



OFFICE OF PLANNING AND BUDGET

Brian P. Kemp
Governor

Kelly Farr
Director

Georgia Public Safety Officials and First Responders Supplement Grant

Governor Kemp has announced a Public Safety Officials and First Responders Supplement Grant using funding from the American Rescue Plan Act. This program was established in recognition of the sacrifice and dedication public safety officers and first responders have shown in serving Georgians and their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. The grant will provide a \$1,000 pay supplement for all eligible sworn law enforcement officials and first responders and a \$300 supplement for all active volunteer firefighters in Georgia serving during August of 2021.

Eligible organizations and eligible employees include:

- **Eligible Organizations:** State government agencies and authorities, municipal and county governments, and emergency medical services agencies licensed by the Department of Public Health.
- **Eligible Employees:** Employees of one of the above organizations serving full-time as a public safety official or first responder **in a position requiring active certification** as a law enforcement officer, jail officer, communications officer, firefighter, or emergency medical services personnel from the state from either the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council (POST), Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council (GFSTC), or Department of Public Health (DPH).

Employers will apply on behalf of employees within their jurisdiction or organization. Grant funds will be paid to the employer, and the employer will disburse payments to individuals through their payroll process. To receive the funds, employers must first **sign a terms and conditions agreement** with the state and then subsequently **submit a payment request** with documentation showing payroll information for eligible employees for the month of August 2021. Payment requests must be submitted through the Office of Planning and Budget's (OPB) **GeorgiaGrants portal**. Payroll information must show employee name, position title, active pay status, full time status, certification title and number, and reflect that the individual was an employee during the period between August 1 and August 31 of 2021. Payroll information must also show whether the department or entity contributes to the Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) program or pays Medicare for its Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) payroll taxes.

Primary contacts for organizations within the GeorgiaGrants system will receive the Terms and Agreements document via email. The email will be sent directly from the GeorgiaGrants system via AdobeSign from echo@echosign.com. Users should ensure this email is added as a safe sender in their email system to avoid servers routing it to junk or spam folder. Once your organization has signed the Terms and Agreements, users will be able to see the Law Enforcement and First Responder Supplement Grant as an approved grant within your account on the GeorgiaGrants portal and begin submitting requests for funding. Cities and counties are asked to submit a request for all law enforcement entities within their jurisdiction and should submit each department within their jurisdiction as a separate direct expense within their payment request.

The Office of Planning and Budget will work with the Georgia Municipal Association, Association of County Commissioners of Georgia, and the Department of Public Health to provide training and outreach sessions to eligible entities on the request submission process. Please review the OPB website at <https://opb.georgia.gov/law-enforcement-and-first-responders-supplement> for updates regarding this program.