



2025 Regional Live Fire Training Facility Grant Program

Info Session on January 15th 2025

Hosted by the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission (MFPSC) *in cooperation with* Maine Fire Service Institute (MFSI) Southern Maine Community College (SMCC)





How this all began:

- 2016** all Live Fire Training Facilities were not compliant with NFPA 1403 *with one exception*. State Fire Training Funds were used to repair some issues.
- 2017** SMCC/MFSI used funds to hire a Fire Protection Engineer to inspect all facilities MFSI utilized for Skills End Tests and Live Fire Training. Six facilities passed with recommended repairs, one failed.
- 2018** MFPSC lobbies Maine State Legislature for funding. LD 242 passed with \$1.5 million in funding.
- 2019 - 2021** Three new regional facilities built, one existing repaired.
- Yarmouth - new facility
 - Farmington - new facility
 - Fairfield - new facility
 - Auburn Facility Repaired - facility repaired





How we got where we are today: January 2025

2023 Maine Fire Commission again, lobbies Maine State Legislature for funding.
LD 1280 passed with \$1.5 million in funding.

2024 Maine Fire Commission received funds to the sum of \$1.5 million dollars for another round of grants.

Requests for Proposals were created for two choices of facilities:

Fixed Steel Facility



Conex Box Facility





Maine Community College System (MCCS) Finance Rules

1. *RFP placed in the paper - Completed by SMCC/MFSI*
2. *Vendor(s) bid accepted - Completed by MFSPC*
3. *Vendor notified of bid acceptance - Completed by SMCC/MFSI*
4. *Bid awarded to vendor - Completed by SMCC/MFSI*

Awardee must choose one of the two (2) options:

- Fixed steel fire training facility - ***Fire Facilities***
- Conex box fire training facility - ***Forge Fire & Company***

Award will be in a dollar value based on the financial need of your grant.

Awardee may add to minimum specifications at their own cost.

Final Project must meet minimum specifications predetermined by MFPSC.



Maine Community College System (MCCS) Finance Rules



- Must sign the legal agreement (sample handout)
- Awardee must pay all costs directly to the vendor
- Reimbursement requests must be submitted to MFSI (Director Graves or Nancy Russell)
- Copy of vendors invoice & proof of payment must be submitted with reimbursement request
- Site inspection to ensure it meets the goals of the Fire Commission
- Paperwork processed internally here at SMCC and check in the award letter and agreement will be made to the municipality



Municipal Planning

Understand that the municipal government applying for this grant must secure & fund upfront costs. *These include but are not limited to: land, permits, geotechnical, etc.*

This grant is for purchase and construction of ONLY THE FACILITY.

Base specifications shall not be altered in anyway. Additions, at full cost to the municipal applicant, are acceptable as long as they do not interfere with base specifications

Do you have Geo-Technicals/Soil for construction? Electricity within 100 feet? Local & State Permits, Army Corp? Municipal & Regional Support?

Application shall have documented and supplied the following:
Regional Support, Letters of support, MOU's, etc.





Fire Facilities

Sun Prairie, WI



Maximum Grant
\$820,000.00

- › Hose advancement
- › Fire attack
- › Ventilation
- › Search and rescue
- › Laddering and rappelling
- › Roof penetration
- › Confined space exercises
- › High-angle rescue operations

<https://www.firefacilities.com/fire-training-towers/>



CONEX FACILITY

Forge Fire & Company



Maximum Grant
\$676,850



COMPLETELY MODULAR

LESS MAINTENANCE, LESS DOWN TIME,
LONGER LIFESPAN

INTERCHANGEABLE LAYOUTS

MORE FLEXIBILITY OVER TIME, MORE
REALISM FROM REALISTIC LAYOUTS

UNIVERSAL DESIGN

ABILITY TO BUILD IN PHASES & ADD ON
PROPS OVER TIME AS YOUR BUDGET
ALLOWS.



Do not underestimate the value of the following for the 2025 LFTF Grant Program:

- Training records for much of the region that demonstrate the need.
- Established MOU's, regional association training agreements, etc.
- Letters of agreement from local towns and businesses for in-kind contributions.
- An established funding mechanism that accepts financial donations towards the establishment and continued maintenance of a LFTF for the region (Matching Funds).
- Full compliance from all regional fire departments in reporting to the Maine Fire Incident Reporting System (MEFIRS, soon to be MERIS?)





Why are documented training records so important?

- Accountability for taxpayer dollars that build & support these facilities especially MFPSC legislative initiatives for training and LFTFs
- Proof of ongoing and increased needs
- Indicator of professional management of the facility
- Important for determining return-on-investment (ROI)
- Catalyst for support of donations, matching funds and other beneficial purposes
- Valued for predicting long-term longevity, projected repairs, and maintenance

Maine Fire Protection Services Commission

Fire Training Facility Annual Report

This report is required for all Fire Training Facilities that have or are receiving funding from the Maine Fire Protection Services. Reports are from Jan 1st- Dec 31st and are due to the Fire Commission by January 15th of the following year. Thank you for your cooperation.

Fire Training Facility Name & Location:

Date:	Lead Instructor	Description of Training:	Fire Department/Agency	Number of Participants attending:	Number of Training Hours:	# of Apparatus required	Staff Hours:
5/7/2024		SCBA Refresher	Winthrop Fire	33	4	1	5
6/2/2024		Live Fire Operations	Manchester Fire	22	8	2	10



Projected Timeline:

**SUBJECT TO STATE FISCAL DEPOSITS
AS RECEIVED**

Applications will be due to MFPSC/MFSI on:
Friday, March 14th 2025

Awards will be announced as funding becomes available.
Procured consecutively as funds are available.

Contact MFPSC Chair Chief Dan Brooks firechief@winthropmaine.gov

