

2018-20 Strategic Plan
Department of Fire Programs [960]

Mission

The Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFP) is committed to enhancing public safety throughout the Commonwealth.

Vision

The Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFP) will be a nationally recognized leader in providing the highest level of fire services professional development and statewide risk reduction efforts.

Values

- Integrity** – We will value the thoughts, ideas and beliefs of all we work with, and ensure the work we perform will contribute to meeting and surpassing the performance goals of our agency and the Commonwealth.
- Innovative** - We encourage the acquisition of new skills, thoughtful risk taking, and openness and receptiveness to change.
- Customer-Focused** - We strive to understand and anticipate customer needs and constantly focus on delivering products and services of the highest quality in a timely manner.
- Quality-Oriented** - We endeavor to provide complete, accurate, timely and up-to-date information to our clients, co-workers and other constituents.
- Ethical** – We will adhere to the agency and Commonwealth’s Code of Ethics to ensure our business practices are compliant.
- Dedicated** – We will remain dedicated to the Mission & Vision of the agency and the Commonwealth at all times.
- Efficient** – We will ensure our actions preserve the agency and Commonwealth of Virginia’s resources.
- Respect** - We value individual contributions, treat each other with dignity, and assume positive intent in everyone.
- Teamwork** - We support each other, blend our diverse talents and backgrounds and willingly share information and resources.
- Health, Wellness, & Safety** - We will strive to promote and provide a safe and healthy environment.

Finance

Financial Overview

VDFP receives funding from both a non-general fund, known as the Fire Programs Fund, and the general fund. The Agency’s FY19 and FY20 Non-General Fund is \$39,264,123 (FY19), \$39,242,373 (FY20), respectively. The Agency’s FY19 and FY20 General Fund (GF) is \$2,426,347 (FY19), \$2,426,347 (FY20), respectively. Thus bringing the Agency's and SFMO’s FY19 & FY20 GF budget to \$ 2,426,347and \$ 2,426,347, respectively; and the Agency’s total budget to \$41,690,470 (FY19) and, \$41,668,720 (FY20), respectively for both GF and NGF.

Biennial Budget

	2019 General Fund	2019 Nongeneral Fund	2020 General Fund	2020 Nongeneral Fund
Initial Appropriation for the Biennium	2,426,347	39,264,123	2,426,347	39,242,373
Changes to Initial Appropriation	0	0	0	0

(Changes to Initial Appropriation will be 0 when the plan is created. They will change when the plan is updated mid-biennium.)

Customers

Anticipated Changes to Customer Base

Current Customer List

Predefined Group	User Defined Group	Number Served Annually	Potential Number of Annual Customers	Projected Customer Trend
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Resident	Citizens of the Commonwealth	8,411,808	8,411,808	Increase
Local or Regional Government Authorities	Cities, Counties, and Towns in the Commonwealth	323	323	Stable
Volunteer	Volunteer Fire and Emergency Service providers trained	26,376	30,091	Decrease
Local or Regional Government Authorities	Career Fire and Emergency Service providers trained	11,712	11,000	Stable
Local or Regional Government Authorities	Local fire departments	730	730	Stable
Local or Regional Government Authorities	Fire Departments and Localities across the Commonwealth eligible to report to VFIRS	473	565	Stable
Aged	Assisted Living Facilities	187	206	Increase
Business and Finance	Nightclubs	20	22	Increase
Child	Child Care facilities inspected	526	579	Increase
Consumer	Certification of Pyrotechnicians and Blasters	147	162	Increase
Consumer	Responses to requests for technical assistance on content, intent, and application of building codes	32	36	Increase
Consumer	Inspections in response to requests, complaints or hazardous conditions	98	108	Increase
Employer/ Business Owner	Permits issued for the use, manufacturing, storage and sale of explosives	238	262	Increase
Health Care	Inspection of Private hospitals	27	30	Increase
Health Care	Life Safety Code surveys of Health Care Facilities (nursing home and other health care)	1,006	1,107	Increase
Higher Education Institutions	Inspection of State-owned dormitories	557	613	Increase
Local or Regional Government Authorities	Inspection of Schools	1,419	1,561	Increase
Local or Regional Government Authorities	Inspections in response to requests, complaints or hazardous conditions	304	334	Stable
State Agency(s),	Inspection of State Correctional Facilities	411	411	Stable
State Agency(s),	Inspection of State-owned critical infrastructure and key resources	95	106	Stable
State Agency(s),	Inspections of state construction projects	1,438	1,582	Increase

Partners

Name	Description
Fire & EMS Stakeholder Groups	Stakeholder groups representing the various factions within Virginia's fire and emergency services community.
Virginia Fire Services Board	The Virginia Fire Services Board is an essential partner in providing and implementing our categorical grants.
Virginia Local Governments (323)	Localities that receive Aid-to-Localities Entitlement funding to be disbursed to local fire departments for eligible expenditures.
Citizens	Citizens across the Commonwealth.

