

Ambulance Service Training and Staffing Grants

GRANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Office of Emergency Medical Services 335 Randolph Ave, Suite 170 St. Paul, MN, 55102 mn.gov/oems

9/3/2025

To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-2809.

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Overview

Introduction

Grant Name: Ambulance Service Training and Staffing Grants: Earn While You learn

mn.gov/oems

Open for Applications: September 3, 2025Application Due Date: October 17, 2025

Purpose and Outcome of the Grant Opportunity

This grant opportunity is funded through the <u>Minnesota Legislature Laws 2025, Special Session, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 3.</u>

The purpose of the Ambulance Service Training and Staffing Grant program (AST&S) is to support Minnesota ambulance services in the development of or expansion of existing "Earn While You learn recruitment programs."

These types of programs aim to address critical workforce shortages by making emergency medical technician (EMT) training more accessible and financially feasible for prospective candidates. These programs allow individuals to receive paid on-the-job training while completing the required education and certification to become EMTs. By reducing financial barriers and providing immediate income, the initiative attracts a broader and more diverse applicant pool, accelerates the entry of new EMTs into the workforce, and strengthens the overall stability and readiness of the EMS system to respond to community needs.

These grants will provide eligible ambulance services funding for certain costs to train ambulance service employees as EMTs and staff the ambulance service.

Eligibility Criteria

The purpose of this grant program is to support ambulance services that rely significantly on EMTs thereby strengthening this segment of the EMS workforce pipeline.

To be eligible for a grant under this section, an ambulance service must:

- (1) be licensed under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 144E; and
- (2) in the calendar year prior to the year in which the ambulance service first applies for a grant under this section, have had at least 50 percent of its ambulance staffing provided by emergency medical technicians.

To determine compliance with this requirement, the Office of EMS (OEMS) will evaluate ambulance services based on either of the following two criteria. A service is eligible if it meets at least one:

- 1. Roster-Based Requirement: At least 50% of the EMS personnel listed on the service's eLicense electronic roster are certified at the EMT level.
- 2. Response-Based Requirement: At least 50% of the EMS responses during the previous calendar year, as reported in the Minnesota State Ambulance Reporting System (MNSTAR), included an EMT listed on the patient care report.

Available Funding

Through this RFP, grants are available to ambulance services who will be selected to offer Earn While You learn programs through December 30, 2026. AST&S grants include four funding categories. There is \$2 million dollars available for this grant program.

This is a competitive grant, and the number of grantees has not been determined at this time. The total number of applicants and the size of the requests will determine how many grants are awarded.

An ambulance service must use grant money awarded under this section only for one or more of the following:

- 1. EMT education program tuition.
- 2. EMT certification exam fees.
- 3. Background study fees for new EMT employees.
- 4. Wage and benefit costs of employees while attending an EMT education program or program-related activities. Wage and benefit costs under this clause must be commensurate with the wages and benefits the ambulance service provides to an entry-level EMT and must not exceed \$26 per hour.

The State reserves the right to offer grant amounts that differ from the Grant Applicant's request, or the maximum identified above.

Grant Period

The term of the initial AST&S grant period is anticipated to be from January 1, 2026, through December 30, 2026. Grant proposals are not required to last the entire length of the grant cycle.

Options for extensions or continuation awards will be considered at the State's discretion.

Right of Cancellation

The State reserves the right to cancel this solicitation if it is considered to be in its best interest. The State reserves the right to negotiate modifications to the application or to reject any and all applications received as a result of this. The State does not intend to award a grant contract solely on the basis of any response made to this request or pay for information solicited or obtained.

Application Components

Assurances—Standard and Program-Specific

The Authorized Representative certifies that they have read the entire Grant Application and Assurances and that they will comply with the approved application, the assurances, the Grant Award Notification (GAN) and all other applicable federal regulations, state statutes, and local policies.

Coversheet

The coversheet must include:

- All grant applicants must provide a completed Coversheet that includes all requested information.
- This includes an original signature from the identified authorized representative with the authority to sign on behalf of the applicant.

Identification Numbers

Every individual and organization doing business with the state is considered a vendor. To view invoices or payments through the Supplier Portal, vendors must be registered with the State of Minnesota. If you are a new or prospective vendor, please navigate to the <u>Supplier Portal Vendor Registration</u> to register as a vendor. Existing vendors can request a User ID to login to the Supplier Portal by clicking <u>the Create a New User ID link</u>. When a vendor registration is approved or the new User ID is approved, a confirmation is sent to the email address entered during the registration process. You can find information and resources from SWIFT.

