SFY 2026 Volunteer Fire Department Grant (VFDG)

Application Workshop

Notice of Funding Opportunity

- The Missouri Department of Public Safety is pleased to announce the funding opportunity for the SFY 2026 Volunteer Fire Department Grant (VFDG) is open **October 15, 2025**. This state administered program is funding through the State of Missouri.

- This funding opportunity will close when eligible applicants have been received to fulfill the amount of funding available

- This funding opportunity is made available through the Missouri Department of Public Safety's electronic WebGrants System, accessible on the internet at: https://dpsgrants.dps.mo.gov/index.do

Volunteer Fire Department Grant (VFDG)

- **Program Description:** The purpose of the VFDG is to provide grant funding for volunteer or combination fire department entities for fire protection. Fire protection entities include fire departments as defined in section 320.200(3) RSMo as an agency or organization that provides fire suppression and related activities, including, but not limited to, fire prevention, rescue, emergency medical services, hazardous material response, or special operation to a population within a fixed and legally recorded geographical area.

Key Dates

- **October 15, 2025:** VFDG funding opportunity open in WebGrants
- **December 15, 2025:** Project Start Date
- **May 15, 2026:** Project End Date

Volunteer Fire Department Grant (VFDG) Maximum Award & Match Requirement

- **Maximum Award:** $15,000.00 per applicant agency. Funds in the amount of $1,455,000.00 are available for this program

- **Match Requirement:** 5% Cash (Hard) Match

For example, if the total cost of the project is $15,789.47, the recipient match share of 5% would be $789.47 and the state share of 95% would be $15,000.00

Eligible Applicants

- **Eligible Applicants:** Missouri volunteer or combination fire department entities with an annual operating budget of **$50,000.00 or less**
- Fire protection entities include fire departments as defined in section 320.200(3) RSMo as an agency or organization that provides fire suppression and related activities, including, but not limited to, fire prevention, rescue, emergency medical services, hazardous material response, or special operation to a population within a fixed and legally recorded geographical area

Eligible Applicants

To be eligible for VFDG funding, the applicant agency must be compliant with the following statute:

- **Section 320.271 RSMo– Fire Department Registration** Pursuant to section 320.271 RSMo, All fire protection districts, fire departments, and all volunteer fire protection associations as defined in section 320.300 shall complete and file with the state fire marshal within sixty days after January 1, 2008, and annually thereafter, a fire department registration form provided by the state fire marshal

Selection Criteria

- **Selection Criteria:** Funding opportunity will be distributed on a **first come, first served basis, based on application submission date and time**

Ineligible Applicants

- Agencies that are not fire protection entities as defined in Section 320.200(3) RSMo
- Agencies that are not volunteer or combination fire department entities
- Agencies with an annual operating budget greater than $50,000.00
- Agencies that are not compliant with the statute listed on the previous slide Section 320.271 RSMo – Fire Department Registration
- State agencies

Eligible Costs

- **Eligible Cost Items:** The Missouri Department of Public Safety's objective in awarding VFDG funding for fire protection entities is to support fire protection/service activities in the state of Missouri
  - Eligible costs may support equipment and supplies.

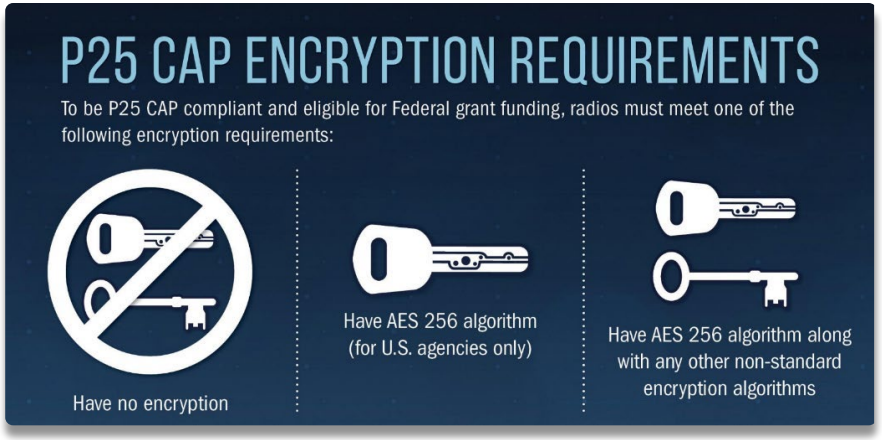
Equipment Requirements

Some equipment items related to fire protection/service activities have specific requirements to be eligible for funding. Those with specific requirements are listed below. Please note, the items listed are not the only eligible equipment items!

- **Turnout Gear:** Agencies seeking funding for turnout gear must have a policy to document cleaning and maintenance processes and procedures for turnout gear.
  - Recipients of funding for turnout gear must supply the Missouri Department of Public Safety with a copy of such policy(s) and procedure(s) at the time of claim submission.
- **Interoperability Equipment:** Investments in emergency communications systems and equipment must meet applicable SAFECOM Guidance. All radios must meet the Missouri Department of Public Safety, Office of the Director, DPS Grants Radio Interoperability Guidelines
  - **Quotes are required to be submitted with the application for all interoperability equipment**
  - **Applications that do not meet these guidelines will not be eligible for funding**
  - It is recommended for agencies to contact the Missouri Interoperability Center (MIC) at (573) 522-1714 or moswin.sysadmin@dps.mo.gov to ensure compliance with the Radio Interoperability Guidelines

Interoperability Equipment

- Encryption Requirements
  - Radios must meet one of the following encryption requirements to be P25 CAP Compliant and be eligible for funding:
    - No encryption
    - AES 256 algorithm
    - AES 256 algorithm along with any other non-standard encryption algorithms



Interoperability Equipment

- Mobile Radios
  - Only the following mobile radios are eligible

Motorola	APX8500	P25 VHF/700/800 MHz (dual-band), digital trunking enabled
Harris	XG/XM-100	P25 VHF/700/800 MHz (dual-band), digital trunking enabled
Harris	XL-200	P25 VHF/700/800 MHz (dual-band), digital trunking enabled
Kenwood	VM-8000	P25 VHF/700/800 MHZ (dual-band), digital trunking enabled
Kenwood	VM-7730	Dual-Deck 8.34.9 P25 VHF/700/800 MHz (dual-band), digital trunking enabled
Kenwood	VM-7930	Dual-Deck 8.34.9 P25 VHF/700/800 MHz (dual-band), digital trunking enabled

  - The applicant **MUST** identify the vendor and model requested in the application to be eligible for funding
  - A quote from the vendor **MUST** be uploaded in the Named Attachments Form to be eligible for funding

Interoperability Equipment

- Portable Radios
  - MOSWIN was designed to be a mobile radio system rather than a portable radio system
  - **For portable radios to be eligible, the applicant must already have or request in their application a mobile radio on the MOSWIN system AND a public safety grade in-car repeater**
  - Only the following portable radios are eligible
    - Motorola APX8000 P25 VHF/700/800 MHz (dual-band), digital trunking enabled
    - Motorola APX NEXT P25 VHF/700/800 MHz (dual-band), digital trunking enabled
    - Kenwood VP-8000 P25 VHF/700/800 MHz (dual-band), digital trunking enabled
    - BK Tech BKR9000 P25 VHF/700/800 MHz (dual-band), digital trunking enabled
    - Harris XL-200 P25 VHF/700/800 MHz (dual-band), digital trunking enabled
    - Tait TP-9800 P25 VHF/700/800 MHz (dual-band), digital trunking enabled
  - The applicant **MUST** identify the vendor and model requested in the application to be eligible for funding
  - A quote from the vendor **MUST** be uploaded in the Named Attachments Form to be eligible for funding

Interoperability Equipment

- Repeaters
  - Applicants MUST ensure the frequency band of the repeater is compatible with the band of the radio(s) with which it will operate
  - Must identify how the agency will utilize the repeater
  - Must identify how the repeater model is compatible with the radio(s) with which it will be paired
  - **The applicant MUST identify the vendor and model requested in the application to be eligible for funding**
  - **A quote from the vendor MUST be uploaded in the Named Attachments Form to be eligible for funding**

Interoperability Equipment

Please contact the Missouri Interoperability Center at 573-522-1714 if you have questions regarding the Radio Interoperability Guidelines

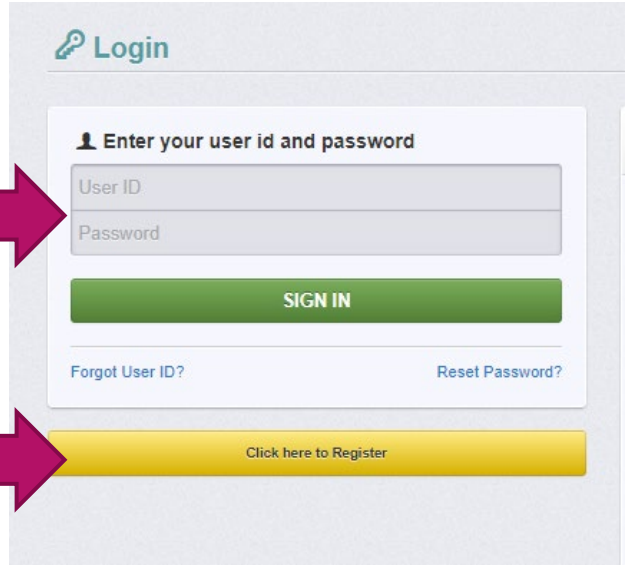
Unallowable Costs

- **Grant funds CANNOT be utilized for costs that have been obligated or incurred prior to the grant period of performance**
  - The project grant period of performance begins **December 15, 2025**