Agency Goals

- Provide comprehensive and safe training for Virginia's fire and emergency services.

Summary and Alignment

Through improved communication with Virginia's fire services, VDFP will achieve a high level of portability and accessibility to our training programs. VDFP will continuously enhance and improve its training programs in order to provide the Commonwealth's first responder the best possible training.

Associated State Goal

Public Safety: Protect the public's safety and security, ensuring a fair and effective system of justice and providing a prepared response to emergencies and disasters of all kinds.

Associated Societal Indicator

Emergency Preparedness

Objectives

» **Ensuring Virginia remains on the cutting edge for fire services training.**

Description

Through measured curriculum development, engaged staff and customer feedback, the Agency will ensure it's training remains up-to-date and accommodates the varying needs of the Virginia's fire services.

Objective Strategies

[Nothing Entered]

Measures

- ♦ Percentage of students successfully passing and/or completing courses annually.

• **Serve as a statewide leader in minimizing fire loss and death.**

Summary and Alignment

Through the State Fire Marshal's Office of Community Risk Reduction, the Agency will educate members of the general public as well as public policy makers on the fire hazards in Virginia and best practices to minimize the rate of fire casualties, injuries and property loss. This objective is accomplished through the delivery of instructional programs governed by the principles of NFPA 1035 and 1300 standards. VDFP provides technical assistance to local fire departments to assist with accurate code enforcement which results in protection of life and property.

Objectives

» **To accurately identify the fire trends within the Commonwealth in order to promote public safety initiatives within the state.**

Description

Through the State Fire Marshal's Office of Community Risk Reduction, the Agency will educate members of the general public as well as public policy makers on the fire hazards in Virginia and best practices to minimize the rate of fire casualties, injuries and property loss. This objective is accomplished through the delivery of instructional programs governed by the principles of NFPA 1035 and 1300 standards.

Objective Strategies

[Nothing Entered]

Measures

• **Ensure that resources and programs are managed effectively while leveraging current technology.**

Summary and Alignment

Clear and concise business processes are essential to any organization. VDFP will continuously implement business processes and integrate new technology to ensure superior customer services.

Associated State Goal

Public Safety: Protect the public's safety and security, ensuring a fair and effective system of justice and providing a prepared response to emergencies and disasters of all kinds.

Associated Societal Indicator

Emergency Preparedness

Objectives

» **Ensure the safety and well being of Virginia's Fire Services by providing access to funding and modern training for operational needs.**

Description

Provide sufficient funding and training to meet the needs of Virginia's fire services.

Objective Strategies

[Nothing Entered]

Measures

• **Efficiently distribute grant and entitlement funding.**

Summary and Alignment

Through a variety of entitlement and grant funding opportunities, VDFP is committed to enhancing financial assistance to communities and other organizations.

Associated State Goal

Government and Citizens: Be recognized as the best-managed state in the nation.

Associated Societal Indicator

Government Operations

Objectives

» **Ensure that resources are used efficiently and programs are managed effectively.**

Description

[Nothing Entered]

Objective Strategies

[Nothing Entered]

Measures

- ◆ Percentage of Aid-To-Localities Entitlement funds disbursed.
- ◆ Percentage of grant disbursements awarded.

» **Ensure the safety and well being of Virginia's Fire Services by providing access to funding and modern training for operational needs.**

Description

Provide sufficient funding and training to meet the needs of Virginia's fire services.

Objective Strategies

[Nothing Entered]

Measures

Supporting Documents

Title

File Type

State Fire Prevention Code Administration [56203]**Description of this Program / Service Area**

The State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) provides safety to life and property from the hazards of fire or explosion through inspections and advocacy. The SFMO has authority to enforce the Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC) in all areas of the Commonwealth and is mandated by the Code of Virginia (COV) or by regulations and agreements to inspect state residential buildings; state owned or privately operated college dormitories; public and private schools that are not inspected by the local fire marshal; adult living facilities that are not inspected by the local fire marshal; and child care facilities with religious exemption from licensure by the Department of Social Services.

