

Kingsburg Tri- County Health Care District Grant Application

Please complete and return documentation and information required under the District Grant Policy, Procedures and Guidelines. **Submit a signed original plus a set of 8 copies using a binder clip.**

Provide the following information for the grant applicant, and well as for all partnering and/or subcontracting entities, if any. **Use a separate page for each item listed on page 2 to fully describe required information.**

Applicant Name City of Kingsburg Fire Ambulance

Type of Organization Municipal Fire Department

Legal status of your business (LLP, nonprofit, etc.) Public Entity

Subject of Request The costs of 3 full-time paramedics

Total Amount Requested \$ 405,490.40 How many People Will Grant Serve? 20,000+

Is this intended as a one-time or ongoing project? On-going

Project timeframe 5 years Lump sum or periodic disbursement? Periodic (quarterly)

How will grant be recognized by recipient? Advertising on all supported equipment, social media, and web pages.

Total Years in business 112 # of Employees 21 Federal Tax ID # 94-6000353

Business Licenses, Certifications or Registration # N/A

Individual Accountable for Grant Funds:

Name Alexander Henderson Title City Manager

Address 1401 Draper Street

City Kingsburg State CA Zip 93631

E-Mail ahenderson@cityofkingsburg-ca.gov Phone Number 559-897-5821

By signing below, the undersigned hereby certifies under penalty of perjury that: (1) information contained within this application is true and correct to the best of my personal knowledge, information and reasonable belief; (2) the grant applicant has read and is familiar with all of the District's grant policies, procedures and guidelines; (3) the grant applicant hereby waives each and all claims and right(s), if any exist to, in any form, appeal or otherwise legally challenge each and all decisions of the Kingsburg Tri-County Health Care District pertaining to this grant application; and (4) the governing body of the grant applicant has duly authorized me to sign this grant application.

Signature _____ Date 4/19/2024

Print Name and Title Alexander Henderson, City Manager

The following information is required in relation to the requested grant. Please use separate pages for each numbered item, titling and numbering each page as listed below. We require the following: 1 signed copy of the grant application, with items 1-8 (below) completed and attached, plus 8 additional hardcopies.

1. **Project Overview:** Include purpose of the grant request. Describe in detail how the funds will promote health and wellness and further the grant goal of fostering quality health services and programs which benefit the residents of the District.
2. **Project Cost:** Itemized budget with explanation of each itemized cost and the need for such, and supporting documentation, such as actual bids or formal estimates, if any.
3. **Partner(s):** List all partners (if any), and their financial contributions for this specific project.
4. **Funding Sources:** List all funding sources for the past 5 years.
5. **Community Need:** Describe specific needs of the District which your project will meet.
6. **Legal Status:** Please provide a copy of your W-9, business licenses and certificates, as well as IRS determination letter if you are a nonprofit.
7. **Contributions:** List previous and ongoing community contributions your organization has made within the past 5 years.
8. **Plans:** Provide drawings or pictures of the proposed project with footnotes for explanations.

1. Project Overview: Include the purpose of the grant request. Describe in detail how the funds will promote health and wellness and further the grant goal of fostering quality health services and programs which benefit the residents of the district.

It is proposed that the Kingsburg Healthcare District continue to partner with the City of Kingsburg Fire Department to provide staffing for a second ambulance. Under the current grant, both the city and the district pay for 50% of six firefighter/paramedics. This equates to the entire employee salary with benefit costs for three firefighter/paramedics. This partnership has been very beneficial for the community we both serve. The Kingsburg Healthcare District boundary resembles the 80 square mile Zone K ambulance response area. The Kingsburg Fire Department ambulance serves Tulare, Fresno, and Kings County.

The ability to staff two ambulances is a safety net for the citizens and cannot be done without the assistance of the healthcare district. The city is committed to staffing both ambulances and covering most of the expenses for both ambulances. The total cost to staff an ambulance 24/7, equipment replacement, and capital is approximately \$1,750,000 annually. To staff two ambulances would require 3.5 million dollars in city tax dollars and ambulance billing revenue. The department receives \$1.4 million in ambulance billing and \$1.3 million in government ambulance billing subsidies. This totals \$2.7 million, leaving approximately \$800,000 needed to staff the second ambulance. Through this partnership, the healthcare district and the city are proposed to split this remaining funding.

Unfortunately, the need for a second ambulance is increasing and has much to do with where patients want to be transported. In the 1990s, over 80% of patients wanted to be transported to Kingsburg or Selma District Hospital. This resulted in the ambulance being only committed to a call for under an hour. Today, most patients request transport to hospitals in Fresno, Clovis, Madera, or Visalia. This now places an ambulance committed on a call for almost two hours. Even though the area's population has remained steady over the last 20 years, the time the ambulance isn't available to respond to another emergency has not. Even though the ambulance is committed to an emergency call twice as long, the fire department cannot recoup additional reimbursement to compensate for the additional time.

