Belt Announces Funding Opportunity For Local Fire Departments

by Matt Marshall - Office of State Senator Christopher Belt
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SWANSEA – State Senator Christopher Belt announced that applications are now being accepted for the Small Equipment Grant Program benefiting fire departments and ambulance services.

“Now is the time for local fire and ambulance departments to get their applications in,” said Belt (D-Swansea). “This grant program ensures Metro East fire departments are well equipped for anything that comes their way.”

The Small Equipment Grant Program assists fire departments and not-for-profit ambulance services in Illinois, particularly those experiencing difficulty in generating the necessary revenue for small equipment. The grants allow eligible applicants the opportunity to purchase small tools and equipment they may otherwise not be able to afford.

A total of $6 million in funding will be available to eligible fire departments and EMS services through this year's program. Previously, 264 fire departments, fire protection districts and EMS providers across the state were provided nearly $6 million.

All interested departments and ambulance services must submit applications electronically utilizing the application portal that can be found on the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal's website.