The SFMO is under contract to inspect Health Care Facilities, primarily nursing facilities, hospitals, and mental health buildings, for conformance with federal standards (Life Safety Code). The SFMO inspects childcare facilities and local correctional facilities and responds to requests or complaints under provisions of the Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC). The SFMO issues permits and collects fees for private hospitals, private college-university dormitories, and nightclubs. The SFMO also collects fees for the inspection of licensed child care centers, adult day care centers, and assisted living facilities in accordance with the SFPC.

The SFMO fee based Explosives Safety Program includes issuing permits for the storage, sale, and use of explosives on state property and in areas without local enforcement, and also includes the certification of blasters and provides background clearances for blasters and explosive permit holders statewide.

The fee based SFMO Fireworks Safety Program includes issuing permits for fireworks on state property and the oversight of Virginia's pyrotechnician certification program for individuals conducting fireworks displays in the Commonwealth.

The inspection programs described above ensure fire protection and fire safety systems are maintained to standards under which they were constructed and ensure safe storage and use of hazardous materials, as well as providing for emergency planning and training for staff and occupants.

Mission Alignment

Through its inspection programs, the State Fire Marshal's strives to make fire safety a way of life in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Products and Services**Description of Major Products and Services**

Adult Care Residences - Annual inspections are mandated by the COV in all areas of the Commonwealth not inspected by local fire officials. §9.1-207

Schools - Annual inspections are mandated by the COV in all areas of the Commonwealth not inspected by local fire officials. §9.1-207

Critical Infrastructure and Key Asset (CIKA) - The SFMO currently identifies and conducts annual fire prevention inspections of CIKA buildings in Virginia. CIKA buildings are buildings of a critical nature that present a risk to the safety of the citizens and visitors of the Commonwealth, or reduce the ability of fire, rescue, and police services in the Commonwealth to respond to or mitigate emergencies. In addition, CIKA buildings are those that present a possibility of a large loss of life and injury from an occurrence of fire, explosion, natural disaster, or terrorism. The buildings in this category are not intended to replicate those of Homeland Security but include those that are critical in protecting life and property within the Commonwealth from all hazard events. SFMO is working with SPSHS Staff and other State agencies to develop a consistent definition of critical infrastructure and identify methods of protecting these assets and improving resiliency.

Reduced Cigarette Ignition Propensity (RCIP) - As of July 2014, VDFP assumed full responsibility for the RCIP program and its administration and enforcement activities from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The SFMO reviews and approves certificates of testing from manufacturers and conducts inspection of retail establishment to ensure cigarette packages are stamped in accordance to state law.

State Owned/Operated College/University Student Resident Facilities - Annual inspections are mandated by the COV. §9.1-207 for all dormitories and other residential facilities owned, leased or otherwise operated by a state college or university.

State Owned Buildings - The SFMO is mandated by the COV to provide assistance to the Department of General Services on the fire protection and prevention provisions of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (VUSBC) for all new construction, renovations, and additions to state owned facilities. SFMO performs construction inspections on behalf of DEB. §36-98.1.

State Owned Residential Care Buildings - Primarily Correctional and Mental Health Facilities, annual inspections are mandated by the COV - §9.1-207.

Health Care Facilities - Primarily nursing homes and mental health facilities, SFMO is under contract with the Virginia Department of Health to inspect these facilities for conformance with the federal mandated Life Safety Code (LSC) and are reimbursed with federal money.

Child Care Facilities - The SFMO is mandated by the COV § 63.2-1716 and § 63.2-1717 to inspect childcare centers operated by religious institutions and private preschools, which are exempt from licensure by the Virginia Department of Social Services (DSS) if not inspected by local fire officials. In addition, SFMO responds to requests from the DSS to inspect other licensed child care centers. Inspections of child care facilities that are not religious exempt from licensure is a fee based program as provided for in the SFPC.

Local Correctional Facilities - SFMO responds to requests for inspections from the Department of Corrections. This is a fee based program as provided for in the SFPC.

Explosives Safety Program - As part of the Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC), this includes certifications of blasters, issuing permits for the storage, use, and sale of explosives as well as investigating complaints. §27-97 COV and Section F107 SFPC.

Requests/Complaints - Approximately 2% of our inspection work load, the SFMO responds to complaints and requests for inspections based on the SFPC.