The second issue the ambulances are experiencing is Ambulance Patient Off-Load Times (APOT) or wall times. Even when we arrive at hospitals, the ambulance must wait for an emergency room bed to become available. More patients wanting to be transported to these areas has resulted in overcrowded emergency rooms, affecting ambulance availability.

When Kingsburg does not have an ambulance available, another agency must respond. The ambulance could come as far away as Visalia, Reedley, or Dinuba. In patients suffering from cardiac arrest, stroke, seizure, or difficulty breathing, the human body starts to incur permanent damage in less than 10 minutes. Based on the trauma “Golden Hour” rule and receiving Advanced Life Support (ALS) treatment within 9 minutes, ambulances responding from outside Kingsburg cannot meet these industry best practice response times. Slower response times from when an out-of-area ambulance has to respond to medical emergencies in the Kingsburg Zone K ambulance area endanger lives. Fortunately, the Kingsburg Fire Department staffs a two-person fire engine with a qualified paramedic to stabilize patients when waiting for an ambulance. However, these patients still require an ambulance to transport them to the appropriate receiving hospital.

In 2023, the Kingsburg ambulance responded to 2,952 calls for service, of which 2,521 were for medical aid or rescue. By continuing to staff a second ambulance with six personnel (two per 24-hour shift, 365 days a year), citizens calling 911 will be able to receive appropriate life-saving treatment promptly. This is why it is essential to continue funding three firefighter/paramedics from the Kingsburg Healthcare District and three firefighter/EMTs from the Kingsburg Fire Department.

The total cost, including salary, benefits, and 96 hours of overtime for required continuing education, is \$135,163.40 per top-step firefighter/paramedic. To fund three positions to cover 50% of the staffing costs for an ambulance is \$405,490.20 annually. The City of Kingsburg will also contribute this amount to the other three personnel who will staff the second ambulance. In addition, the city will incur the required overtime costs to cover the ambulance when employees are off because of vacation or sickness. This is estimated at an additional \$75,000 per year.

2. Project Cost: Itemized budget with an explanation of each itemized cost and the need for such, as well as supporting documentation, such as actual bids or formal estimates, if any.

In partnership with the Kingsburg Healthcare District and the City of Kingsburg, it is proposed that the district and the city cover the employee costs for a total of six firefighter/paramedics/EMT. The district grant will fund three firefighter/paramedics at a cost of \$135,163.40 each, not exceeding \$405,490.20 per year. We hope this grant will be funded continuously yearly but for at least five additional years.

Appendix A is the cost breakdown for a top-step firefighter/paramedic, including wages, holiday pay, uniforms, health insurance, and all benefit costs. This amount also includes 96 hours of required continuing education to maintain the employee's paramedic license, local accreditation, and state-mandated training requirements.

The City of Kingsburg, through the Fire and Ambulance budget, will incur all of the overtime costs to cover vacation and sickness, fuel and maintenance of the second ambulance, and any other related expenses. The city and the Kingsburg Fire Department value this partnership and want to continue it for the foreseeable future.

3. Partner(s): List all partners (if any) and their financial contributions for this specific project.

1. City of Kingsburg
2. City of Kingsburg Fire Department
3. Kingsburg Healthcare District.

4. Funding Sources: List all funding sources for the past five years.

- City of Kingsburg General Fund Tax Revenue
- City of Kingsburg Voter Approved Measure E – Public Safety Tax
 - Fire/Ambulance Enterprise Funds – Revenue from providing ambulance service and billing insurance.

- Intergovernmental transfer funds (IGT- provided by Medicare or Medi-Cal agreement).
- Grants funds from Kingsburg Healthcare District 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.
- Other minimal grant sources include Homeland Security, Community Emergency Response Team—Listos Grant, and California Office of Emergency Services.

5. Community Need: Describe the specific needs of the District in which your project will meet.

The Kingsburg Fire Department Fire Ambulance provides emergency medical care to all residents within the hospital district's boundaries. Providing a second Advanced Life Support firefighter/paramedic staffed ambulance that responds to all emergency medical and fire calls.

Unfortunately, the need for a second ambulance is increasing and has much to do with where patients want to be transported. Back in the 1990s, over 80% of the patients wanted to be transported to either Kingsburg or Selma District Hospital. This resulted in the ambulance being only committed to a call for under an hour. Today, most patients request transport to hospitals in Fresno, Clovis, Madera, or Visalia. This now places an ambulance committed on a call for almost two-plus hours.

The second issue the ambulances are experiencing is Ambulance Patient Off-Load Times (APOT) or wall times. Even when we arrive at hospitals, the ambulance must wait for an emergency room bed to become available. More patients wanting to be transported to these areas has resulted in overcrowded emergency rooms, affecting ambulance availability.

