

SEPTEMBER 4 AGENDA - DRAFT - 9/4/2024 1:55 PM
ATTACHMENT

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio received 27 applications for 2024 Hazardous Materials Planning and Training Grants. The grant applications requested funding to pay for hazardous materials emergency response training. Given the number of grant applications, the limited amount of available funds, and the desire to fund all training grant applications, some individual grant amounts are reduced. Potential grantees were contacted with preliminary determinations of grant amounts and requested to state if they wished to receive the reduced grant. All of the applicants decided to proceed with a reduced grant. The following outlines the PUCO Hazmat Planning and Training Grant awards for 2024 totaling \$800,000.

The PUCO Hazardous Materials Planning and Training Grants are reimbursement grants. Grant funds are not provided before the approved activities are performed. Once the PUCO makes a grant and the grantee performs the training as described in the approved grant application and the grant agreement, the grantee must submit a request for reimbursement. A request for reimbursement must include documentation that demonstrates the grantee has followed the conditions of the approved grant application and grant agreement. After review for compliance with the conditions of the grant, the grantee is reimbursed. The amount of the reimbursement may be reduced based on the grantee's compliance with the condition of the grant agreement.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRAINING GRANTS
2024

Belmont County EMA

The Belmont County EMA requests \$6,500 to fund the following:

- 6 Hour Spill Response Training with Hands On for 40 personnel
- 4 Hour Incident Response Considerations for Lithium Battery Emergencies for 130 personnel

The Belmont County EMA is awarded \$6,500 towards the completion of the proposed training.

Bowling Green Fire Department

The Bowling Green Fire Department requests \$17,780 to fund the following:

- Blue Card Three-Day Command Lab for 28 personnel
- Blue Card Online 8 functions of Command for 28 personnel
- Blue Card Train the trainer course for 1 personnel

The Bowling Green Fire Department is awarded \$17,780 towards the completion of the proposed training.

CEPAC c/o Franklin County Emergency Management & HS

The CEPAC c/o Franklin County Emergency Management & HS requests \$22,950 to fund the following:

- 40 Hour Tactical Chemistry for 25 personnel

The CEPAC c/o Franklin County Emergency Management & HS is awarded \$22,950 towards the completion of the proposed training.

Chagrin/Southeast Council of Governments/Westshore Hazmat Team/Southwest Emergency Response Team

The Chagrin/Southeast Council of Governments, Westshore Hazmat Team and Southwest Emergency Response Team request \$19,500 to assist in funding the 2024 Ohio Hazmat Teams Conference scheduled for October 31 – November 2, 2024. The Chagrin/Southeast Council of Governments expects to train 289 emergency responders at the conference. The request includes \$12,000 for speaker fees, \$8,000 for speaker lodging (eight speakers), \$3,000 for event facility costs and \$1,000 for course materials. Vendor fees and student fees will contribute \$4,500 toward conference funding.

The Chagrin/Southeast Council of Governments, Westshore Hazmat Team and Southwest Emergency Response Team are awarded \$19,500 for this conference. Conference meals are not eligible for reimbursement.

Cincinnati State Technical and Community College

The Cincinnati State Technical and Community College requests \$374,545 to fund the following:

- OSHA 24-hour HAZWOPER (HazMat) Training Workshop (NFPA 470 – Operations-Level) for 15 students
- OSHA 40-hour HAZWOPER (HazMat) Training Workshop (NFPA 470 – Technician-Level) for 100 students
- OSHA Hospital First Receiver for 250 students
- OSHA Annual Hazardous Materials Refresher for 825 students
- OSHA 8AM: Municipal Responder Awareness for 15 students

The Cincinnati State Technical and Community College is awarded \$50,304.18 towards the completion of the proposed training (with the exception of OSHA Hospital First Receiver which will not be reimbursed under this grant). A revised scope of work based on the amount of the grant award versus the grant request must be submitted within 30 days of the Finding and Order approving the grant. The scope of work must contain the number of students and cost per student or cost per class and number of classes to be conducted to comply with the reduced award amount.

City of Green Fire Department

The City of Green Fire Department requests \$9,150 to fund:

- Hazardous Materials Refresher Training 8 Hour for 61 personnel

The City of Green Fire Department is awarded \$9,150 towards the completion of the proposed training.