Technical Assistance - SFMO provides assistance to building and fire officials, architects, engineers, contractors, and building owners and occupants in support of our SFPC inspection programs. An extremely important function of the SFMO, 95% of this assistance is on the SFPC or fire safety provisions of the VUSBC including referenced standards on automatic sprinkler systems, fire alarm systems, standpipe systems and other fire suppression and protection systems. This program saves valuable time and resources in developing building profiles and our database as well as initial inspection times. Portions of this program are fee based including assistance to local building officials on fire safety provisions of the USBC and includes assistance with plans review and construction inspections.

Public Service and Education Programs - The SFMO also develops and presents education programs geared towards college administrators, inspectors, school principals and teachers. The SFMO makes public service announcements through the news media, including TV, radio and newspapers, during the year. News releases include warnings on the dangers associated with Christmas trees and tips to help prevent fires during the holiday and heating seasons, safety information during Fire Prevention Week, and dangers of fireworks during the 4th of July activities.

Certification of Pyrotechnicians – Effective March 1, 2011, the SFMO began certifying pyrotechnicians. The Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC) was amended in accordance with §27-97 of the Code of Virginia to prohibit any person not certified by the State Fire Marshal's Office as a fireworks operator or pyrotechnician to design, set up, or conduct or supervise the design, setup, or conducting of any fireworks display, and that at least one person holding a valid certification is present at the site where the fireworks display is being conducted. This is a fee based program as provided for in the SFPC.

Fireworks Permits - The SFMO issues permits and provides oversight of all fireworks, pyrotechnics and flame effect displays on state property. This is a fee based program as provided for in the SFPC.

Anticipated Changes

The Board of Housing and Community Development is in the process of adopt regulations to modify the Statewide Fire Prevention Code to incorporate the 2015 edition of the International Code Council's International Fire Code as well as other recommended changes. It is anticipated that the State Fire Marshal's Office will have an increased workload as it educates its staff and customers on the new provisions of the Fire Code.

Factors Impacting

The State Fire Marshal is the fire official for 183 localities statewide, which accounts for 17 percent of the population and 62 percent of Virginia's land mass. Currently, the budget bill authorizes 29 FTE position to administer and enforce provisions of the Statewide Fire Prevention Code through seven division offices. During calendar year 2017, the State Fire Marshal's Office completed 9,112 inspections. Buildings continue to increase in size and complexity. Therefore, it is becoming increasingly difficult to adequately cover the Commonwealth's inspection needs with existing resources.

Financial Overview

The chief source of funding for the State Fire Marshal's office is the general fund and special revenues.

Biennial Budget

	2019 General Fund	2019 Nongeneral Fund	2020 General Fund	2020 Nongeneral Fund
Initial Appropriation for the Biennium	2,426,347	560,122	2,426,347	560,122
Changes to Initial Appropriation	0	0	0	0

Supporting Documents

Title	File Type
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Fire Services Management and Coordination [74401]

Description of this Program / Service Area

This service area is responsible for the administrative activities of Virginia Department of Fire Programs.

Virginia Department of Fire Programs provides:

- **Funding** – The Agency provides financial assistance to Virginia’s fire services through the distribution of the Aid-to-Localities (ATL) Entitlements as well as various other grant programs (i.e. Live Fire Training Structure Grant, Regional Fire Services Training Grant, & Technology Grants).
- **Professional Development** – As the only nationally-accredited fire service training entity in Virginia, the Agency provides training programs for both career and volunteer emergency responders throughout the Commonwealth.
- **Research** – As the managing entity for the Virginia Fire Incident Reporting System (VFIRS), the Agency is responsible for data collection, analysis, and information reporting to Virginia’s fire services, Virginia’s policy makers, and nationally to the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). The Agency also utilizes the data to reduce statewide fire related deaths and injuries.
- **Operational Support & Technical Assistance** – As a Virginia Emergency Support Team (VEST) agency, VDFP provides both operational and technical assistances to communities in need during emergencies of all types. This includes both operational support in the Virginia Emergency Operations center (VEOC) and in-the field.
- **Fire Prevention Inspections** – The State Fire Marshal’s Office (SFMO) has the responsibility of protecting life and property for the citizens by reducing the devastating impact of fires. Efforts utilization of inspectors to ensure fire safety, conducting building plans reviews for fire safety measures, and by performing construction inspections for fire safety systems in all State owned Buildings.

Mission Alignment

Fire services management and coordination is comprised of VDFP’s administrative functions, which are essential to the success of our Agency.