Unallowable Costs

- Vehicles (lease or purchase)
- Drones/Drone Accessories
- Construction/Renovations
- Items Affixed to a Facility
- Personnel
- Benefits
- Travel/Training
- Contractual
- Firearms
- Ammunition
- Less-Lethal Weapons
- Lobbying
- Fundraising
- Corporate Formation
- State and Local Sales Taxes
- Aircraft
- Military-Type Equipment
- Interoperability equipment that is not compliant with the Missouri Statewide Interoperability Network (MOSWIN) and Radio Interoperability Guidelines

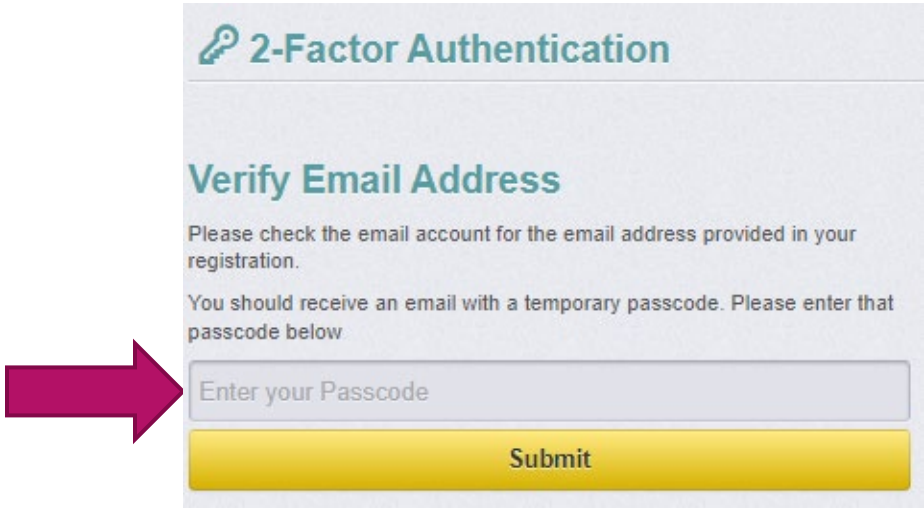
WebGrants Application



Two-factor authentication

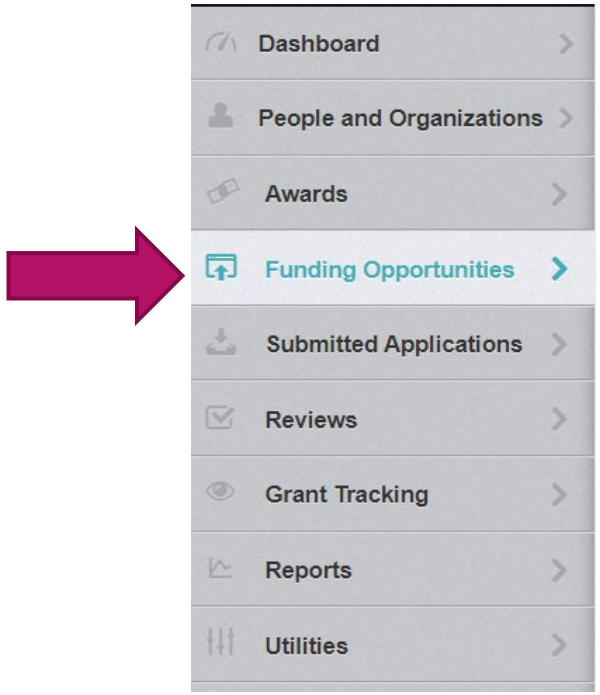
Log in or register at https://dpsgrants.dps.mo.gov as a new agency

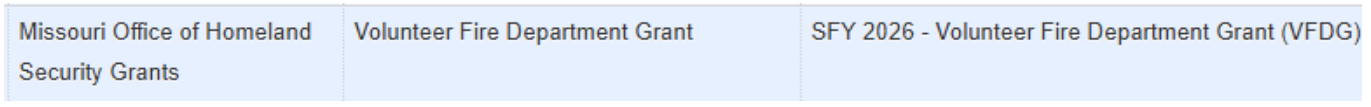
- If your agency is already registered in the system, someone with access will need to add new users



Application Instructions

- Select “Funding Opportunities” and select the “SFY 2026 Volunteer Fire Department Grant (VFDG)” Funding Opportunity



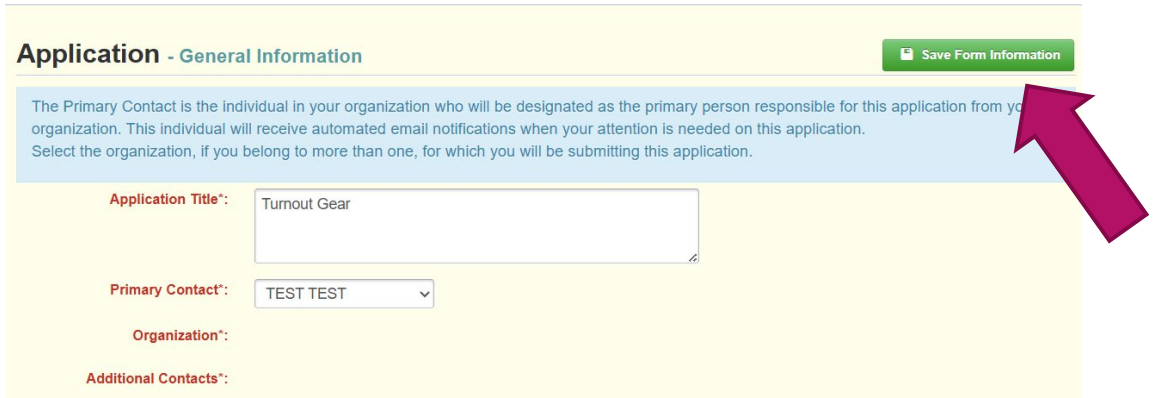


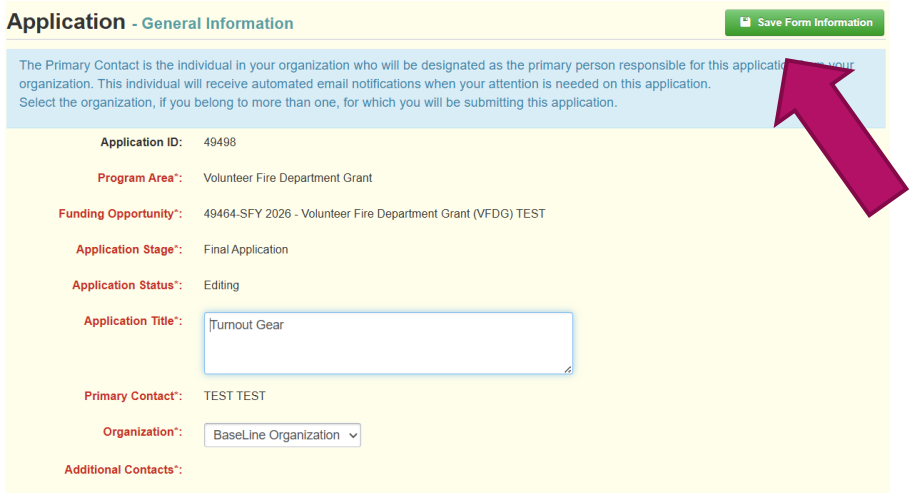
Application Instructions

- Select "Start New Application"

Application Instructions

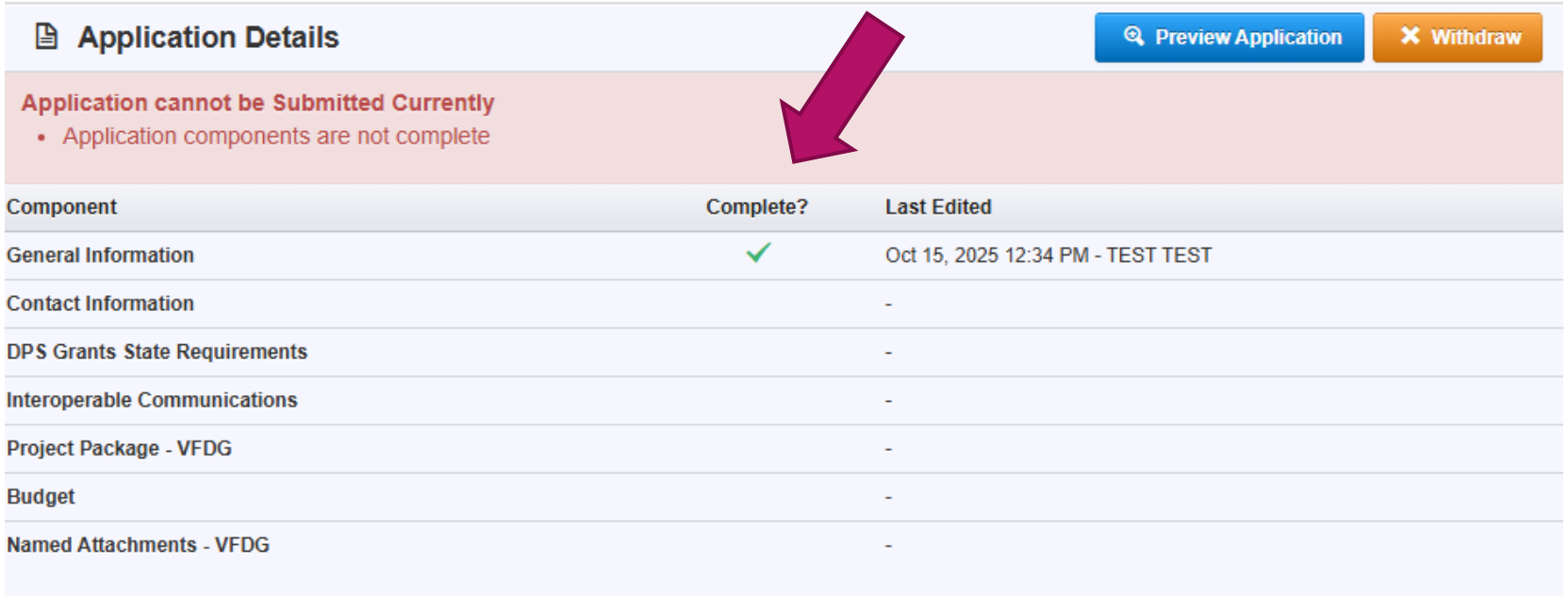
- After selecting “Start a New Application”, complete the “General Information” Component
- “Application Title” should be short and specific to the project
- After completing the “General Information,” select “Save Form Information”
- Verify the correct “Organization” is selected, select “Save Form Information” again