Application Questions

In the application section, develop your responses to each component, both the narrative portions and the tables. All criteria within the application narrative sections should be addressed in the narrative response. Space is provided to answer each narrative section within the application. Total points possible for each application is: 100.

Collaboration

Applications that include collaboration with other ambulance services is allowed. The work plan, budget, and narrative responses must include how the collaboration will impact project outcomes.

Collaboration with an EMT educational programs is allowed but not required.

Selection Criteria & Weight

Each applicant will be reviewed on a points scale by the review committee. The scoring factors and weight that applications will be judged are based on the following:

- Service Need
 - Applicants must detail the need for this program at their ambulance service. This could include service call data, coverage area, staffing challenges, etc.
- Sustainability
 - What is the long-term plan for anyone who becomes a certified EMT through this program at your service?
 - o How will this program impact the sustainability of your services EMT workforce?
- Approach
 - How will the service recruit and hire for this program? What is the process and how are participants evaluated?
- Capacity
 - Is there service capacity to lead the program including financial recordkeeping, funds management, timekeeping, and leadership?
- Community and Geographic Area
 - What is the location and reach of your service?
 - Please identify if your service area includes any historically marginalized or underserved populations.

OEMS has the following weighted criteria in measurable outcomes and in reaching diverse populations. Each Grant Application and Assurances will be reviewed and scored as indicated below. Maximum number of points for the application: **100 points**.

Application Component	Possible Points
Coversheet	10 points
Project Overview	20 points
Service Readiness and Need	20 points
Work Plan and Budget	30 points
Grant Project Impact	20 points
Total Possible Points	100

Questions, Technical Assistance, and Information Sessions

All questions regarding this funding opportunity must be submitted by email to finance.oems@state.mn.us.

- a) A virtual Grant Applicant Information Session will serve as an opportunity for Applicants to ask specific questions of State staff concerning the project. Attendance at the Grant Applicant Information Session is not mandatory but is recommended.
 - a. Oral answers given at the Grant Applicant Conference will be non-binding. Written responses to questions asked at the session will be sent to all identified prospective applicants after the session.
- b) Written questions will be accepted only by email to finance.oems@state.mn.us by Wednesday, October 8, 2025, 12:00 p.m. Central Time. Written responses will be published at

https://mn.gov/oems/ambulance-services/funding-opportunities/ within three (3) business days of the Grant Applicant Information Session.

c) STATE will not be held responsible for oral responses to Applicants.

Review the table below for key dates related to the conference and written questions.

Action	Key Date	Additional Information
Written questions from Grant Applicants	Due by Wednesday, October 8, 2025, by 12:00 p.m. Central Time	Email to: finance.oems@state.mn.us
Grant Applicant Information Session	Monday, October 6, 2025, 1:00 p.m. Central Time	Webinar Registration
Application deadline	Friday, October 17, 2025 – 4:00 p.m. Central Time	Online Application

Application Submission & Signature

Applications must be received no later than 4:00 pm Central Time, on October 17, 2025. Applications can be submitted online through the online form. No paper submissions will be accepted. Late applications will not be accepted.

With the online form, you must include the required attachments. The Exhibits listed below are available on our <u>website</u>. Once completed, they can be uploaded through the <u>Online Application</u>.

Application Content

You must submit the following for the application to be considered complete:

- 1. Exhibit A: Assurances and completed and signed application coversheet. Attachment.
- **2. Application narrative questions.** Online questionnaire.
- 3. Exhibit B: Budget and Work Plan Template. Attachment.
- 4. Exhibit D: Certification that the entity is not suspended or debarred by the State of Minnesota or the federal government. Attachment.

The following exhibits are only required for grant applications requesting \$50,000 or more.

- 5. Exhibit C: Capacity Responses
- 6. Exhibit E: Evidence of Good Standing
- **7. Exhibit F: Nonprofit grantee Documents** (as applicable)
- 8. Exhibit G: For-Profit Certification Disclosure and Required Documents (as applicable)

9. Exhibit H: Certification no current principals have been convicted of a felony financial crime in the last ten years

Incomplete applications will be rejected and not evaluated. Applications must include all required application materials, including attachments. Do not provide any materials that are not requested, as such materials will not be considered nor evaluated.

OEMS reserves the right to reject any application that does not meet these requirements.

