FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

⟫ GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

Q: WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS GRANT PROGRAM?
A: To provide financial assistance to eligible ECCs for projects that enhance delivery, reliability, interoperability, and sustainability of 911 services.

Q: WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?
A: Only primary ECCs located in 911 ACOG member governments that receive 911 service fee refunds from ACOG are eligible to apply for grants.

Q: WHAT TYPES OF PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES DOES THE GRANT SUPPORT?
A: Projects that advance system modernization and resilience, foster interjurisdictional coordination/shared services, and address gaps in coverage, capacity, and access.

Q: ARE THERE SPECIFIC FUNDING PRIORITIES OR FOCUS AREAS?
A: Yes. To ensure the strategic allocation of 911 grant funds, the 911 ACOG Grant Program may establish one or more funding priorities to guide the evaluation and selection of grant recipients.

Q: HOW MUCH FUNDING IS AVAILABLE THROUGH THIS GRANT?
A: Annual funding levels are announced each cycle. Minimum award is $50,000, except for requests related to conference attendance, which are capped at $3,500 per person. Maximum award is $250,000 (exceptions possible under extraordinary circumstances).

▤ ELIGIBILITY

Q: CAN INDIVIDUALS APPLY, OR ONLY ORGANIZATIONS?
A: Only primary ECCs located in 911 ACOG member governments that receive 911 service fee refunds from ACOG are eligible to apply for grants.

Q: ARE PAST RECIPIENTS ELIGIBLE TO REAPPLY?
A: Yes, unless an ECC has more than one active grant at the time of application submission (exceptions may be considered for force majeure events).

▷▷| APPLICATION PROCESS

Q: WHAT IS THE APPLICATION DEADLINE?
A: The grant application deadline is no earlier than 60 calendar days from the first day of the published grant cycle, unless otherwise modified by the Executive Director.

Q: HOW DO I SUBMIT MY APPLICATION?
A: Through the Foundant online grant management system.

Q: WHAT DOCUMENTS OR INFORMATION ARE REQUIRED FOR SUBMISSION?
A: Applicant information, grant type indicator, project information, project description and supporting documentation.

✓✓ PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Q: IS A BUDGET REQUIRED, AND IF SO, IN WHAT FORMAT?
A: Yes. Applicants must submit their total project budget, grant request amount, voluntary matching funds (optional) with approved local government resolution, and detailed vendor quotes.

Q: DO APPLICANTS NEED TO PROVIDE MATCHING FUNDS OR COST SHARING?
A: No — the ACOG 911 Grant Program does not require a cash match from applicants. However, applicants that voluntarily contribute funds toward their proposed projects will receive additional consideration in the scoring process.

📝 REVIEW AND SELECTION

Q: HOW WILL APPLICATIONS BE EVALUATED?
A: Based on established criteria, alignment with regional priorities, and overall merit.

Q: WHO REVIEWS THE APPLICATIONS?
A: The Grant Selection Committee is responsible for evaluating eligible applications that have been screened and vetted by ACOG 911 staff. If a formal Grant Selection Committee is not assembled, the Executive Director and designated ACOG 911 staff will assume responsibility for full evaluation and recommendation.

Q: WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA FOR SELECTION?
A: Applications will be scored using a standardized rubric.

Q: WILL APPLICANTS RECEIVE FEEDBACK ON THEIR PROPOSALS?
A: Staff may provide clarifications in writing, but formal feedback beyond award decisions is not guaranteed.

Q: WHEN WILL FUNDING DECISIONS BE ANNOUNCED?
A: After 911 ACOG Board approval at a scheduled or special meeting; applicants are notified in writing.

FUNDING AND REPORTING

Q: WHAT IS THE GRANT PERIOD (START AND END DATES)?
A: Defined in the interlocal grant agreement; extensions may be approved.

Q: HOW WILL FUNDS BE DISBURSED?
A: Primarily by reimbursement; limited advance payments may be approved by the Executive Director (not to exceed 25% of the total grant award).

Q: ARE THERE RESTRICTIONS ON HOW FUNDS CAN BE USED?
A: Yes. The following are not eligible for funding through the 911 ACOG Grant Program.

- Costs to operate 911 systems
- In field radios/subscriber units (mobile and portable radios)
- Radio infrastructure, including repeaters, combiners, towers, radio tower buildings, etc.
- Construction/capital improvement projects not related to consolidation
- Building operating costs including rent and utilities
- Purchase of vehicles; vehicle maintenance costs
- Oklahoma Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (OLETS)/National Crime Information Center (NCIC)
- General administrative costs including salaries and wages
- Purchases or purchase agreements entered prior to grant award
- Costs associated with any college or university degree, such as tuition, fees, etc.
- Costs associated with prizes; fundraising events/expenses
- Grant writer fees
- Fines/penalties/taxes; offsetting of debt; legal or audit fees; lobbying expenses

- Food/refreshments
- Decoding equipment used by field responders
- Cybersecurity vulnerability assessments, which are completed by the OK911MA Cybersecurity Specialist upon request

Q: WHAT ARE THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANTEES?
A: Monthly or quarterly progress reports, a final close-out report, and interim updates upon request.

Q: ARE SITE VISITS OR EVALUATIONS REQUIRED?
A: Yes — monitoring may include desk audits of financial and performance reports, on-site or virtual visits, and equipment verification for capital projects related to consolidation.

✅ POST-AWARD

Q: CAN FUNDING BE EXTENDED OR RENEWED?
A: Extensions may be requested as grant modifications.

Q: WHAT HAPPENS IF MY PROJECT CHANGES AFTER RECEIVING FUNDING?
A: Budget, scope, or timeline changes must be submitted in writing and are subject to approval.

Q: ARE GRANTEES REQUIRED TO SHARE RESULTS OR OUTCOMES PUBLICLY?
A: Grantees must publicize the project through social media and/or media releases, ensuring that 911 ACOG is acknowledged as the grantor.

Q: IS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OR SUPPORT PROVIDED TO GRANTEES?
A: Yes — To support compliance the Grant Program will provide templates, instructions, and sample completed reports to all grantees, as well as periodic training or office hours and a designated contact.

Q: WHO SHOULD I CONTACT WITH QUESTIONS DURING THE GRANT PERIOD?
A: ACOG 911 staff (contact details provided in award communications).

❓ OTHER COMMON QUESTIONS

Q: CAN I APPLY FOR MORE THAN ONE GRANT AT A TIME?

A: One project grant application per ECC may be submitted per cycle. An ECC may not apply for additional grant funding if it has more than one active grant at the time of application submission (exceptions may be considered for force majeure events). **Exception:** For conference attendance grant applications, an ECC is allowed to submit up to three (3) applications for up to three (3) staff members per grant cycle. An ECC is allowed to submit a project grant application and conference attendance applications within the same grant cycle.

Q: WHAT HAPPENS IF MY APPLICATION IS LATE OR INCOMPLETE?

A: Only applications submitted through the Foundant system by the published deadline will be accepted.

Q: ARE UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS ALLOWED TO REAPPLY IN FUTURE CYCLES?

A: Yes, but previously rejected proposals will not receive priority unless substantially revised.