Application Instructions

- Complete each of the Seven (7) Application Components with all required information then Select “Save” and “Mark as Complete”
- **All forms MUST be marked complete “Submit” your application**



Contact Information

- **Authorized Official:** The Authorized Official is the individual who has the authority to legally bind the applicant into a contract and is generally the applicant's elected or appointed chief executive. For example:
  - If the applicant agency is a city, the Mayor or City Administrator shall be the Authorized Official
  - If the applicant agency is a county, the Presiding County Commissioner or County Executive shall be the Authorized Official (e.g.; the Sheriff is not the Authorized Official)
  - If the applicant agency is a special district, such as Fire Protection District, the Board Chair/President shall be the Authorized Official

****If the Authorized Official has a different title, than those listed above, official documentation naming that position as the Authorized Official for your agency must be included in the application attachments or your application will not be considered for funding****

In order for an application to be considered eligible for funding, the agency's correct Authorized Official MUST be designated in the "Contact Information" form and the "Certified Assurances" form

Contact Information

- Please complete all contact information for:
  - Authorized Official
  - Project Director
  - Fiscal Officer
  - Project Contact Person – if different than Project Director
- Required fields are designated with a red asterisk *
- Select “Save Form” when you have completed all contact information

- Select “Mark as Complete”

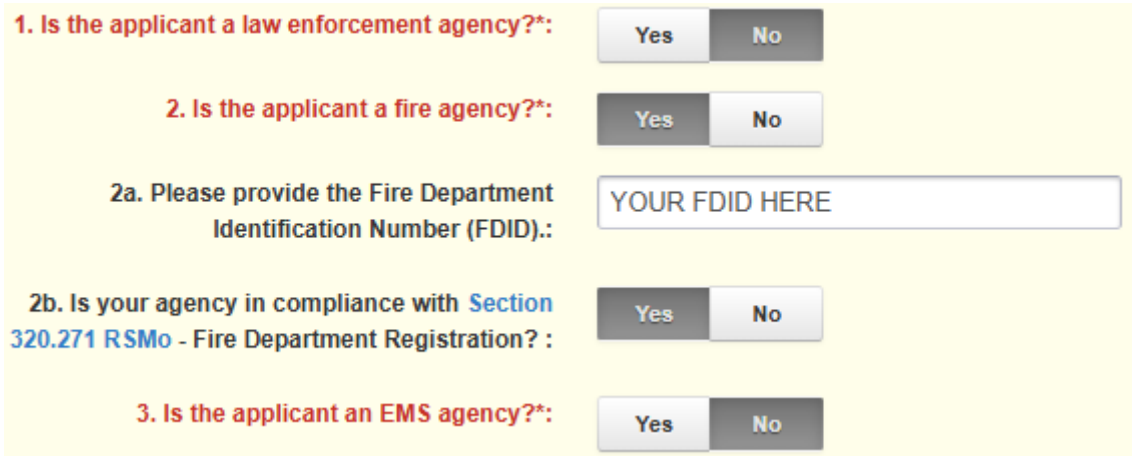
DPS Grants State Requirements

- To be eligible for grant funding through the Missouri Department of Public Safety, agencies **must** be compliant with the requirements listed below (as applicable) **at the time of application** and if awarded funding, must maintain compliance throughout the grant period of performance.
- Select “Yes” to Question 2 indicating your agency is a fire agency:

- Select “No” to Questions 1 and 3 that do not apply to your agency

DPS Grants State Requirements

- Complete Question 2a. – 2b. after selecting “Yes” to Question 2



- Select “Save Form” 

- Select “Mark as Complete” 

Interoperable Communications Form

- Review the Radio Interoperability Guidelines to complete this form

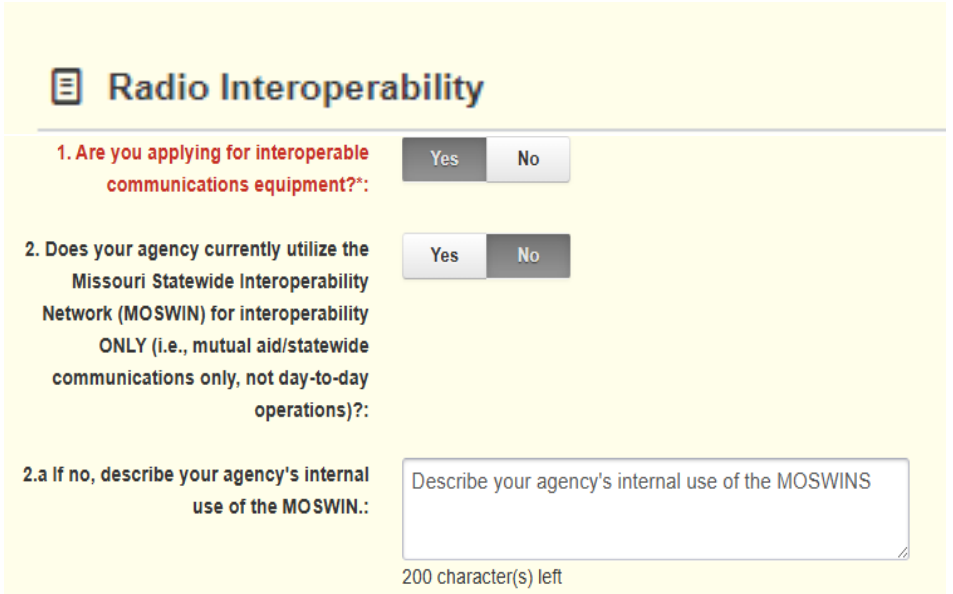
1. Are you applying for interoperable communications equipment? Yes/No

If **YES**:

2. Does your agency currently utilize the Missouri Statewide Interoperability Network (MOSWIN) for interoperability ONLY (i.e., mutual aid/statewide communications only, not day-to-day operations)? Yes/No

If **NO**:

2.a If no, describe your agency's internal use of the MOSWIN.



Interoperable Communications Form

3. Does your agency have long term plans to fully integrate communications to the MOSWIN?

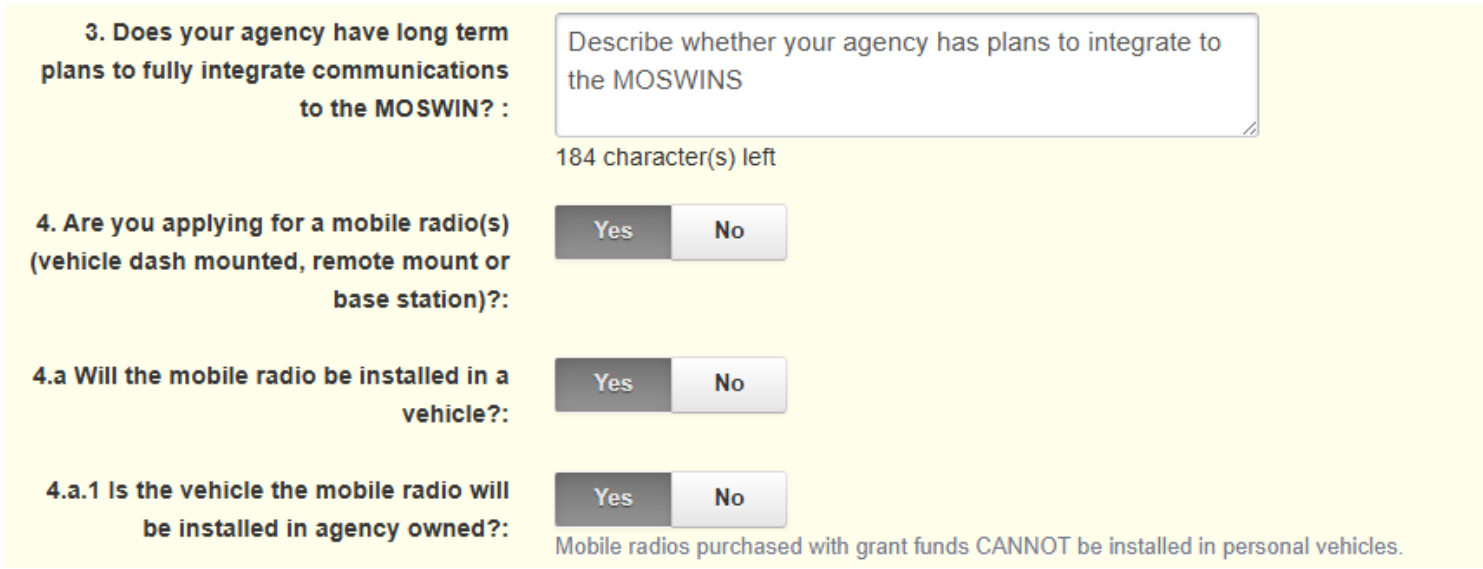
4. Are you applying for a mobile radio(s) (vehicle dash mounted, remote mount or base station)? Yes/No