Products and Services

Description of Major Products and Services

VDFP focuses on improving services, reducing costs, providing research and analysis, and promoting safety throughout the Commonwealth. VDFP strives to provide services that meet the needs of the fire services. To this end, the Administration Branch is responsible for:

- Government Affairs
- Virginia Fire Services Board
- Financial and Procurement Services
- Budget, Grants and Local Aid
- Information Technology
- Human Resources

Anticipated Changes

Leveraging current technology to re-engineer outdated technology and business practices to achieve greater efficiencies.

Factors Impacting

The following are anticipated factors that can potentially impact this service area:

- Available Resources - Financial Limitations and Human Capital
- Customer Needs

Financial Overview

Funding for this service area is via the special revenue generated by the Fire Programs Fund.

Biennial Budget

	2019 General Fund	2019 Nongeneral Fund	2020 General Fund	2020 Nongeneral Fund
Initial Appropriation for the Biennium	0	3,924,846	0	3,924,846
Changes to Initial Appropriation	0	0	0	0

Supporting Documents

Title **File Type**

Virginia Fire Services Research [74402]

Description of this Program / Service Area

Pursuant to § 9.1-202. Virginia Fire Services Board, the Virginia Fire Services Board (the Board) is established as a policy board within the meaning of § 2.2-2100 in the executive branch of state government.

The Board has the responsibility for promoting the coordination of the efforts of fire service organizations at the state and local levels.

Mission Alignment

The Virginia Fire Services Board is established under § 9.1-202, its duties are articulated in § 9.1-203.

Products and Services

Description of Major Products and Services

The Virginia Fire Services Board has the following duties in accordance to § 9.1-203;

1. Ensure the development and implementation of the Virginia Fire Prevention and Control Plan;
2. Review and approve a five-year statewide plan for fire education and training;
3. Approve the criteria for and disbursement of any grant funds received from the federal government and any agencies thereof and any other source and to disburse such funds in accordance therewith;
4. Provide technical assistance and advice to local fire departments, other fire services organizations, and local governments through Fire and Emergency Medical Services studies done in conjunction with the Department of Fire Programs;
5. Advise the Department of Fire Programs on and adopt personnel standards for fire services personnel;
6. Advise the Department of Fire Programs on the Commonwealth's statewide plan for the collection, analysis, and reporting of data relating to fires in the Commonwealth;
7. Make recommendations to the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security concerning legislation affecting fire prevention and protection and fire services organizations in Virginia;
8. Evaluate all fire prevention and protection programs and make any recommendations deemed necessary to improve the level of fire prevention and protection in the Commonwealth;
9. Advise the Department of Fire Programs on the Statewide Fire Prevention Code;
10. Investigate alternative means of financial support for volunteer fire departments and advise jurisdictions regarding the implementation of such alternatives; and
11. (Effective January 1, 2019) Develop a modular training program for volunteer firefighters for adoption by local volunteer fire departments that shall include (i) Fire Fighter I and Fire Fighter II certification pursuant to standards developed by the National Fire Protection Association and (ii) an online training program.

Anticipated Changes

The Virginia Fire Services Board anticipates to receive increased request for Fire and EMS Studies across the Commonwealth.

Factors Impacting

The profession of firefighting continuous to change. As a result, the Virginia Fire Services Board must remain vigilant in their support of the fire services.

Financial Overview

The budget for Virginia Fire Services Research comes from the special revenue Fire Programs Fund.

Biennial Budget

	2019 General Fund	2019 Nongeneral Fund	2020 General Fund	2020 Nongeneral Fund
Initial Appropriation for the Biennium	0	302,274	0	302,274
Changes to Initial Appropriation	0	0	0	0

Supporting Documents

Title **File Type**

Fire Services Training and Professional Development [74403]

Description of this Program / Service Area

VDFP coordinates and delivers specialized training across the Commonwealth to emergency response personnel. VDFP training programs also provide the opportunity for professional development with comprehensive, nationally-accredited training courses for career and volunteer emergency responders in specialized areas including:

- Structural Fire Fighting
- Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting
- Heavy & Technical Rescue
- Hazardous Materials Awareness/Operations
- Officer Development
- Instructors
- Logistical Support

VDFP integrates training and education to enhance the professional development of fire and rescue personnel. VDFP serves as a fire/rescue training delivery and certification agency in an effort to provide an efficient path for fire service professional development. The focus of VDFP is to align the Virginia professional development pathway with emerging national models.