By submitting an application, each applicant warrants that the information provided is true, correct, and reliable for purposes of evaluation for potential grant award. The submission of inaccurate or misleading information may be grounds for disqualification from the award, as well as subject the applicant to suspension or debarment proceedings and other remedies available by law.

All costs incurred in responding to this will be borne by the applicant.

Application Review Process

Review Process

Phase 1: Screening

Applications that meet the following criteria will be forwarded for further consideration and review.

- 1. Application is received by Friday, October 17, 2025, 4:00 PM Central Time
- 2. The Grant Applicant meets the minimum eligibility of the grant. (For details: review Overview section: Eligibility Criteria.)
- 3. Application is complete. (See last page of this document for checklist)

Phase 2: Application Components Scored

Funding will be allocated through a competitive process with review by a committee representing content and community specialists with regional knowledge. The review committee will use the point scale provided above to evaluate all eligible and complete applications received by the deadline. Reviewers will meet and discuss the proposals and then put forth their recommendations. The Director of OEMS will make the final funding decisions and applicants will receive award notifications by email.

Phase 3: Pre-Award Risk Assessment

Before final award decisions, the State will conduct a risk assessment for financial capacity as well as prior performance.

Phase 4: Award Decisions

- a. The State may offer grant award amounts that differ from your grant request, or the maximum grant amount identified.
- b. During this phase, the State may contact you to obtain clarification on one or more sections of your application. The State may also contact reviewers to obtain clarification of their feedback.
- c. All funding decisions made by the State are final.

Timeline

Applications due no later than 4:00 pm central time: **October 17, 2025.**Selected applicants undergo pre-award risk assessment: **November 2025.**Selected grantees announced; grant award notifications issued and executed: **December 2025.**Award decisions are anticipated to be provided: **December 2025.**

Applicants recommended for an award must wait until they receive a signed Grant Award Notification (GAN) **before** providing any services or incurring any expenses related to the grant. Any expenses incurred prior to the full execution of a GAN are not reimbursable and are the responsibility of the applicant.

Conflicts of Interest

State grant policy requires that steps and procedures are in place to prevent individual and organizational conflicts of interest, both in reference to applicants and reviewers per Minnesota Statutes §16B.98 Subd. 2-3 and OGM Policy 08-01 Conflict of Interest in State Grant-Making Policy.

In cases where a conflict of interest is in question or disclosed, the applicants or grantees will be notified and actions may be pursued, including but not limited to, revising the grant work plan or grantee duties to mitigate the risk, requesting the grant applicant to submit an organizational conflict of interest mitigation plan, disqualification from eligibility for the grant award, amending the grant, or termination of the grant contract agreement.

Public Data

Per Minnesota Statutes § 13.599

- Names and addresses of grant applicants and amount requested will be public data once proposal responses are opened.
- All remaining data in proposal responses (except trade secret data as defined and classified in §13.37) will be public data after the evaluation process is completed. For the purposes of this grant, data will be considered public when all the grant contract agreements have been fully executed.
- All data created or maintained by OEMS as part of the evaluation process (except trade secret
 data as defined and classified in §13.37) will be public data after the evaluation process is
 completed. For the purposes of this grant, Data will be considered public when all the grant
 contract agreements have been fully executed.

Award Requirements & Grant Management Responsibilities

Pre-Award Risk Assessment and Financial Review

In accordance with Minnesota Statutes § 16B.981 and OGM Policy 08-06: Preaward Risk Assessment of Potential Grantees, it is required to consider a grant applicant's past performance and financial and operational capacity before awarding grants of \$50,000 or more. Granting agencies will request, review, and analyze information, including the Exhibits C-H of this Application, as applicable.

For grants less than \$50,000, applicants may be required to submit financial, capacity, and internal control documents prior to a grant award based on state or federal requirements.

- Nonprofits may be required to submit their most recent board reviewed financial statements, an IRS Form 990, or their most recent certified financial audit.
- All applicants may be required to submit additional documents, including descriptions of internal controls over business expenditures and outcomes of grant funds.

Accountability and Reporting Requirements

The reporting schedule will be monthly. The progress report and invoice template will be provided and due as follows:

- February 15, 2026
- March 15, 2026
- April 15, 2026
- May 15, 2026
- June 15, 2026
- July 15, 2026

- August 15, 2026
- September 15, 2026
- October 15, 2026
- November 15, 2026
- December 15, 2026
- January 15, 2027

Assurances

By signing the application coversheet and submitting it to the State, the applicant certifies they have read all application documents (including any revised documents) and agree to comply with the approved application and all federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations, public policies herein, and all others as applicable.