If **YES**:

4.a Will the mobile radio be installed in a vehicle? Yes/No

If **YES**:

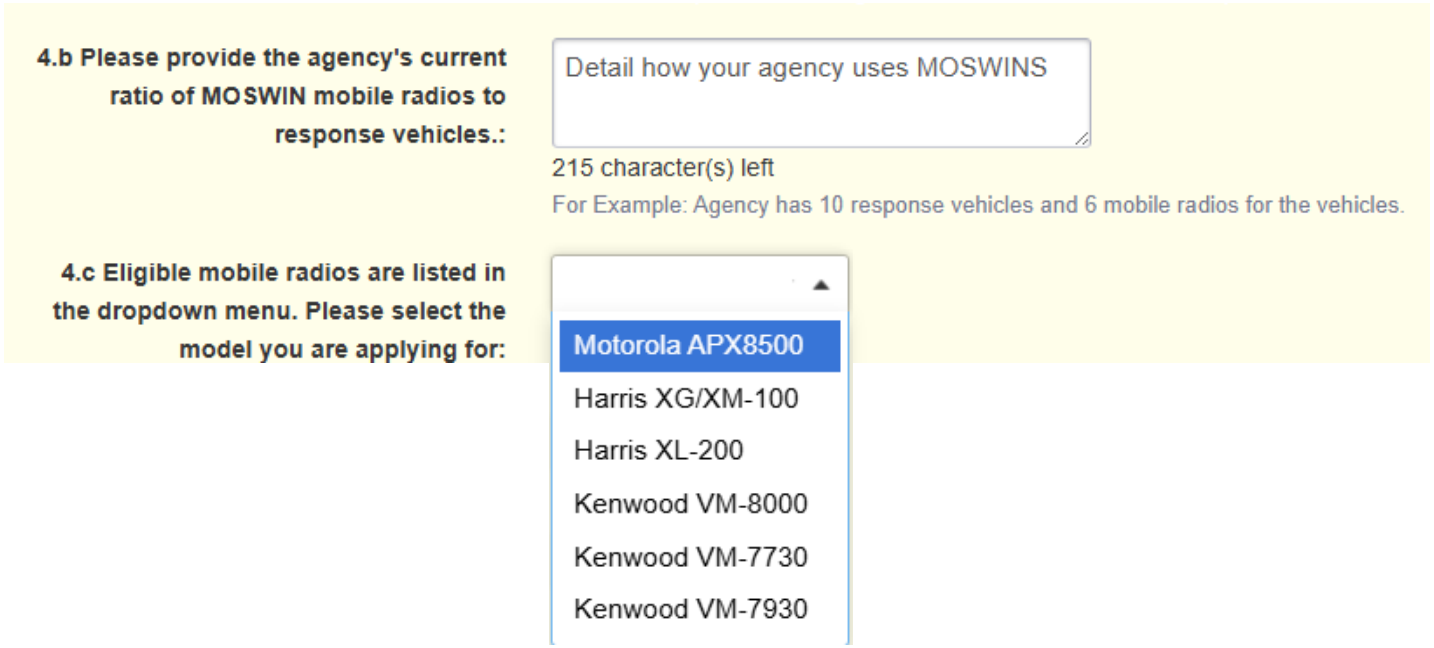
4.a.1 Is the vehicle the mobile radio will be installed in agency owned? Yes/No



Interoperable Communications Form

4.b Please provide the agency's current ratio of MOSWIN mobile radios to response vehicles.

4.c Eligible mobile radios are listed in the dropdown menu. Please select the model you are applying for



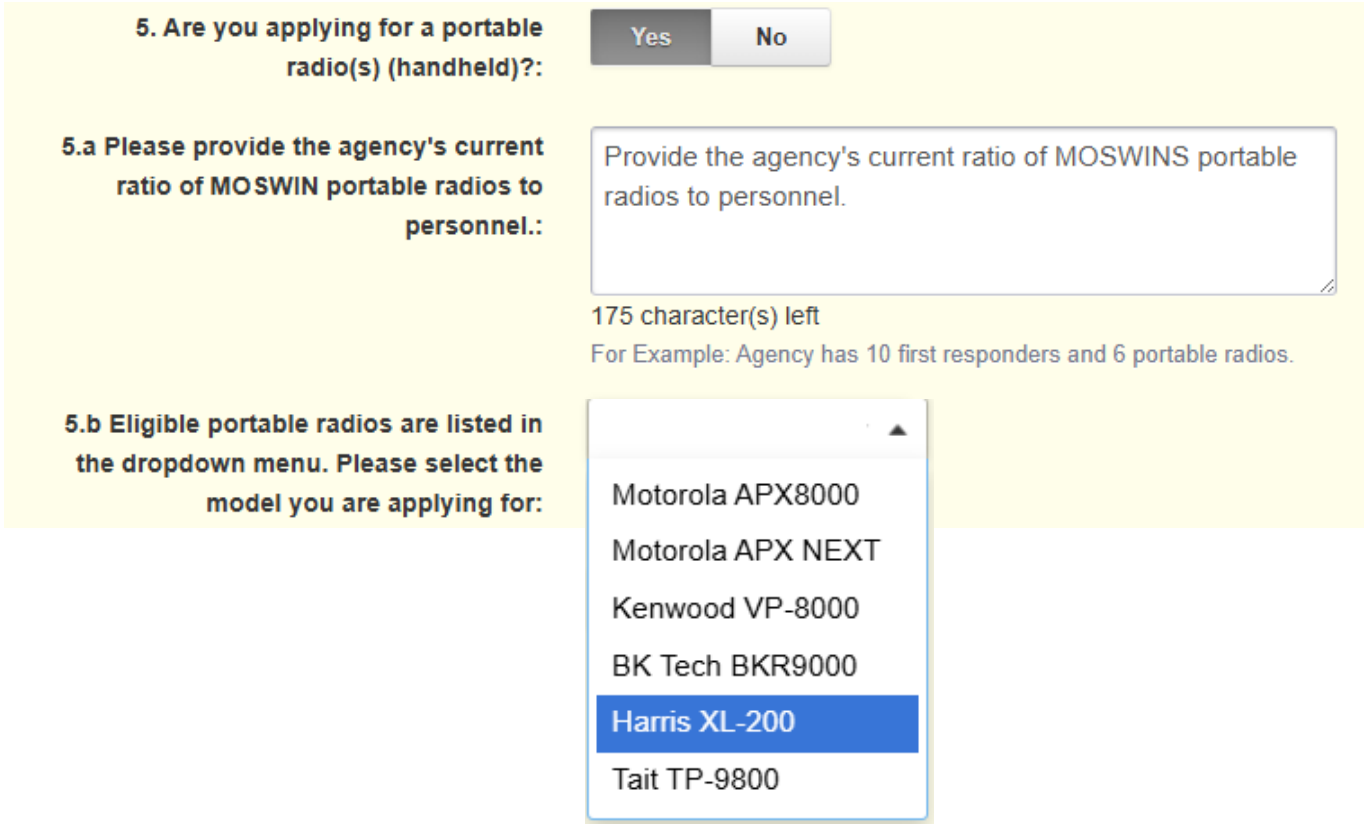
Interoperable Communications Form

5. Are you applying for a portable radio(s) (handheld)? Yes/No

If **YES**:

5.a Please provide the agency's current ratio of MOSWIN portable radios to personnel.

5.b Eligible portable radios are listed in the dropdown menu. Please select the model you are applying for



Interoperable Communications Form

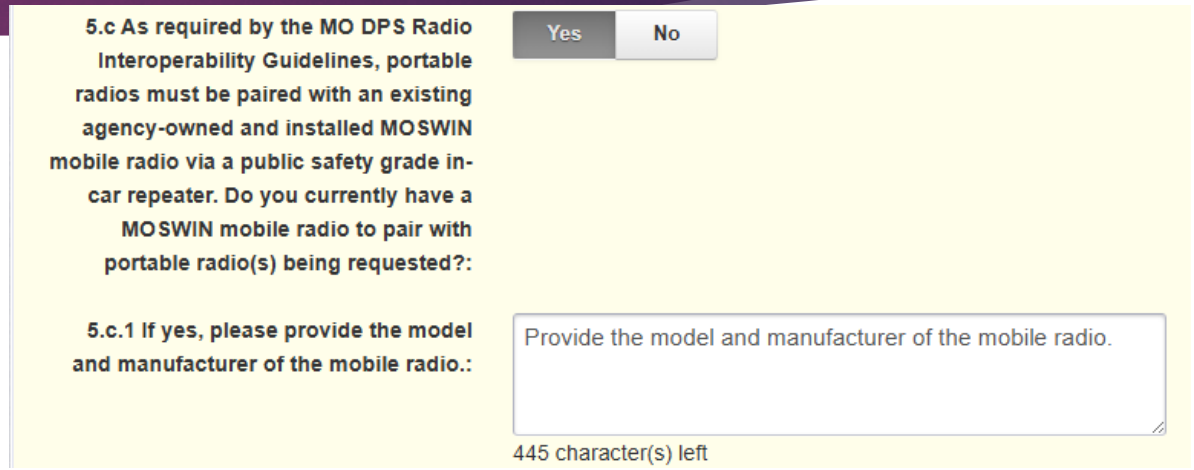
5.c As required by the MO DPS Radio Interoperability Guidelines, portable radios must be paired with an existing agency-owned and installed MOSWIN mobile radio via a public safety grade in-car repeater. Do you currently have a MOSWIN mobile radio to pair with portable radio(s) being requested? Yes/No