Slower response times occur when out-of-area ambulances are required to respond because Kingsburg Fire does not have a second ambulance available. Out-of-area ambulance providers have an approximate 13-to-17-minute response time, compared to 90% of all priority calls, with Kingsburg Ambulance Zone K being responded to in under 9 minutes. This is almost **double** the time if Kingsburg cannot provide the service.

During medical emergencies, the chances of a full recovery diminish rapidly after 7 minutes if Advanced Life Support treatment by paramedics is not started in patients suffering from a cardiac arrest, stroke, trauma, seizure, or respiratory arrest due to an asthma attack.

6. Legal Status: Please provide a copy of your W-9, business licenses, and certificates, and IRS determination letter if you are a nonprofit.

Not applicable- municipality.

7. Contributions: List previous and ongoing community contributions your organization has made within the past five years.

The Kingsburg Fire Department has been able to expand the scope of its services as a direct result of previous grants that the district has approved. This includes funding three firefighters/paramedics for the past three years, purchasing three cardiac monitors, Lucas CPR devices, automatic external defibrillators, and remounting an existing ambulance box to a new chassis. These items have dramatically improved the service delivery and emergency medical care the community receives.

Over the past five years, the department has expanded into many areas to serve the community better and improve emergency response capabilities. Listed below are many improvements that have contributed to the community and improved outcomes.

- The department used grant funds to upgrade its rescue capabilities by providing additional training and certification for the firefighters and paramedics who currently staff the department's ambulances to better prepare them to handle all-risk emergencies.
- The department upgraded by adding special rescue equipment, including Jaws of Life, Confined Space Rescue, Trench Rescue, Swiftwater Rescue, and Hazardous Materials Equipment.
- Providing necessary safety and protective clothing for Rescue Paramedics.
- The department instituted community-based educational opportunities to provide the public with CPR, AED, and First-Aid training.

- The department purchased seven new AEDs and located them throughout the community for public use during cardiac emergencies.
- The department can now deliver Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) courses to our personnel and other public healthcare providers.
- The department has improved its Community Risk Reduction outreach by purchasing needed equipment, informational materials, and public outreach, with the intent of decreasing the impact of preventable emergency calls.
- The department has increased its abilities to perform life safety building and business fire prevention inspections.

8. Plans: Provide drawings or pictures of the proposed project with footnotes for explanations.

Not applicable

Appendix A

Kingsburg Healthcare District 2024 Employee Cost Breakdown for three firefighter/paramedics.

	Step	Salary	Holiday	Incentive	FLSA	Uniform	Total Wages	FICA	PERS	Health	WC	EAP	PERS UAL	OT (96 Hrs)	Total Pay and Benefit
Firefighter/Paramedic	E	\$70,159.00	\$4,048.19	\$10,523.85	\$2,086.50	\$1,000.00	\$84,731.04	\$6,405.42	\$11,514.19	\$10,827.00	\$7,363.75	\$8.67	\$8,727.00	\$5,586.33	\$135,163.40
Holiday Pay 5.77%, Incentive Pay 15%															
7.65% FICA .0765, 13.76% PERS ER .1376															
Firefighter/Paramedic	E	\$70,159.00	\$4,048.19	\$10,523.85	\$2,086.50	\$1,000.00	\$84,731.04	\$6,405.42	\$11,514.19	\$10,827.00	\$7,363.75	\$8.67	\$8,727.00	\$5,586.33	\$135,163.40
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Holiday Pay 5.77%, Incentive Pay 15%															
7.65% FICA .0765, 13.76% PERS ER .1376															
Total Grant Request															\$405,490.20

Step	Salary	Holiday	Incentive	FLSA	Uniform	Total Wages	FICA	PERS	Health	W/C	EAP	PERS UAL OT (96 Hrs)	Total Pay and E
1 Flight Attendant	\$70,159.00	\$4,048.19	\$10,523.85	\$2,086.50	\$1,000.00	\$84,731.04	\$6,405.42	\$11,514.19	\$10,827.00	\$7,363.75	\$8.67	\$8,727.00	\$135,163.40
Holiday Pay 5.77%, Incentive Pay 15%													
7.65% FICA, 0.765, 13.76% PERS ER, 1.376													
2 Flight Attendant	\$70,159.00	\$4,048.19	\$10,523.85	\$2,086.50	\$1,000.00	\$84,731.04	\$6,405.42	\$11,514.19	\$10,827.00	\$7,363.75	\$8.67	\$8,727.00	\$135,163.40
Holiday Pay 5.77%, Incentive Pay 15%													
7.65% FICA, 0.765, 13.76% PERS ER, 1.376													
3 Flight Attendant	\$70,159.00	\$4,048.19	\$10,523.85	\$2,086.50	\$1,000.00	\$84,731.04	\$6,405.42	\$11,514.19	\$10,827.00	\$7,363.75	\$8.67	\$8,727.00	\$135,163.40
Holiday Pay 5.77%, Incentive Pay 15%													
7.65% FICA, 0.765, 13.76% PERS ER, 1.376													
Total Grant Request													\$405,490.20