID card and PAT card, attended VRS, have an active, valid CPR card, and have PPE issued.

Members Transferring in to BVFD: There is a 90 day waiting period once your transfer paperwork has been completed and submitted to the County for Approval. After 90 days of meeting, at a minimum, the 10 point qualification riding system, the member is fully eligible for benefits that they are qualified to receive.

Continuation of Eligibility: Within the first 6 months of volunteering with BVFD, the volunteer must have registered to attend and begun EMT and/or Fire I, or whatever class is determined to be necessary by the Fire Chief given the volunteer's qualification status.

10 POINT QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

5 Points (Required)	+ 5 Points (Options Available)
32 Hours/Month of Riding Duty (this includes riders on auxillary vehicle responses)	Additional 4 Hours/Month of Riding Duty (5 Points)
	Attend Fire Dept Related Mtng (1 Point)
	Attend FD Supported Event (1 Point)
	Attend FD Authorized Training (2 Points/Day or Night)

A Total of 10 Points/Month will earn you \$500/Quarter or \$167/Month in Stipend Funds

Exhibit A

Higher Level Eligibility: Members that have the following certifications are eligible to earn benefits under the 20 point qualification system:

EMS Only Personnel: Must possess a valid MD EMT** card, EVOC card and be cleared as a provider on the ambulance (able to ride all positions - driver, front seat & aide).

Suppression Personnel: Must possess a valid MD EMT** card and FF I card.

Other Responders: Must possess EVOC, Fire Inspector I & II*** and Cleared to drive Support Vehicles responding to Calls from the station.

20 POINT QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

20 Points
48 Hours/Month of Riding Duty (FF & EMS Responders)
24 Hours/Month of Tower/Engine Driver Duty
24 Hours/Month of Community Fire Inspection/Prevention/Support Response Duty

A Total of 20 Points/Month will earn you \$1,000/Quarter or \$334/Month in Stipend Funds

*All Responses are from the firehouse/on-air; personnel must be either at the firehouse or on-air at the time of the call being dispatched in order to receive response credit.

**First Responder card is acceptable for those who are grandfathered into the system.

***BVFD will offer Fire Inspector I & II classes in January 2016 for all interested members.