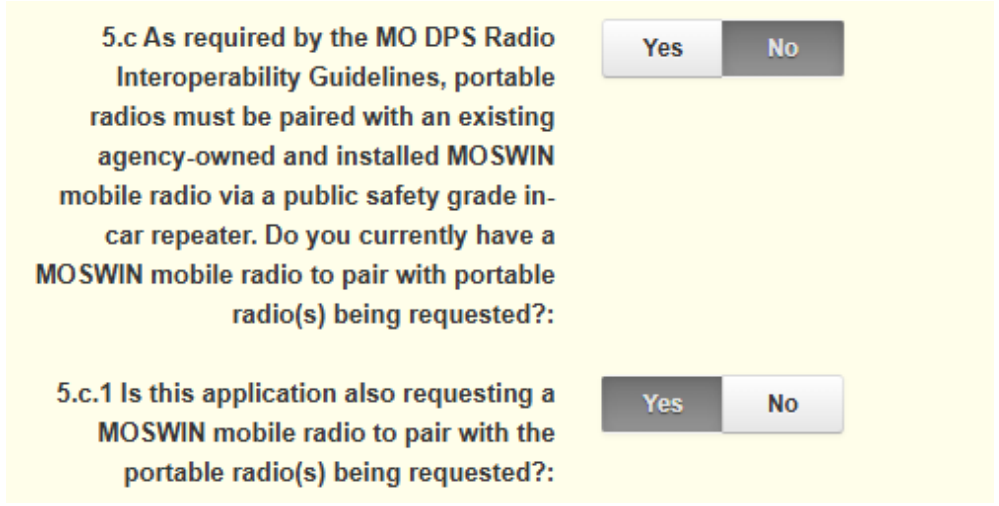
If **YES**:

5.c.1 If yes, please provide the model and manufacturer of the mobile radio.

If **NO**:

5.c.1 If no, Is this application also requesting a MOSWIN mobile radio to pair with the portable radio(s) being requested?





Interoperable Communications Form

5.d As required by the MO DPS Radio Interoperability Guidelines, portable radios must be paired with an existing agency-owned and installed MOSWIN mobile radio via a public safety grade in-car repeater. Do you currently have a public safety grade in-car repeater? Yes/No

If **YES**:

5.d.1 If yes, please provide the model and manufacturer of the in-car repeater.

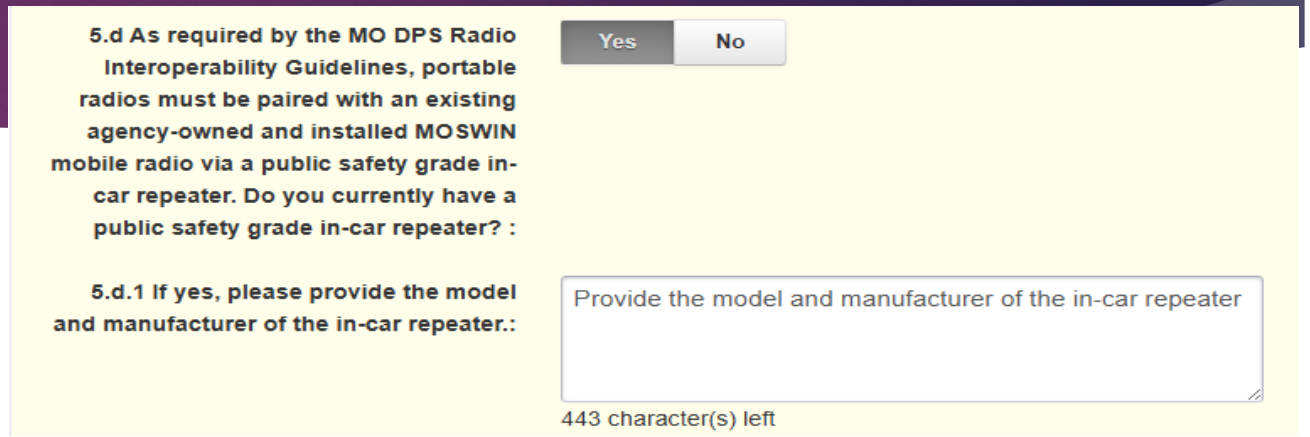
If **NO:**

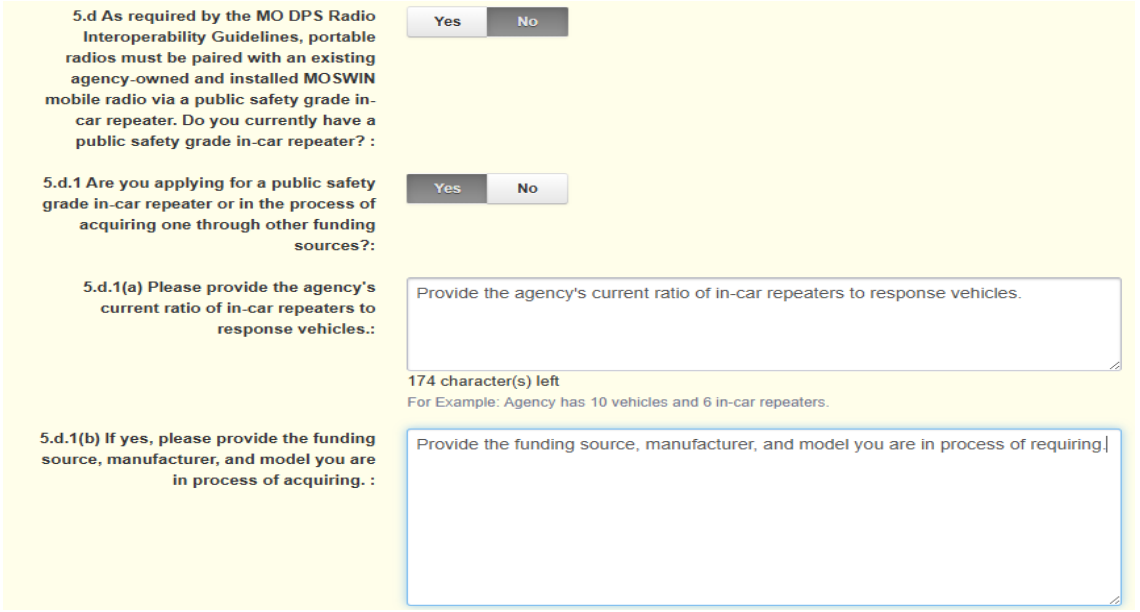
5.d.1 If no, are you applying for a public safety grade in-car repeater or in the process of acquiring one through other funding sources?

If **YES**:

5.d.1(a) Provide the agency's current ratio of in-car repeaters to response vehicles.

5.d.1(b) Provide the funding source, manufacturer, and model you are in process of acquiring

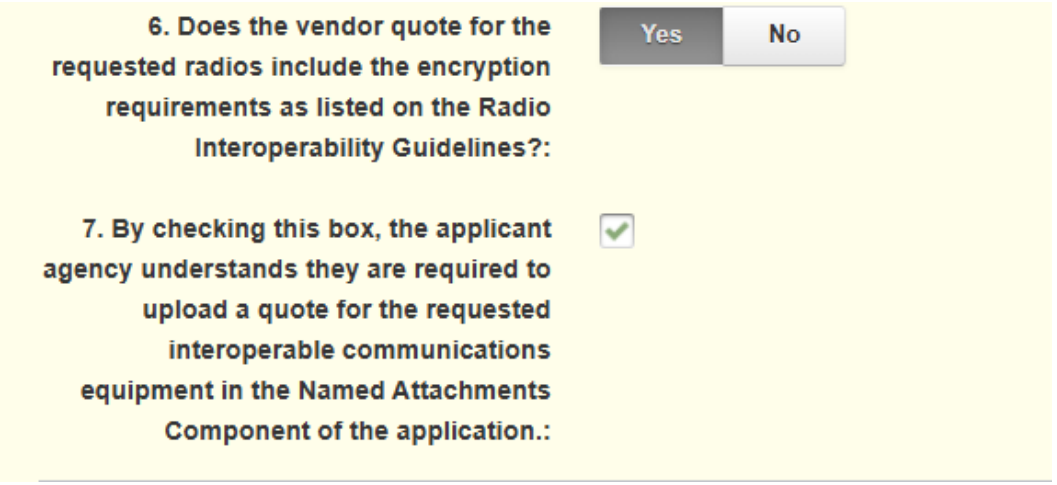




Interoperable Communications Form

6. Does the vendor quote for the requested radios include the encryption requirements as listed on the Radio Interoperability Guidelines?