The agency is accredited through both IFSAC and Pro-Board. Both of these organizations provide third party review of our agencies certification testing methodology to ensure VDFP is able to test all of the required criteria of the national consensus standards as developed by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

VDFP has been accredited with [Pro-Board](#) since 1982. In April 2014, the agency was also accredited by [IFSAC](#) for seven programs. Reaccreditation for both occurs every five years. VDFP is currently accredited on all its programs.

Mission Alignment

This service area supports the Agency's mission, as it provides professional development by providing comprehensive, nationally-accredited training programs for career and volunteer emergency responders.

Products and Services

Description of Major Products and Services

VDFP coordinates and delivers fire and emergency services education and training programs for the fire and emergency response community in an effort to protect and defend the Commonwealth from all hazards.

Anticipated Changes

As the requirements of the fire services changes, VDFP anticipates revising and reformatting our training programs to meet the needs of all customers.

Factors Impacting

Virginia's fire and emergency service personnel face a myriad of challenges and dangerous situations every day. As such, the Agency is constantly reviewing and examining these circumstances to ensure that our training programs are meeting Virginia's fire services evolving needs.

The Agency is continuously utilizing emerging technology to better deliver training and education throughout the Commonwealth, while meeting the needs of the stakeholders.

In the event the Agency's funding source, the Fire Programs Fund, does not see a funding growth or is decreased, the Agency's ability to meet all training requirements will be impacted.

Financial Overview

VDFP delivers/coordinates training and certification programs in the form of funded, non-funded, partially funded and reimbursable programs. Funding for these programs is via the Fire Programs Fund.

Biennial Budget

	2019 General Fund	2019 Nongeneral Fund	2020 General Fund	2020 Nongeneral Fund
Initial Appropriation for the Biennium	0	2,318,625	0	2,296,875
Changes to Initial Appropriation	0	0	0	0

Supporting Documents

Title **File Type**

Service Area Plan

Technical Assistance and Consultation Services [74404]

Description of this Program / Service Area

This service area provides specialized assistance in support of Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFP) operational activities. Included within this service area are Chief Safety Officer, Risk Mitigation and Emergency Preparedness Efforts along with Quality Assurance.

Mission Alignment

This service area aligns to the Agency's mission, as it ensures specialized assistance is provided during VDFP operational activities.

Products and Services

Description of Major Products and Services

Tracking and identifying accidents and injuries that occur within VDFP training in an effort to develop preventative methods for the future. This area is also responsible for the Agency's third party accreditation through Pro-Board and IFSAC.

Anticipated Changes

VDFP anticipates that the curricula packages will continue to evolve to meet the evolving needs of Virginia's fire services. The Agency anticipates that it will modify many of its programs to become more Virginia specific as well as to add more material relevant to homeland security, training related accidents, cancer prevention, and behavioral health.

Factors Impacting

As the needs of Virginia's fire services change, it is anticipated that there will be an increase of requests for educational assistance. The Agency must ensure that it has the resources available to meet the complex and evolving needs of Virginia's fire and emergency services community.

Financial Overview

Biennial Budget

	2019 General Fund	2019 Nongeneral Fund	2020 General Fund	2020 Nongeneral Fund
Initial Appropriation for the Biennium	0	2,128,643	0	2,128,643
Changes to Initial Appropriation	0	0	0	0

Supporting Documents

Title **File Type**

Service Area Plan

Emergency Operational Response Services [74405]

Description of this Program / Service Area

The Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFP) is a member of the Virginia Emergency Support Team (VEST) as designated by the Virginia Emergency Operations Plan (VEOP). VDFP provides operational support to communities during emergencies of all types. VDFP maintains seven division offices across the Commonwealth. These strategically located division offices provide the agency with a manageable span of coverage for emergency-time deployment of resources and personnel.

The agency's staff is trained at the mission specific program areas for incident management team response. In this capacity, the agency provides assistance to localities as subject matter experts, but only upon request from the locality and deployed through the Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC).

This service area also provides staffing to [Virginia's Fusion Center](#).

Mission Alignment

This service area provides operational support to communities in need during emergencies of all types.

Products and Services

Description of Major Products and Services

VDFP provides support services to the Virginia Emergency Operations Center through the Emergency Services Function. The Emergency Services Function is a Department of Homeland Security staffing protocol for all emergency operations centers. VDFP provides Emergency Services Function (ESF) – 4, which supports interstate and intrastate firefighting efforts, Emergency Services Function (ESF) – 13, which integrates state-level public safety and security capabilities and resources to support the full range of incident management activities, Emergency Services Function (ESF) – 7, which provides logistical support through emergency management assistance compacts (EMAC). Emergency Management Assistance Compacts (EMAC) are a federally supported program that provides avenues for seeking logistical resources. The agency also provides support to the Joint Information Center (JIC) during emergency declarations.