1. Term of Grant

1.1 Effective Date

The Grantee must not begin work until all required signatures have been obtained; an official Grant Award Notification (GAN) has been issued; the State's Authorized Representative has notified the Grantee that work may commence. If the State determines an exception to this is necessary, the State's Authorized Representative will notify the Grantee in writing.

1.2 Survival of Terms

The following clauses survive the expiration or cancellation of this grant award: Audits; Liability; Intellectual Property Rights; Publicity and Endorsement; Government Data Practices; Data Disclosure; and Governing Law, Jurisdiction and Venue.

2. Specifications and Use of Funds

The Grantee shall comply with all applicable grants management policies and procedures, set forth through Minnesota Statutes § 16B.97, subd. 4(a) and requirements in Minnesota Statutes § 16B.98 and Minnesota Statutes § 16B.981

The use of funds shall be limited to that portion identified in the application materials and the attached application and by any applicable state or federal laws. Funds should support the purpose and activities approved in the application. Funds must not be used to cover expenses for individuals who:

- Are no longer making adequate progress toward EMT certification,
- Have already become certified as EMTs, or
- Are no longer eligible to obtain EMT certification.

If an individual is deemed ineligible for certification or is removed from the program due to insufficient progress, grant funds may not be used to support that individual's re-enrollment or participation in the program a second time during the grant period.

2.1 Reporting

The Grantee, in the conduct of activities under a grant award, shall submit such reports as may be required by instructions of the State within the times required by it. Pursuant to Office of Grants Management Policy 08-09: Policy on Grant Progress Reports, the State will not issue payment on grants with past due progress reports and reserves the right to withhold funding if other reporting requirements are not met.

The Grantee shall present reports to the State's Authorized Representative. At the State's discretion, these reports may be presented at departmental, legislative, other state agency, or public meetings where the grantee shall be available to explain the project and respond to questions.

2.2 Allowability of Costs

The allowability of costs for funding incurred under this award shall be determined in accordance with the approved budget, as well as:

- A. An ambulance service must use grant money awarded under this section only for one or more of the following:
 - a. tuition for employees attending an emergency medical technician (EMT) education program approved by the director;
 - b. employee examination fees for EMT certification;
 - c. fees for background studies for new EMT employees; and
 - d. incurred wage and benefit costs of employees while attending an EMT education program or program-related activities. Wage and benefit costs under this clause must be commensurate with the wages and benefits the ambulance service provides to an entry-level EMT and must not exceed \$26 per hour.

For all funds, no claim for materials purchased in excess of budget categories or program services not specifically provided for in this award by the grantee will be allowed by the State unless first approved in writing by the State. Such approval shall be a modification of an award. There may be additional limitations on allowable costs, which shall be noted in the award.

3. Time

In the performance of this grant, time is of the essence and failure to meet a deadline may be a basis for a determination by the State's Authorized Representative that the Grantee has not complied with the terms of the Grant Award Notification and Application. The grantee must comply with the time requirements described in the application and grant award notification and inform the grantor of any potential long-term delays or changes affecting those timelines.

4. Consideration and Terms of Payment

The consideration for all services performed by the Grantee pursuant to a Grant Award Notification shall be paid by the State as follows:

4.1 Compensation

The total obligation of the State under a Grant Award Notification, including all compensation and reimbursements, shall not exceed the amounts specified in the approved budget, which will be attached and incorporated into any Grant Award Notification.

4.2 Administrative Costs

Administrative costs are not an allowable expense.

4.3 Travel Expenses

Reimbursement for travel and subsistence expenses are not allowable expenses.

4.4 Invoices

Payments under the performance of a Grant Award Notification and Application will be made by the State after the Grantee's presentation of invoices for services satisfactorily performed and the written acceptance of such services by the State's Authorized Representative. Invoices shall be submitted timely, with additional details as requested by the State, and according to the schedule attached and incorporated into any Grant Award Notification.

4.5 Unexpended Funds

The Grantee must promptly return to the State any unexpended funds that have not been accounted for in a financial report to the State.

5. Conditions of Payment

All services provided by the Grantee under any Grant Award Notification must be performed to the State's satisfaction, as determined at the sole discretion of the State's Authorized Representative and in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations. The Grantee will not receive payment for work found by the State to be unsatisfactory or performed in violation of federal, state, or local law.

