DIGITAL RADIO REQUIREMENTS FOR JAG AND/OR LLEBG GRANTS

Digital mobile radios compliant with APCO Project 25 (P25) specifications embody certain fundamental advantages, including interoperability. The term interoperability refers to radio equipment in compliance with P25 specifications, regardless of the manufacturer, that allow users to be "interoperable" with each other.

Agencies that seek radios for the Missouri Statewide Interoperability Network (MOSWIN) should be aware that multi-band radios (VHF and 700/800 MHz) are the best opportunity for local agencies to harness the coverage and capacity being implemented by the State in the MOSWIN. If the purpose of the grant application is to acquire radios for use on the MOSWIN, future MOSWIN sites may be built out in 700 MHz. System users must have a dual-band (VHF/700 MHz) mobile radio, installed to the manufacturer’s recommended specifications, to obtain optimum benefit from system enhancement.

Applicant agencies applying for mobile radios must ensure that the model being requested is P25 compliant and can operate in the P25 trunked mode at the time of purchase. (Essentially the mobile radio must be a MOSWIN certified radio.) Funds will not be permitted for mobile radio models which do not meet these standards.

The Missouri Department of Public Safety, Office of the Director, Interoperable Communications Unit maintains a list titled “MOSWIN Vendor Certified Radios” on their webpage at https://dps.mo.gov/dir/programs/intercomm/resources.php. The radios listed in this document include mobile (and portable) radios certified as meeting the P25 standard by the Department of Homeland Security. Furthermore, the mobile radios listed in the above referenced document also have been certified to operate on the MOSWIN by the manufacturer, by providing the MOSWIN System Administration a completed form showing they participated in the MOSWIN Project 25 Certification procedure and drive test. Only those on this list can be purchased with federal and state grant funds.

Applicants that can access the MOSWIN with a MOSWIN certified mobile radio can purchase non-P25 base stations, repeaters, or portable radios.

MOSWIN is designed to provide 95% coverage for a properly installed mobile radio. Portable radio coverage varies greatly based on a number of variables. The use of an in-car repeater system is recommended if the requested portable is intended to support mission critical communications.
Regardless of the type of request for radios, applicants must articulate in the Budget – Equipment Justification section of the grant application how they would access the MOSWIN via a mobile trunked P25 mobile radio or how they plan on utilizing the equipment requested to access the network. In addition, applicants must acknowledge whether the request is for:

1. Single band radios (mobile/portable) that will not operate on MOSWIN with the applicant demonstrating their ability to operate on MOSWIN utilizing other radios, or;
2. Single band VHF High Band radios (mobile/portable) that will operate on MOSWIN, or;
3. Multi-band radios that will operate on the MOSWIN with the ability to access VHF High Band (150 MHz) and 700/800 MHz spectrum within the MOSWIN.