Anticipated Changes

The Agency anticipates continuing to provide operational response services to Virginia localities, however, these activities will vary based on the unique needs of each locality and response. Therefore, the Agency must continually review and revise its practices to ensure it is prepared for all situations and events.

Factors Impacting

The main factor impacting the products delivered under this service area is the evolving emergency response situations and needs. Therefore, the Agency must remain on the leading edge of disaster management to ensure it is adequately trained and prepared to respond.

Financial Overview

Funding for these activities is through the Fire Programs Fund.

Biennial Budget

	2019 General Fund	2019 Nongeneral Fund	2020 General Fund	2020 Nongeneral Fund
Initial Appropriation for the Biennium	0	15,000	0	15,000
Changes to Initial Appropriation	0	0	0	0

Supporting Documents

Title	File Type
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Public Fire and Life Safety Educational Services [74406]

Description of this Program / Service Area

The Virginia Fire Marshal Academy (VFMA) provides statewide leadership to the Commonwealth’s fire and life safety educational programs. VFMA educates members of the general public as well as public policy makers on the fire hazards in Virginia and best practices to minimize the rate of fire casualties. This objective is accomplished through the delivery of instructional programs for Virginia’s fire and rescue community, as well as the general public, governed by the principles of National Fire Protection Association’s (NFPA) 1035 and 1300 Standards.

Mission Alignment

To reduce fire injuries, deaths and property loss through education, advocacy and leveraging existing resources.

Products and Services

Description of Major Products and Services

- Create a Community Risk Reduction Strategic Plan to address fire related injuries, death and property loss.
- Educate Virginia’s fire and rescue community on the importance of reliable data and the benefit of community risk reduction efforts in their local jurisdictions.
- Provide administrative staff support to the Virginia Fire Services Board’s Fire Prevention and Control Committee and develop the Virginia Fire Prevention and Control Plan.
- Through the Virginia Fire Incident Reporting System (VFIRS), identify risk factors contributing to fires in the Commonwealth and develop initiatives to minimize those risk.
- Develop and disseminate fire and life safety education materials through multiple media platforms including PSA’s, printed brochures and social media.
- Serve as a liaison between federal, state, and local agencies and organizations involved in fire and life safety.
- Deliver the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1035 Standard curriculum through four certification courses and one attendee program.

Anticipated Changes

It is anticipated the Fire Marshal Academy will increase its services and support to Virginia’s fire and rescue community. Community Risk Reduction has been made a higher priority for Virginia’s fire and rescue organizations.

Factors Impacting

Utilizing the Community Risk Reduction Strategic Plan and Fire Prevention and Control Plan, the Fire Marshal Academy will continue to implement programs and increase partnerships to reduce statewide fire and injury prevention efforts.

Financial Overview

Biennial Budget

	2019 General Fund	2019 Nongeneral Fund	2020 General Fund	2020 Nongeneral Fund
Initial Appropriation for the Biennium	0	189,613	0	189,613
Changes to Initial Appropriation	0	0	0	0

Supporting Documents

Title **File Type**

Fire Programs Fund Distribution [76401]

Description of this Program / Service Area

The Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VD FP) is funded as a special revenue account. Revenue is contained within the Fire Programs Fund from which VD FP allocates 75 percent of its total, after committed fixed obligations, as annual entitlements to jurisdictions, known as Aid-to-Localities (ATL) Entitlements. These entitlements, while subject to minimums are population based and allocated directly to the 323 Virginia counties, independent cities and incorporated towns. ATL may be used for fire services purposes within nine categorical areas which include training of firefighting personnel, public fire safety education, local or regional fire services training centers, firefighting equipment and supplies, fire vehicles/apparatus, protective clothing and prevention. ATL may not be used to supplant or replace local funding. The remaining funds, after disbursements to local jurisdictions, are used to provide direct funded training for localities and support Agency operations.

Mission Alignment

Funding by providing financial assistance to local governments.

Products and Services

Description of Major Products and Services

Aid-to-Localities Entitlements to the 323 counties, cities, and towns throughout the Commonwealth solely for fire service purposes.

Anticipated Changes

The Agency's seeks to continue its effort of achieving 100 percent Aid-to-Localities disbursement.