6. Contracting and Bidding Requirements:

Municipalities

Grantees that are political subdivisions or municipalities must use these guidelines:

- A. Municipalities are required to comply with Minnesota Statutes § 471.345, Uniform Municipal Contracting Law.
- B. The Grantee and any subrecipients must comply with prevailing wage rules per Minnesota Statutes §§ 177.41 through 177.50, as applicable.
- C. Municipalities and any subrecipients must not contract with vendors who are suspended or debarred by the State of Minnesota or the federal government: <u>Suspended and Debarred</u> Vendors, Minnesota Office of State Procurement
- D. The Grantee must maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts.

Nongovernmental entities

Grantees that are nongovernmental entities must use these guidelines:

- A. Any services and/or materials that are expected to cost \$100,000 or more must undergo a formal notice and bidding process.
- B. Services and/or materials that are expected to cost between \$25,000 and \$99,999 must be competitively awarded based on a minimum of three (3) written quotes or bids or awarded to a targeted vendor.
- C. Services and/or materials that are expected to cost between \$10,000 and \$24,999 must be competitively awarded based on a minimum of two (2) written quotes or bids or awarded to a targeted vendor.
- D. The grantee must take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that targeted vendors from businesses with active certifications through these entities are used when possible:
 - a. <u>State Department of Administration's Certified Targeted Group, Economically Disadvantaged and Veteran-Owned Vendor List</u>
 - b. Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business Program
 - c. Small Business Certification Program through Hennepin County, Ramsey County, and City of St. Paul: Central Certification Directory
- E. The grantee must maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts.
- F. The grantee must maintain support documentation of the purchasing or bidding process used to contract services in their financial records, including support documentation justifying a single source bid, if applicable.
- G. Notwithstanding the above, the State may waive bidding process requirements when:
 - a. Vendors included in response to competitive grant request for proposal process were approved and incorporated as an approved work plan for the grant; or
 - b. It is determined there is only one reasonably able and available source for such materials or services and that grantee has established a fair and reasonable price.
- H. The Grantee and any subrecipients must comply with prevailing wage rules per Minnesota Statutes §§ 177.41 through 177.50, as applicable.
- The grantee and any subrecipients must not contract with vendors who are suspended or debarred by the State of Minnesota or the federal government: <u>Suspended and Debarred</u> Vendors, Minnesota Office of State Procurement

7. Authorized Representatives Grantee's Grant Program Representative

The applicant's Authorized Representative will be named on the Grant Award Notification (GAN) or other award information. If the Grantee's Authorized Representative changes at any time during the grant award period, the Grantee must immediately notify the state.

The Grantee must clearly post on the Grantee's website the names of, and contact information for, the Grantee's leadership and the employee or other person who directly manages and oversees this Grant Contract Agreement on behalf of the Grantee.

8. Assignment, Amendments

8.1 Assignment

The Grantee may neither assign nor transfer any rights or obligations under this grant award without the prior written consent of the State and a fully executed agreement, executed and approved by the authorized parties or their successors.

8.2 Amendments.

Any amendment to a Grant Award Notification and Application must be in writing and will not be effective until it has been executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved the original Grant Award Notification and Application, or their successors in office.

9. Subcontracting and Subcontract Payment

- 9.1 A subrecipient is a person or entity that has been awarded a portion of the work authorized by a Grant Award Notification and Application by Grantee. The Grantee must document any subaward through a formal legal agreement. The Grantee must provide timely notice to the State of any subrecipient(s) prior to the subrecipient(s) performing work for the GAN and Application.
- **9.2** The Grantee must monitor the activities of the subrecipient(s) to ensure the subaward is used for authorized purposes; is in compliance with the terms and conditions of the subaward, Minnesota Statutes § 16B.97, Subd.4 (a) 1, and other relevant statutes and regulations; and that subaward performance goals are achieved.
- **9.3** During a grant award period, if a subrecipient is determined to be performing unsatisfactorily by the State's Authorized Representative, the Grantee will receive written notification that the subrecipient can no longer be used.
- **9.4** No sub agreement shall serve to terminate or in any way affect the primary legal responsibility of the Grantee for timely and satisfactory performances of the obligations contemplated by the Grant Award Notification and Application.
- **9.5** The Grantee must pay any subcontractor in accordance with Minnesota Statutes § 16A.1245.
- **9.6** The Grantee and any subrecipients must not contract with vendors who are <u>suspended or</u> <u>debarred by the State of Minnesota or the federal government.</u>

10. Liability

The Grantee must indemnify, save, and hold the State, its agents, and employees harmless from any claims or causes of action, including attorneys' fees incurred by the State, arising from the performance of a grant award by the Grantee or the Grantee's agents or employees. This clause shall not be construed to bar any legal remedies the Grantee may have for the State's failure to fulfill its obligations under a Grant Award Notification and Application.