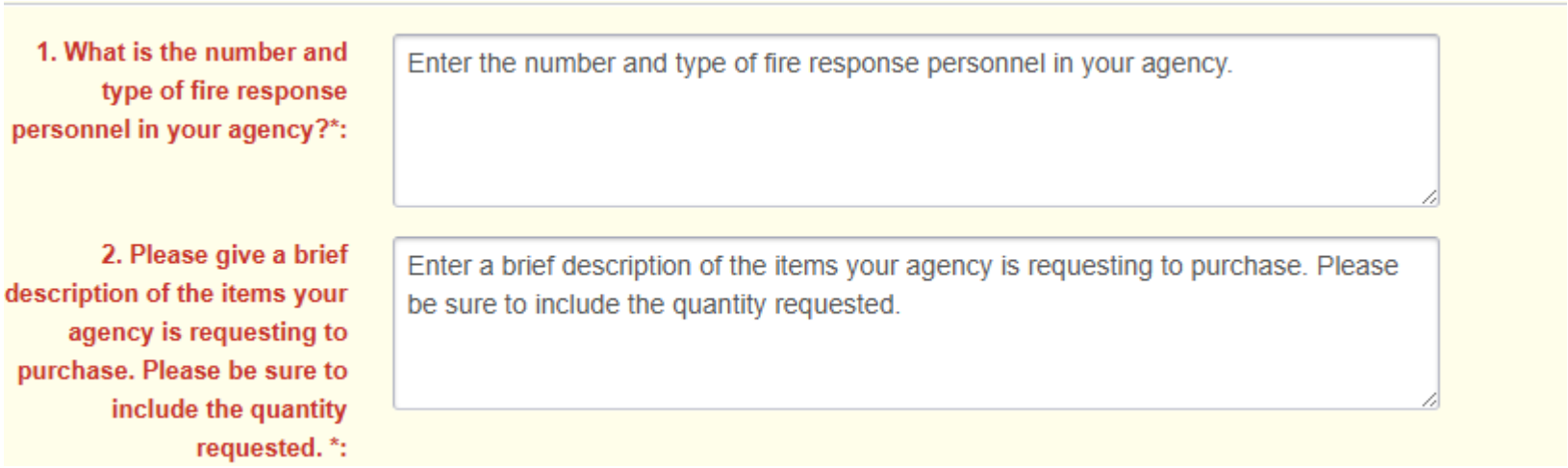
7. By checking this box, the applicant agency understands they are required to upload a quote for the requested interoperable communications equipment in the Named Attachments Component of the application.



Select “Save Form” and “Mark as Complete”

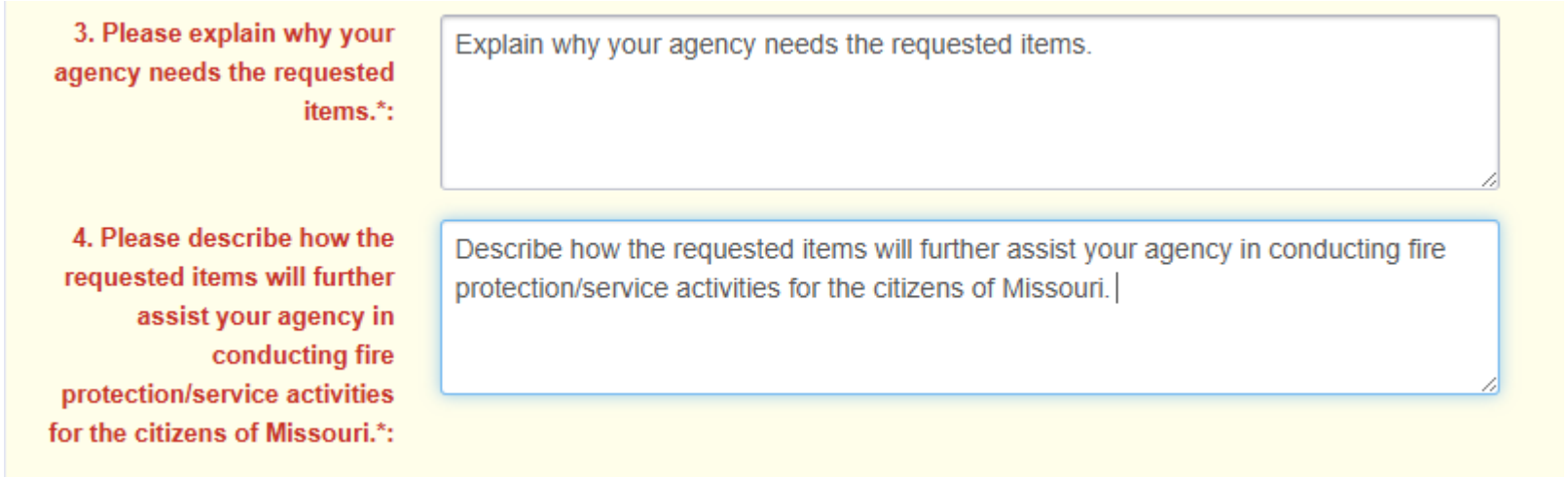
Project Package - VFDG

- 1. Please enter in the number and type of fire response personnel in your agency
- 2. Please give a brief description of the items your agency is requesting to purchase. Please be sure to include the quantity requested



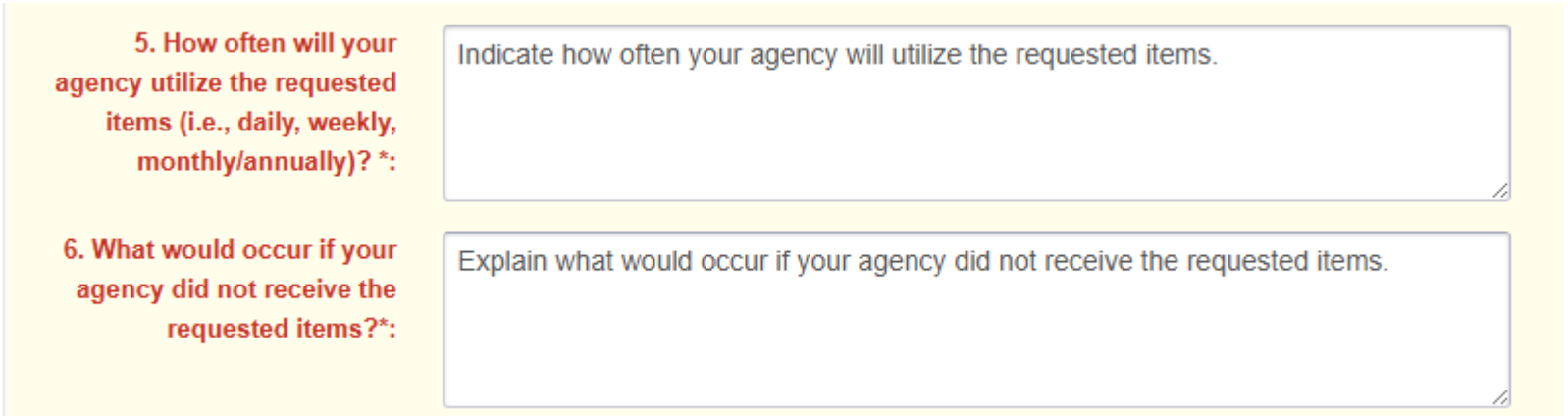
Project Package – VFDG

- 3. Please explain why your agency needs the requested items
- 4. Please describe how the requested items will further assist your agency in conducting fire protection/service activities for the citizens of Missouri



Project Package – VFDG

- 5. How often will your agency utilize the requested items (i.e., daily, weekly, monthly, annually)
- 6. What would occur if your agency did not receive the requested items

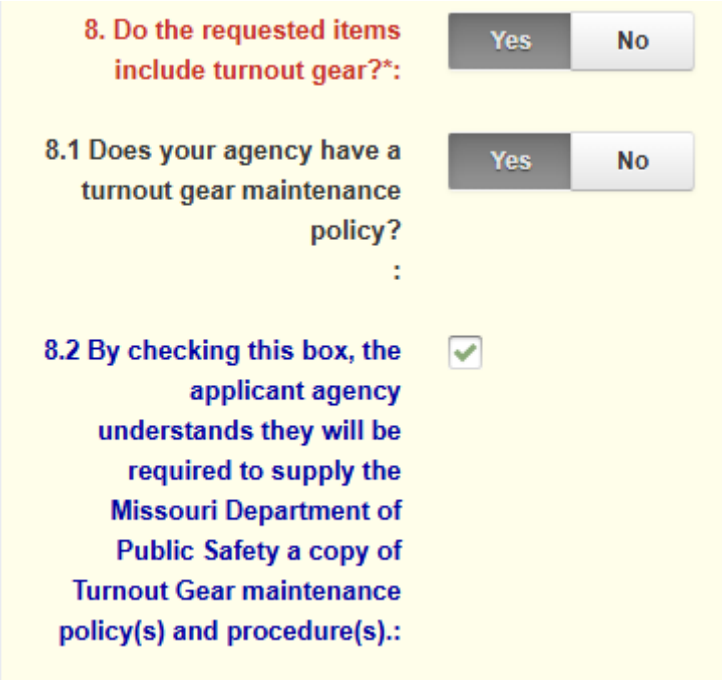


Project Package – VFDG

- 7. Please provide an estimated timeframe for how long it will take to complete your requested project.

Project Package – VFDG

- 8. Do the requested items include turnout gear?
  - If you select YES:
    - 8.1 Does your agency have a turnout gear maintenance policy?
      - Select "Yes or No"
    - 8.2 Check the box acknowledging your agency understands that you are required to supply a copy of your Turnout Gear maintenance policy(s) and procedure(s) to DPS.



Certified Assurances

The "Certified Assurances" section MUST be completed with the agency's correct Authorized Official to be considered *eligible for funding*

****If the Authorized Official has a different title, than those listed as examples, official documentation naming that position as the Authorized Official for your agency MUST be included in the application attachments or your application will not be considered for funding****

If you are unsure who your Authorized Official should be for your agency, please contact the Missouri Department of Public Safety (DPS)/Office of Homeland Security (OHS) at 573-522-6125

Applications can be saved without the Authorized Official's information while they review, but MUST be completed before form can be marked complete and submitted

Project Package – VFDG

- 9. Check the box acknowledging that you have read and agree to the terms and conditions of this grant
- 10. Complete with the **AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL** name and title
- 11. Complete with the name and title of the person completing the application
- 12. Enter the date the application is being completed and submitted
- Select “Save Form” 

- Select “Mark as Complete” 

Certified Assurances

Certified Assurances

To the best of my knowledge and belief, all data in this application is true and correct, the document has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant, and the applicant attests to and/or will comply with the following Certified Assurances if the assistance is awarded:

VFDG Certified Assurances

9. By checking this box, I have read and agree to the terms and conditions of this grant.*: ☑

In order to be considered eligible for funding, the correct Authorized Official must be designated and have knowledge of the certified assurances associated with this funding opportunity. If the incorrect Authorized Official is listed in #13 of the application, the application will be deemed ineligible for funding.