Factors Impacting

Per the Code of Virginia, § 38.2-401. **Fire Programs Fund** - receiving localities must report annually to the Department of Fire Programs on the use of the funds allocated to it for the previous year and further complete Fire Programs Fund Disbursement Agreement form. Localities inability to adhere to aforementioned mandate will result in forfeiting Aid-to-Localities funding. Therefore, the Agency will continue to enhance its effort to diligently publicize the ATL program and its requirements across the Commonwealth to ensure localities are aware of funding availability and program requirements.

Financial Overview

Fire Programs Fund distribution in the form of Aid-to-Localities (ATL) is 75 percent of the fund after committed, fixed obligations.

Biennial Budget

	2019 General Fund	2019 Nongeneral Fund	2020 General Fund	2020 Nongeneral Fund
Initial Appropriation for the Biennium	0	26,500,000	0	26,500,000
Changes to Initial Appropriation	0	0	0	0

Supporting Documents

Title **File Type**

Live Fire Training Structure Grant [76402]

Description of this Program / Service Area

Per the Code of Virginia § 38.2-401. [Fire Programs Fund](#), the Virginia Fire Services Board provides grants to localities for the renovation, repair and construction of Burn Buildings, also known as Live Fire Training Structure. Live Fire Training Structures are unoccupied structures whose sole use from point of initial construction is for the purpose of training firefighters in a controlled live fire environment. The [National Fire Protection Association](#) refers to live fire training structure as "specifically designed for conducting live fire training evolutions on a repetitive basis."

Mission Alignment

Providing financial assistance to local governments.

Products and Services

Description of Major Products and Services

Live Fire Training Structure grants provide funds to localities to construct or repair Live Fire Training Structures, which are essential to safely training firefighters under immediate danger to life and health environments (IDLH).

Anticipated Changes

The Agency owns three Mobile Firefighter I and II Live Fire Training Structure simulators. The Mobile Simulators allows the Agency to deliver live fire training experience to localities throughout the Commonwealth and, in particular to those localities without a Live Fire Training Structure.

Factors Impacting

The average life of a Live Fire Training Structure is between 15 and 20 years and is dependent on the level of use of the facility. VDFP anticipates that many of the existing Live Fire Training Structures in the Commonwealth will require repairs due to normal wear and tear, and there is a potential for insufficient funding to meet all repair requests.

Financial Overview

Live Fire Training Structure Grants are provided from the Fire Programs Fund. As set forth under policy guidance by the Virginia Fire Services Board, presently up to \$480,000 may be awarded for a new construction Live Fire Training Structure project and repair projects are approved on a case-by-case basis.

Biennial Budget

	2019 General Fund	2019 Nongeneral Fund	2020 General Fund	2020 Nongeneral Fund
Initial Appropriation for the Biennium	0	2,500,000	0	2,500,000
Changes to Initial Appropriation	0	0	0	0

Supporting Documents

Title **File Type**

Categorical Grants [76403]

Description of this Program / Service Area

The Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFP) and the Virginia Fire Services Board (VFSB) offer several grant opportunities via the Fire Programs Fund. These categorical grants include:

Virginia Fire Incident Reporting System (VFIRS) Technology Grant: Provides funding for eligible jurisdictions to purchase a computer (desktop/laptop/tablet) to enable VFIRS reporting.

Regional Fire Services Training Facilities Grant (RFSTF): Provides funding for training props for Regional Fire Services Training Facilities throughout the Commonwealth.

Specialized Training and Conference Assistance Grants: Provides needed financial support for conferences and seminars sponsored by Virginia-based non-profit organizations that further the education of fire and emergency services personnel throughout the Commonwealth.

Additionally, VDFP receives Federal grant funding to support Federal initiatives prescribed in the Department of Homeland Security’s national strategies for training delivery.

Mission Alignment

Providing financial assistance to local governments.

Products and Services

Description of Major Products and Services

Financial assistance to local governments for fire services through grant funding.

Anticipated Changes

Factors Impacting

In the event the Agency's funding source, the Fire Programs Fund, does not see a funding growth or is decreased, the Agency's ability to meet all grant requests will be impacted.

Financial Overview

Categorical grants are financed via the Fire Programs Fund, a special revenue fund.

Biennial Budget

	2019 General Fund	2019 Nongeneral Fund	2020 General Fund	2020 Nongeneral Fund
Initial Appropriation for the Biennium	0	575,000	0	575,000
Changes to Initial Appropriation	0	0	0	0

Supporting Documents

Title **File Type**