



Consider Including BART – Basic Animal Rescue Training in your Assistance to Firefighter Grant

BART – Basic Animal Rescue Training is a program designed to empower firefighters, and other first responders, with the skills and equipment necessary to assist pets in emergencies and disasters with the primary focus on human health, safety and well being. People make decisions in emergencies and disasters based on their relationships with their pets; decisions that may put themselves and those trying to rescue them at increased risk. Developing an understanding of the human-animal bond and being prepared to address the needs of people through helping their pets will save lives. ***BART has received a commitment from the Minnesota Veterinary Medical Foundation to provide some non-federal matching funds for BART training courses in Minnesota.*** BART is contacting other animal oriented companies and foundations to provide further matching funds. So be prepared, be safe and be kind.

Janet Olson, veterinarian
BART Founder and President

How does Basic Animal Rescue Training (BART) meet the terms of the 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) Program Guidance?

DHS has determined that the most benefit is derived from training that is instructor-led and hands-on (page 6). BART classes are taught by veterinarians, certified veterinary technicians and veterinary students. The majority of the course time is devoted to hands-on training, with the firefighters rotating through three stations: pet restraint and handling, patient assessment/first aid, and pet CPR.

Training that brings the department into compliance with federally mandated initiatives would provide the highest benefit relative to training that is not required. Therefore, requests to meet federally mandated or national standard compliance would receive the highest consideration (page 7). BART fulfills the requirements of the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act enacted by Congress in 2006. The PETS Act requires local and state disaster plans to include provisions for household pets and service animals. BART empowers first responders to help animals encountered in daily emergency situations as well as in large scale disasters

Training designated to enhance multi-jurisdictional capabilities will receive a higher rating (page 7). Since December 2004, over 3,000 Minnesota firefighters and first responders have been trained in the BART curriculum, including all 440 members of the state's largest fire department in the City of Minneapolis.

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BART

For FY 2009, eligible uses of training funds include, but are not limited to, tuition, exam and course fees, training equipment and training services (such as instructors) (page 30). In addition to the instructor-led and hands-on BART curriculum, fire departments receive a BART emergency medical kit that contains all the materials and supplies demonstrated in the course, including oxygen face masks.

DHS funds the direct delivery of a variety of classes that can be requested through the State to meet first responders' training needs. These classes are listed in the course catalog found at http://www.firstrespondertraining.gov/odp_webforms (page 30). In March of 2008, the BART Small Animal course was certified by the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as a state-sponsored course. The course label is MN-003-RESP, Basic Animal Rescue Training. DHS approval makes the BART Small Animal class a national standard course for training first responders in safe pet handling and rescue on the scene of emergencies.

Please provide further description of the item selected above or if you selected Other above, please specify (Application Request Details: Training Details). BART is a state-sponsored DHS approved course that was designed to empower firefighters and other first responders with the training, knowledge and equipment necessary to safely and effectively handle domestic animals encountered in emergency situations, in order to help preserve human health, safety and well-being. BART teaches restraint and handling of pets, as well as patient assessment/first aid and CPR for companion animals.

How does Basic Animal Rescue Training (BART) meet the terms of the 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) Program Application under Request Details - Training?

6. *Cost per unit:*

BART classes cost \$3,500 for one session of training for 20-30 firefighters and includes equipment for one station/apparatus. Additional training sessions and equipment cost \$1000 each.

Please contact BART if you have a question about your specific needs.

7. *Generally, this program can best be categorized as (select one):*

Training that is tested and results in a nationally sanctioned or State certification

9. *Generally, the training program provided under this grant:*

Will bring your department into compliance with federal or state mandated training requirements, please specify:

Basic Animal Rescue Training Small Animal Basic Life Support is DHS approved state-sponsored training MN-003-RESP supported by Public Law 110-329 because it will bring the department into compliance with the federal standard for state and local emergency preparedness operational plans set forth in Public Law 109-295 by training firefighting and emergency response personnel to protect the health and safety of the public and themselves against fire and fire-related hazards by accounting for the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals.

10. *Will this training enhance your ability to perform mutual aid? Yes*

If you answered Yes to the question above, please explain.

Since December 2004, over 3,000 Minnesota firefighters and first responders have been trained in the BART curriculum. Please visit the BART website for a complete list of trained agencies to determine if any of your mutual aid partners are BART-trained.

11. *Will this training be instructor-led? Yes*



12. *Please select the item that describes activity for which you are seeking funding here.*

Programs & Contract Instruction Specialized

Please provide further description of the item selected above or If you selected other above, please specify.

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13. *Select Object Class:* Contractual