The Authorized Official is the individual who has the authority to legally bind the applicant into a contract and is generally the applicant's elected or appointed chief executive. For example:

- If the applicant agency is a city, the Mayor or City Administrator shall be the Authorized Official
- If the applicant agency is a county, the Presiding County Commissioner or County Executive shall be the Authorized Official
- If the applicant agency is a State Department, the Director shall be the Authorized Official
- If the applicant agency is a college/university, the President shall be the Authorized Official
- If the applicant agency is a nonprofit, the Board Chair/President shall be the Authorized Official, this includes Fire Protection Districts.
- If the applicant agency is a Regional Planning Commission (RPC) or Council of Government (COG), the Executive Director shall be the Authorized Official
- If the applicant agency is a special district, such as Fire Protection District or Ambulance District, the Board Chair/President shall be the Authorized Official

If a designee is being utilized to authorize the application, the Missouri Department of Public Safety (DPS) reserves the right to request documentation that indicates the designee has the authority to legally bind the applicant into a contract in lieu of the Authorized Official at the time of application submission.

The above list is not an all-inclusive list. If you do not fall into the above listed categories, or if you are unsure of who the Authorized Official is for your agency, please contact the Missouri Office of Homeland Security at (573) 522-6125.

10. Authorized Official Name and Title*: Authorized Official Name & Title

11. Name and Title of person completing this application*: Person Completing the Application Name & Title

12. Date*: 10/10/2025

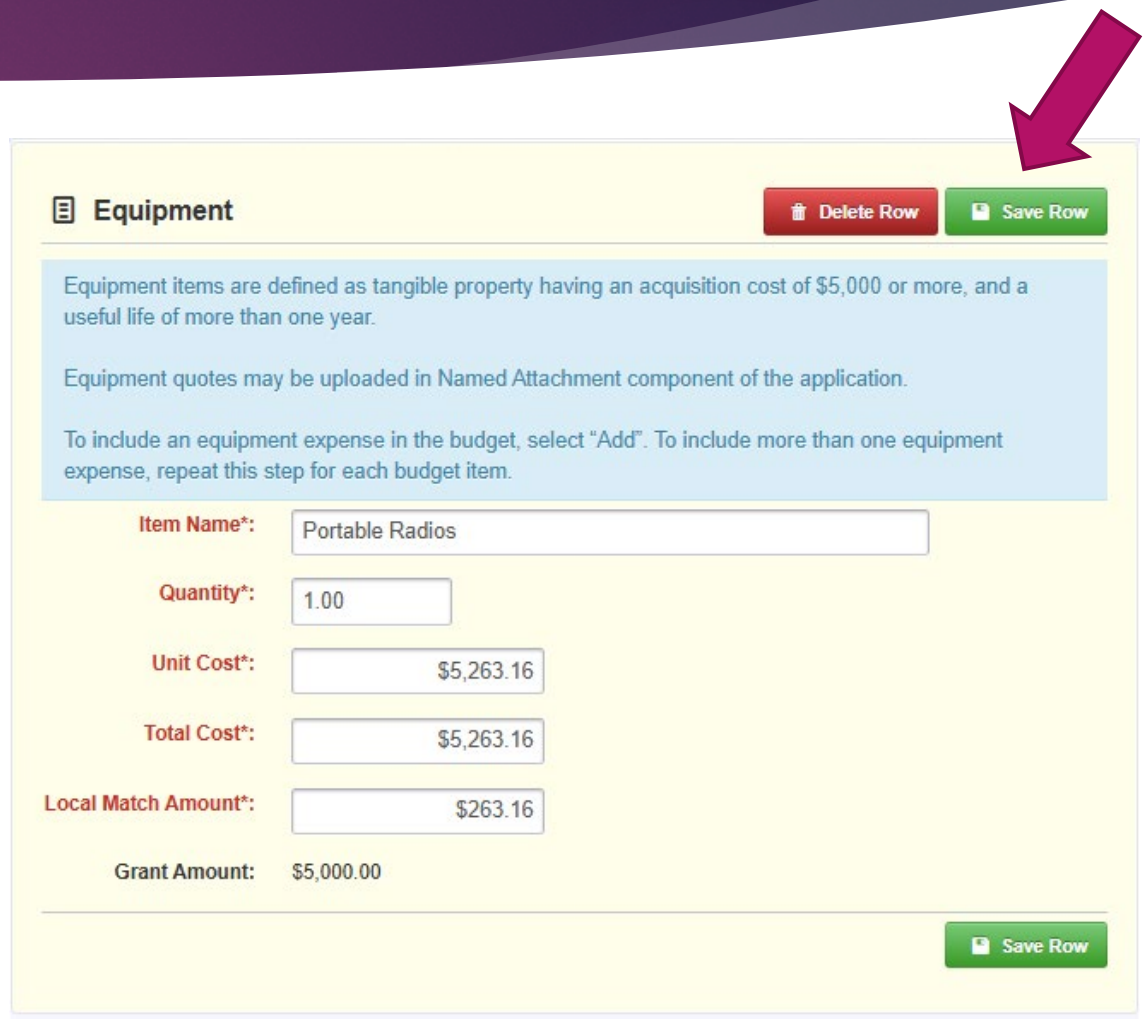
Budget

- Select “Save Form” to begin completing the Budget Form
- Enter each budget line by selecting “Add Row” in the corresponding budget category and completing all required information, then select “Save Row”. If additional budget lines are needed repeat these steps
  - **Equipment** – items with a per unit cost of $5,000 or more, and a useful life of more than one year

  - **Supplies/Operations** – items with a per unit cost under $5,000, or a useful life of less than one year

Budget Form - Equipment

- The Grant Amount of funds requested will automatically calculate based on the match requirement
- Total Cost = Local Match Amount + Grant Amount Requested



Budget Form – Supplies/Operations

- The Grant Amount of funds requested will automatically calculate based on the match requirement
- Total Cost = Local Match Amount + Grant Amount Requested

Supplies/Operations - Multi-List

Add Row

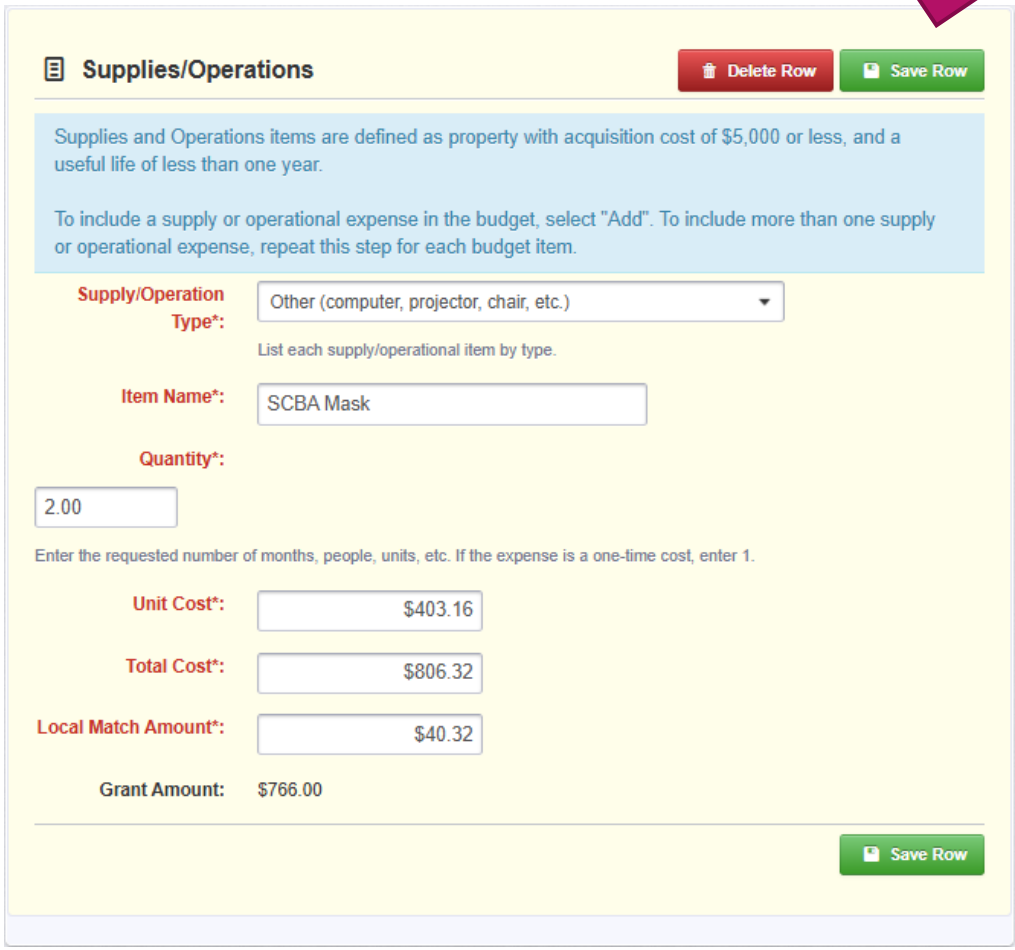
Supplies and Operations items are defined as property with acquisition cost of $5,000 or less, and a useful life of less than one year.