11. Audits

Under Minnesota Statutes § 16B.98, Subd. 8, the grantee's books, records, document, and accounting procedures and practices relevant to a grant award are subject to examination by the Commissioner of Administration, the State granting agency, the State Auditor, the Attorney General, and the Legislative Auditor, as appropriate, for a minimum of six years from the end of this grant, receipt and approval of all final reports, or the required period of time to satisfy all State and program retention requirements, whichever is later.

12. Government Data Practices and Intellectual Property Rights

12.1 Government Data Practices.

The Grantee and the State must comply with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13, as it applies to all data provided by the state under the grant, and as it applies to all data created collected, received, stored, used, maintained or disseminated by the grantee under the award. The civil remedies of Minnesota Statutes § 13.08 apply to the release of the data referred to in this paragraph by either the grantee or the state.

If the Grantee receives a request to release the data referred to in this clause, the Grantee must immediately notify the State. The State will give the Grantee instructions concerning the release of the data to the requesting party before the data is released. The Grantee's response to the request shall comply with applicable law.

13. Worker's Compensation

The Grantee certifies that it is in compliance with Minnesota Statutes § 176.181, Subd. 2, pertaining to workers' compensation insurance coverage. The Grantee's employees and agents will not be considered State employees. Any claims that may arise under the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Act on behalf of these employees and any claims made by any third party as a consequence of any act or omission on the part of these employees are in no way the State's obligation or responsibility.

14. Governing Law, Jurisdiction and Venue

Venue for all legal proceedings arising out of a grant award, or its breach, must be in the appropriate state or federal court with competent jurisdiction in Ramsey County, Minnesota.

15.Termination

15.1 Termination by the State.

A. Without Cause.

The State may terminate this grant without cause, upon 30 days' written notice to the Grantee. Upon termination, the Grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed.

B. With Cause:

The State may immediately terminate a grant award if the State finds that there has been a failure to comply with the provisions of this grant, that reasonable progress has not been made, or that the purposes for which the funds were granted have not been or will not be fulfilled. The State may take action to protect the interests of the State of Minnesota,

including the refusal to disburse additional funds and requiring the return of all or part of the funds already disbursed.

15.2 Termination by the Commissioner of Administration

The Commissioner of Administration may immediately and unilaterally cancel this grant if further performance would not serve agency purposes or performance under the grant award is not in the best interest of the State.

15.3 Termination for Insufficient Funding

The State may immediately terminate a grant if it does not obtain funding from the Minnesota Legislature, or other funding source; or if funding cannot be continued at a level sufficient to allow for the payment of the services addressed within this Grant Award Notification and Application. Termination must be by written notice to the Grantee. The State is not obligated to pay for any services that are provided after notice and effective date of termination. However, the Grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed to the extent that dedicated funds are available.

In the event of temporary lack of funding or appropriation, the State may pause its obligations under a grant award without terminating it. This pause will be for the duration of the lack of funding or appropriation and shall not be considered a termination of the Grant Award Notification and Application. The Grantee will be notified in writing of the temporary pause, and the Grantee's ability to provide services may be temporarily suspended during this period. The State will provide reasonable notice to the Grantee of the lack of funding or appropriation and shall notify the Grantee once funding is restored or appropriated, at which point the provision of services under the Grant Award Notification and Application may resume.

The State will not be assessed any penalty if the grant is terminated due to insufficient funding. The State must provide the Grantee notice of the lack of funding within a reasonable time of the State's receiving notice.

15.4 Additional termination language may be negotiated on a case-by-case basis as determined by the agency and assistant attorney general or agency legal and financial division consultation.

16.Publicity and Endorsement

16.1 Publicity.

Any publicity pertaining to the services resulting from a Grant Award Notification and Application shall identify the State as the sponsoring agency. Publicity includes but is not limited to websites, social media platforms, notices, informational pamphlets, press releases, research, reports, signs, and similar public notices prepared by or for the Grantee or its employees individually or jointly with others or any subcontractors. All projects primarily funded by state grant appropriations must publicly credit the State, including on the grantee's website, when practicable.