City of Mason Fire Department/Northeast Fire Collaborative

The City of Mason Fire Department and Northeast Fire Collaborative request \$19,350 to fund the following:

- Haz-MatIQ: BatteryIQ Technician Responses to Lithium-Ion Battery Emergencies for 90 personnel

The City of Mason Fire Department and Northeast Fire Collaborative are awarded \$19,350 towards the completion of the proposed training.

City of Toledo, Division of Environmental Services

The City of Toledo, Division of Environmental Services requests \$28,511 to fund the following:

- HAZWOPER Refresher (8 hour) for 120 personnel
- Emergency Response Awareness Workshop for 250 personnel
- HazMatIQ: BatteryIQ Awareness and Operational Response to Li-ION Battery Emergencies for 60 personnel
- EV/Lithium-Ion Operations for 30 personnel

The City of Toledo, Division of Environmental Services is awarded \$15,000 towards the completion of the proposed training. A revised scope of work based on the amount of the grant award versus the grant request must be submitted within 30 days of the Finding and Order approving the grant. The scope of work must contain the number of students and cost per student or cost per class and number of classes to be conducted to comply with the reduced award amount.

Cleveland State University

Cleveland State University requests \$400,000 to fund the 10 courses (87 classes) listed below. Each class will train 8 - 16 students.

- Hazardous Materials Awareness Training 8 Hour (1 class)
- Hazardous Materials Refresher Training 8 Hour (61 classes)
- Hazardous Materials Radiation Emergencies 8 Hour (3 classes)
- Hazardous Materials Operations Training 16 Hour (1 class)
- HMO / HMSO Training 24 Hour (2 classes)
- Hazardous Materials Technician Training 40 Hour (4 classes)
- Hazardous Materials Alternative Fueled Vehicles Training 8 Hour (3 classes)

- Hazardous Materials Permit Required Confined Space Entry Training 8 Hour (3 classes)
- Hazardous Materials Permit Required Confined Space Rescue Training 16 Hour (3 classes)
- Hazardous Materials Permit Required Confined Space Rescue Refresher Training 8 Hour (6 classes)

Cleveland State University is awarded \$400,000 towards the completion of the proposed training.

Columbus Ohio Division of Fire

The Columbus Ohio Division of Fire requests \$12,500 to fund:

- Joint Hazard Assessment Team (JHAT) Course for 30 personnel

The Columbus Ohio Division of Fire is awarded \$12,500 towards the completion of the proposed training.

County Line Joint Fire District

The County Line Joint Fire District requests \$3,880 to fund:

- HazMat Refresher for 15 personnel

The County Line Joint Fire District is awarded \$3,880 towards the completion of the proposed training.

Green Perrysville Joint Fire District

The Green Perrysville Joint Fire District requests \$3,380 to fund:

- HazMat Refresher for 15 personnel

The Green Perrysville Joint Fire District is awarded \$3,380 towards the completion of the proposed training.

Hamilton County Local Emergency Planning Committee

The Hamilton County Local Emergency Planning Committee requests \$8,825 to fund:

- Anhydrous Hydrogen Fluoride Training for 60 personnel
- HazMat for EMS for 30 personnel

The Hamilton County Local Emergency Planning Committee is awarded \$8,825 towards the completion of the proposed training.

Jackson Township Fire Department

The Jackson Township Fire Department requests \$2,750 to fund:

- Lithium-Ion Battery Emergencies for 50 personnel

The Jackson Township Fire Department is awarded \$2,750 towards the completion of the proposed training.

Lorain County Emergency Management Agency

The Lorain County Emergency Management Agency requests \$6,200 to fund:

- Grounding and Bonding Tactics for 30 personnel
- HAZMAT Research Specialist for 30 personnel
- Hazardous Materials Decontamination for 30 personnel
- Thermo Scientific RMX for 30 personnel

The Lorain County Emergency Management Agency is awarded \$6,200 towards the completion of the proposed training.

Macedonia Fire Department

The Macedonia Fire Department requests \$16,200 to fund:

- Hazmat Operations Refresher Training with Hands-on Exercise for 40 personnel
- Spill Response Training for 40 personnel

The Macedonia Fire Department is awarded \$16,200 towards the completion of the proposed training.

Macedonia Police Department Dispatch

The Macedonia Police Department Dispatch requests \$3,750 to fund:

- Hazardous Materials for Dispatchers for 20 personnel

The Macedonia Police Department Dispatch is awarded \$3,750 towards the completion of the proposed training.

