WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS

2027 South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo/Annual Conference Grant

PURPOSE: To sponsor a member department of the Western North Carolina Association of Firefighters (WNCAF) that wishes to send a representative(s) to the 2027 South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo and the joint annual conferences of the North Carolina State Firefighters' Association and the North Carolina Association of Fire Chiefs. The WNCAF aims to offer this opportunity to individuals who have not previously attended the conference. However, the scholarship will be awarded to a member department, which will then choose the attendee.

Raleigh Convention Center – August 11 - 14, 2027

For conference details, visit: www.southatlanticfirerescueexpo.com

Each year, fire rescue service personnel from across North Carolina gather for skill-building and learning sessions that enhance their ability to serve their communities to the fullest. The annual conference offers an opportunity to refresh daily skills, learn new approaches and techniques, and network with colleagues from the fire-rescue service industry across North Carolina and other South Atlantic states. Attendees participate in informational, instructional, and training programs, along with one of the largest expositions in the fire-rescue service industry.

The WNCAF Executive Board will accept applications (by email or postal service) up to (postmarked) ***December 31, 2026***. We will select the grant recipient based on the **demonstrated interest and financial need of the member department**. The grant recipient will be contacted by ***January 9, 2027 and*** announced at the January WNCAF meeting. *(The WNCAF Treasurer will coordinate with recipients to award the grant money.) (Departments awarded the Scholarship are only eligible every two years.)*

Please answer the following questions and submit to the address below:

Western North Carolina Association of Firefighters - Secretary
103 South Avenue
Swannanoa, NC 28778
ATTN: CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP

Department Name: _____ **County:** _____

Department Mailing Address: _____

Contact Person: _____ **Contact #:** _____

Contact E-Mail Address: _____

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1. **Has a member of your department attended a quarterly meeting of the WNCAFF within the past 12 months?** *(Circle all that apply)*

   January 2026 **April 2026** **July 2026** **October 2026**

   If not, please explain why: _____

2. **Has a member of your department ever attended the South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo and the joint annual conference of the North Carolina State Firefighters' Association and the North Carolina Association of Fire Chiefs?**

   YES **NO**

   If not, please explain why: _____

3. **What is your department's annual operating budget?** _____

4. **How many personnel are on your department's roster?** _____

5. **Briefly explain your department's financial need for this grant:**
   _____
   _____
   _____

6. **Briefly explain why your department should be selected for this grant:**
   _____
   _____
   _____

7. **How can the WNCAFF be of better help to your department?**
   _____
   _____
   _____

Fire Chief Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Board President/Manager/Mayor Signature: _____ **Date:** _____