16.2 Endorsement.

The Grantee must not claim that the State endorses its products or services.

17. Data Disclosure

Under Minnesota Statutes § 270C.65, Subd. 3, and other applicable laws, Grantee consents to disclosure of its social security number, federal employer tax identification number, or Minnesota tax identification number, already provided to the State, to federal and state tax agencies, and state personnel involved in the payment of state obligations. These identification numbers may be used in the enforcement of federal and state tax laws, which could result in action requiring the Grantee to file state tax returns and pay delinquent state tax liabilities, if any.

18.Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination

- **18.1** The grantee agrees not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status in regard to public assistance, membership or activity in a local commission, disability, sexual orientation, or age in regard to any position for which the employee or applicant for employment is qualified per Minnesota Statutes § 363A.02. The grantee agrees to take affirmative steps to employ, advance in employment, upgrade, train, and recruit minority persons, women, and persons with disabilities.
- **18.2** The grantee must not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of physical or mental disability in regard to any position for which the employee or applicant for employment is qualified. The grantee agrees to take affirmative action to employ, advance in employment, and otherwise treat qualified disabled persons without discrimination based upon their physical or mental disability in all employment practices such as the following: employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment, advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship. Minnesota Rules, Part 5000.3500.
- **18.3** The grantee agrees to comply with the rules and relevant orders of the Minnesota Department of Human Rights issued pursuant to the Minnesota Human Rights Act.

19. Conflict of Interest

In accordance with the Minnesota Office of Grants Management Policy 08-01: Grants Conflict of Interest, the grantee will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflicts of interest, or personal gain. Grantees will maintain and implement written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest.

20. Voter Registration

The grantee will comply with <u>Minnesota Statutes § 201.162</u> by providing voter registration services for its employees and for the public served by the grantee.

21. Financial and Grantee Capacity Review

Minnesota Statutes § 16B.981 and OGM Policy 08-06: Preaward Risk Assessment of Potential Grantees requires that a preaward risk assessment is conducted for grant awards of \$50,000 or more. All grantees as defined in Minnesota Statutes § 16B.981 Subd. 1 (c) applying for grants in the state of Minnesota must undergo a financial and operational capacity review prior to a grant award of \$50,000 and higher. Granting agencies will request, review, and analyze information,

including the Exhibits C-H of this Application, as applicable. For grants less than \$50,000, applicants may be required to submit financial, capacity, and internal control documents prior to a grant award based on state or federal requirements.

22. Other Provisions

• Grantees will submit reports and comply with the terms as outlined in the Grant Award Notification (GAN)

Coversheet

Ambulance Service Training and Staffing Grant – Earn While You Learn

Applicant Information			
Legal name of applicant organization:			
Total grant request:			
List the county or counties to be served:			
Official with Authority (must sign coversheet with verified e-signature or wet signature)			
Name of official with authority to sign:			
Title:			
Phone number:			
Email:			
Identification Number			
Minnesota Swift Vendor ID number:			
Primary Program Contact (main point of contact for the grant)			
Name of Program Contact:			
Title:			
Address:			
City, State, and Zip code:			
Phone number:			
Email:			

Business Manager (finance contact)				
Name of Business Manager:				
Title:				
Phone number:				
Email:				
Signature				
Signature:		Title:		
Print Name:		Date:		

I certify I have read the application (narrative, assurances, budget and supplemental documents, if applicable) and will comply with the approved application and assurances herein and additional state, local, federal regulations, and policies that apply to my organization. The submission of inaccurate or misleading information may be grounds for disqualification from the grant award and may subject me and my organization to suspension or debarment proceedings, as well as other remedies available to the State, by law.

Application Narrative

Project Information and Background

This funding supports grants to eligible ambulance services for certain costs to train ambulance service employees as emergency medical technicians and staff the ambulance service.

The AST&S Grant Program was funded by the Minnesota Legislature in recognition of Minnesota's need for additional ambulance staffing. This opportunity is in response to the identified EMT staffing challenges within Minnesota.

These grants will help increase the number of certified EMTs in the state and to assist with ambulance service staffing. This Earn While You Learn program enables ambulance services to increase capacity and encourages entry into the field of emergency medical services.

Grant funding outcomes of this initiative will include:

- An increase in the total number of individuals that achieve EMT certification through this program.
- A summation of the number of hours worked, and activities or duties completed in support of the ambulance service.
- Increase in interest and access to employment in the emergency medical services field.
- Improved ambulance service staffing in areas identified as in need of EMT professionals.
- Identify the impact to any historically marginalized or underserved populations.