Miami Township Fire and EMS/Milford Community Fire Department

The Miami Township Fire and EMS/Milford Community Fire Department requests \$10,350 to fund:

- Hazmat for the One in the Hot Seat - Operation Level Refresher for 114 personnel

The Miami Township Fire and EMS/Milford Community Fire Department is awarded \$10,350 towards the completion of the proposed training.

Newark Township Fire Department

The Newark Township Fire Department requests \$3,800 to fund:

- Confined Space with Hazardous Materials Rescue for 20 personnel

The Newark Township Fire Department is awarded \$3,800 towards the completion of the proposed training.

Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District

The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District requests \$5,800 to fund:

- Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response – 8-Hour Annual Refresher for 49 personnel

The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District is awarded \$5,800 towards the completion of the proposed training.

Perrysburg Township Fire & EMS

The Perrysburg Township Fire & EMS requests \$23,800 to fund:

- Risk-Based Response to CNG Vehicles for 60 personnel (2 classes)
- Risk-Based Response to Battery Emergencies for 60 personnel (2 classes)

The Perrysburg Township Fire & EMS is awarded \$11,900 towards the completion of the proposed training listed below:

- Risk-Based Response to CNG Vehicles for 30 personnel (1 class)
- Risk-Based Response to Battery Emergencies for 30 personnel (1 class)

Pickaway County Emergency Management & Homeland Security Agency/Pickaway County LEPC/Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency

The Pickaway County Emergency Management & Homeland Security Agency/Pickaway County LEPC and Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency request \$38,000 to fund:

- UAS and FD Operations for 24 personnel (2 classes)
- Hazmat Drone Operations for 24 personnel (2 classes)

The Pickaway County Emergency Management & Homeland Security Agency/Pickaway County LEPC and Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency are awarded \$19,000 towards the completion of the proposed training listed below:

- UAS and FD Operations for 12 personnel (1 class)
- Hazmat Drone Operations for 12 personnel (1 class)

Summit County Special Operations Response Team-Hazmat Branch

The Summit County Special Operations Response Team-Hazmat Branch requests \$27,825 to fund:

- Corrosives Response for 90 personnel (3 classes)
- Hazardous Materials Annual Refresher Training with Hands on Exercises for 90 personnel (3 classes)

The Summit County Special Operations Response Team-Hazmat Branch is awarded \$18,550 towards the completion of the proposed training listed below:

- Corrosives Response for 60 personnel (2 classes)

- Hazardous Materials Annual Refresher Training with Hands on Exercises for 60 personnel (2 classes)

Tallmadge Fire Department/Mogadore Fire Department

The Tallmadge Fire Department and Mogadore Fire Department request \$8,625 to fund:

- Incident Response Considerations for Lithium-Ion Battery Emergencies for 60 personnel

The Tallmadge Fire Department and Mogadore Fire Department are awarded \$8,625 towards the completion of the proposed training.

The University of Findlay

The University of Findlay requests \$432,000 to fund the following training courses:

- ER HazMat Operations Level (8-Hour) for 375 students
- ER HazMat Technician Level (24-Hour) for 225 students
- ER HazMat Refresher (8-Hour) for 375 students
- Rail Car Emergency Response (8-Hour) for 375 students

The University of Findlay is awarded \$58,020.82 towards the completion of the proposed training. A revised scope of work based on the amount of the grant award versus the grant request must be submitted within 30 days of the Finding and Order approving the grant. The scope of work must contain the number of students and cost per student or cost per class and number of classes to be conducted to comply with the reduced award amount.

Wayne County Regional Training Facility

The Wayne County Regional Training Facility requests \$39,885 to fund the following training courses:

- HazMat Alternative Fuels in Transportation for 25 personnel
- HazMat for Law Enforcement for 30 personnel
- HazMat Officer and HazMat Safety Officer Training for 20 personnel
- HazMat Rail Operations Training for 25 personnel
- Hazardous Materials HAZWOPER Technician Level Refresher Course for 25 personnel
- Ohio Hazardous Materials Technician Level Certification Course for 20 personnel

The Wayne County Regional Training Facility is awarded \$39,885 towards the completion of the proposed training.

Wooster Division of Fire

The Wooster Division of Fire requests \$9,075 to fund the following training courses:

- Hazardous Materials Refresher Course for 47 personnel (3 classes)

The Wooster Division of Fire is awarded \$6,050 towards the completion of the proposed training listed below:

- Hazardous Materials Refresher Course for 47 personnel (2 classes)

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities
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9/4/2024 3:17:22 PM

in

Case No(s). 24-0110-TR-UNC

Summary: Finding & Order that the Commission awards hazardous materials training grants to 27 applicants as set forth in the attachment electronically filed by Ms. Donielle M. Hunter on behalf of Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE HAZARDOUS
MATERIALS TRAINING GRANT
PROGRAM AWARD.