Eligibility

To be eligible for a grant under this section, an ambulance service must:

- (3) be licensed under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 144E; and
- (4) in the calendar year prior to the year in which the ambulance service first applies for a grant under this section, have had at least 50 percent of its ambulance staffing provided by emergency medical technicians.

To determine compliance with this requirement, the OEMS will evaluate ambulance services based on either of the following two criteria. A service is eligible if it meets at least one:

- 1. Roster-Based Requirement: At least 50% of the EMS personnel listed on the service's eLicense electronic roster are certified at the EMT level.
- Response-Based Requirement: At least 50% of the EMS responses during the previous calendar year, as reported in the Minnesota State Ambulance Reporting System (MNSTAR), included an EMT listed on the patient care report.

Project Overview: 20 points

Provide a general overview of the grant project proposal including the following:

- Describe the program structure including the overall goals and objectives.
- What is the location and reach of your service?
- Please identify if your service area includes any historically marginalized or underserved populations.

Service Readiness and Need: 20 points

Describe your entity's need and commitment to administering the project successfully. Identify and explain the following:

- Ambulance Service Readiness
 - Describe the service's capacity to lead the program including financial recordkeeping, funds management, timekeeping, and leadership.
- Recruitment and selection plan
 - o How will the service recruit and hire for this program?
 - What is the process and how are participants evaluated for participation?
- Needs assessment
 - o Please provide the current roster count and how many open positions do you have?
 - Applicants must describe the need for this program at their ambulance service. This
 could include providing service call data, coverage area, staffing challenges, etc.

Grant Project Impact: 20 points

Explain the overall impact these grant funds will have on your ambulance service and how it will benefit your area.

- What is the long-term plan for anyone who becomes a certified EMT through this program at your service?
- How will this program impact the sustainability of your services' EMT workforce?

Evaluation

The reporting schedule will be monthly. The progress report and invoice template will be provided to evaluate the progress toward grant deliverables and outcomes. This will include, but is not limited to:

- 1. Number of individuals enrolled in the Earn While You learn EMT training program
- 2. Number of individuals who completed the training program
- 3. Number of individuals who obtained EMT certification through the program
- 4. Total number of paid work hours completed by participants while in training
- 5. Number of service hours performed by trainees, categorized by type of duty (e.g., ridealong, dispatch, patient care)

For awards greater than \$25,000, a grantee performance evaluation will be posted publicly, per Minnesota Statutes §16B.98, Subd. 12, and OGM Policy 08-13.

Application Work Plan and Budget

Grant applicants must complete and submit a work plan and budget document. Specify the grant amount requested and detail all expenditures anticipated during the project period that align with the project goals and activities and information outlined in this application by using **Exhibit B: OEMS AST&S Work Plan & Budget Template.**

No administrative costs are allowed for this grant.

The budget must:

- Provide clear budget line-item entries that tie to the proposed grant project activities and goals.
- Demonstrate logical correspondence with grant application narrative.

Application Maximum Number of Points: 100

Each application must be submitted using our **Online Application**.

Submission Checklist

You must submit the following for the application to be considered complete:

- 1. □ Exhibit A: Assurances and completed and signed application coversheet. Attachment.
- **2.** \square **Application narrative questions.** Online questionnaire.
- 3.

 Exhibit B: Budget and Work Plan Template. Attachment.
- **4.** □ Exhibit D: Certification that the entity is not suspended or debarred by the State of Minnesota or the federal government. Attachment.

The following are only required for grant applications requesting \$50,000 or more.

- **5.** □ Exhibit C: Capacity Responses
- 6. ☐ Exhibit E: Evidence of Good Standing
- 7.

 Exhibit F: Nonprofit grantee Documents (as applicable)
- 9. □ Exhibit H: Certification no current principals have been convicted of a felony financial crime in the last ten years

Incomplete applications will be rejected and not evaluated. Applications must include all required application materials, including attachments. Do not provide any materials that are not requested in the application, as such materials will not be considered nor evaluated.

OEMS reserves the right to reject any application that does not meet these requirements.

By submitting an application, each applicant warrants that the information provided is true, correct, and reliable for purposes of evaluation for potential grant award. The submission of inaccurate or misleading information may be grounds for disqualification from the award, as well as subject the applicant to suspension or debarment proceedings and other remedies available by law.

All costs incurred in responding to this will be borne by the applicant.