CASE No. 24-110-TR-UNC

FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on September 4, 2024

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission awards hazardous materials training grants to 27 applicants as set forth in the attachment.

II. APPLICABLE LAW

{¶ 2} R.C. 4921.21(B)(2) provides that the first \$800,000 in civil forfeitures collected under R.C. 4923.99 for violations of rules applicable to the highway transportation of hazardous materials shall be credited to the public utilities transportation safety fund. The Commission is tasked with distributing the collected forfeitures to “educational institutions, state agencies, regional planning commissions, and political subdivisions” for the purposes of “emergency response planning and the training of safety, enforcement, and emergency services personnel in proper techniques for the management of hazardous materials releases that occur during transportation or otherwise.” R.C. 4921.21(B)(2). This section also sets forth the manner in which such funds shall be distributed by the Commission for the purposes of emergency response planning.

{¶ 3} Under R.C. 4921.21(B)(2), Cleveland State University receives 50 percent of the funds for its training program for public safety and emergency services personnel in proper techniques for the management of hazardous materials releases that occur during transportation or otherwise. Another five percent is retained by the Commission for administration and hazardous materials training for staff. The remainder is distributed to other educational institutions, regional planning commissions, state agencies, and political

subdivisions that have training programs for public safety and emergency services personnel in proper techniques for the management of hazardous materials releases that occur during transportation or otherwise.

III. DISCUSSION

{¶ 4} Entities interested in receiving a hazardous materials training grant submit applications to the Commission. Information regarding the grant program and application materials is provided on the Commission's website. All requests are reviewed by a committee of Staff members including the director of the transportation department, the chief financial officer, and legal counsel. The review committee ensures the proposals from applicants are consistent with the purposes described in R.C. 4921.21(B)(2), including whether requested funding for equipment is essential for training purposes, whether courses are sufficiently related to the transportation of hazardous materials, and whether courses involve only necessary travel. These determinations are made pursuant to course descriptions and additional literature provided by the applicant and the course instructor. The review committee must also determine whether sufficient funds are available to reimburse all requests. When necessary, Staff then works with applicants to modify the proposals in consideration of available funds and in accordance with the purpose of R.C. 4921.21(B)(2).

{¶ 5} The total amount of civil forfeitures collected during state fiscal year 2024 for violations of the rules adopted under R.C. 4923.04(A)(2) are sufficient to cover the appropriation authority associated with this grant. As such and pursuant to R.C. 4921.21(B)(2), the Commission may award the maximum amount of \$800,000, of which \$400,000 is reserved for Cleveland State University, leaving \$400,000 available for hazardous materials training grants and any staff administration costs. During this grant cycle, 27 applicants submitted grant requests totaling over \$1.5 million. Since grant requests greatly exceeded available funding during this grant cycle, Staff recommends fully funding Cleveland State University's grant, providing funding for 26 other applications.

{¶ 6} Accordingly, Staff recommends that the 27 applicants be awarded grants in the amounts indicated in the Attachment to this Finding and Order. These grants are to be made on a reimbursement basis. Hazardous materials training grant funds are not provided to grantees before the approved activities are complete. Once the approved activities are complete, the grantee must submit a request for reimbursement to the Commission. The request for reimbursement shall include sufficient documentation to demonstrate the grantee has followed any and all conditions of the approved grant application and grant agreement.

{¶ 7} The Commission finds that the applications for hazardous materials training grants, as modified in the Attachment, are reasonable and should be awarded. Accordingly, Staff should award the training grants on a reimbursement basis to the selected applicants and enter into a grant agreement in conformance with this Finding and Order and the Attachment.

IV. ORDER

{¶ 8} It is, therefore,

{¶ 9} ORDERED, That the hazardous materials training grants be awarded to the applicants in the amounts set forth in the Attachment. It is, further,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That the grants be distributed on a reimbursement basis as set forth in Paragraph 7. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon each of the applicants identified in the Attachment.

COMMISSIONERS:

Approving:

Jenifer French, Chair
Daniel R. Conway
Lawrence K. Friedeman
Dennis P. Deters
John D. Williams

GNS/js