To include a supply or operational expense in the budget, select "Add". To include more than one supply or operational expense, repeat this step for each budget item.

Supply/Operation Type	Item Name	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Local Match Amount	Grant Amount
Other (computer, projector, chair, etc.)	SCBA Mask	2.00	$403.16	$806.32	$40.32	$766.00
				$806.32	**$40.32**	**$766.00**

Last Edited By: TEST TEST - Oct 10, 2025 11:39 AM

Add Row



Supplies/Operations

Delete Row | Save Row

Supplies and Operations items are defined as property with acquisition cost of $5,000 or less, and a useful life of less than one year.

To include a supply or operational expense in the budget, select "Add". To include more than one supply or operational expense, repeat this step for each budget item.

Supply/Operation Type*: Other (computer, projector, chair, etc.)

List each supply/operational item by type.

Item Name*: SCBA Mask

Quantity*: 2.00

Enter the requested number of months, people, units, etc. If the expense is a one-time cost, enter 1.

Unit Cost*: $403.16

Total Cost*: $806.32

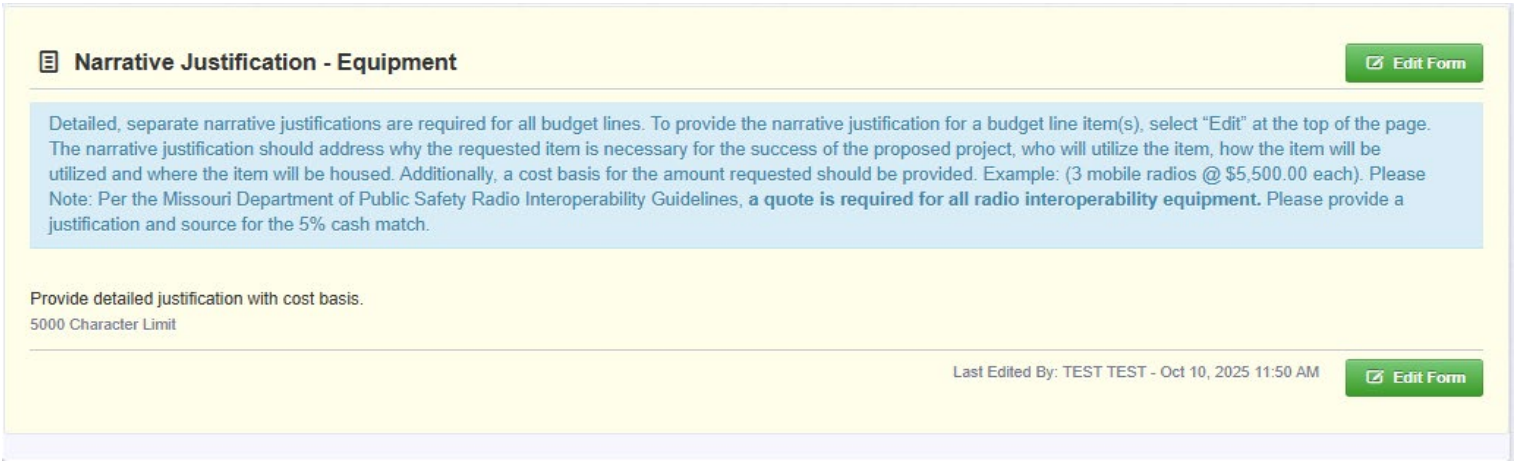
Local Match Amount*: $40.32

Grant Amount: $766.00

Save Row

Budget Form - Justification

The instructions for each budget section provides a description of what information should be included in the budget narrative justification

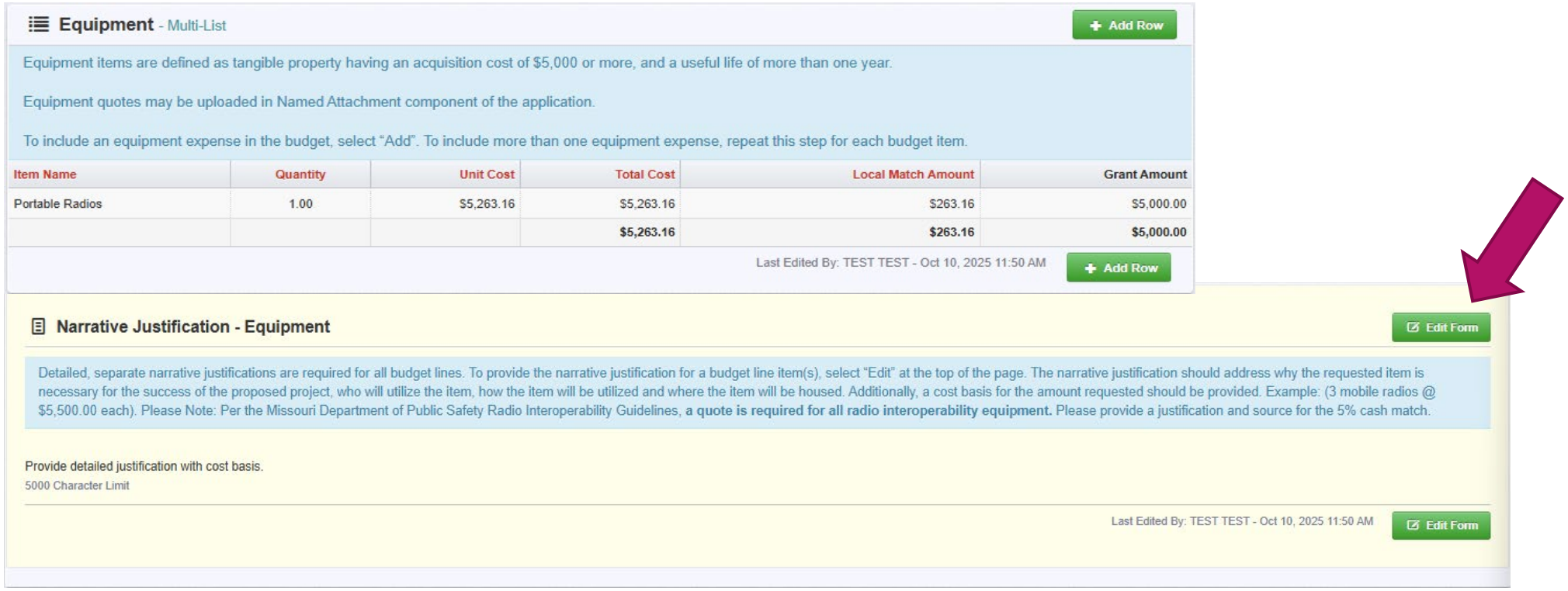


DO NOT put "See attachment" in the narrative justifications! Each section must be completed. If you have information that will not fit in the justification, please enter a summary in the justification and then include the statement "Additional information can be located in the "Named Attachment" section

When justifications for all sections have been completed, select "Save" and "Mark as Complete"

Budget Form - Justification

- Provide required justification for the budget lines by selecting "Edit Form"
- Justification for all sections can be completed at one time



Budget Form - Justification

- Equipment Narrative Justification
  - Include why the requested item is necessary for the project
  - Indicate who will use the item, how it will be used, and where it will be housed
  - Provide a cost basis for the amount requested
    - (i.e. cost per unit X number of units to be purchased = $$)
  - Provide justification to fulfill the 5% match requirement
      - Provide the source of the cash match

Budget Form

- Supplies Narrative Justification
  - Include how the requested item supports the project
  - Include why the amount requested is necessary
  - Include a cost basis
  - Provide justification to fulfill the 5% match requirement
    - Provide the source of the cash match

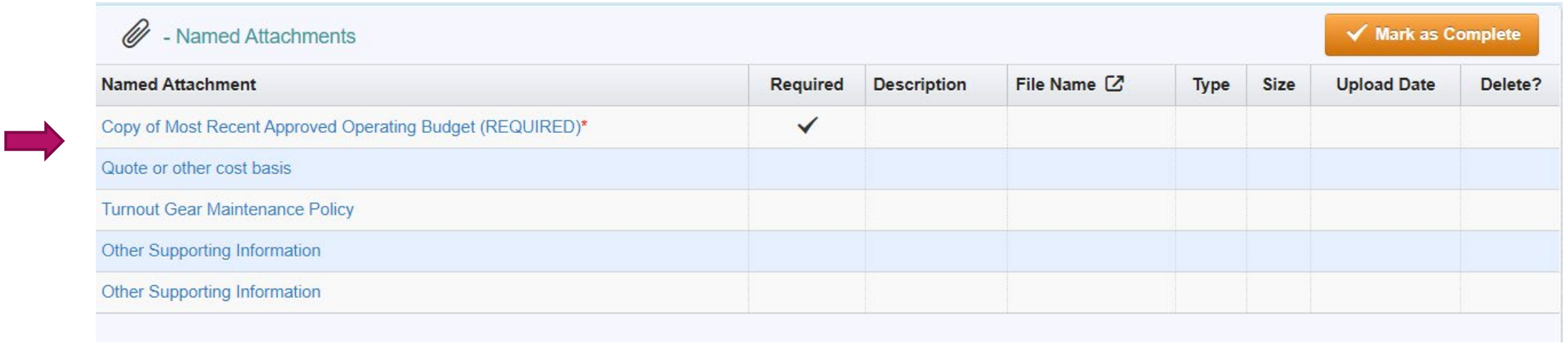
Named Attachments Form

- All attachments must be included in this section
- Attachments
  - Copy of Most Recent Approved Operating Budget (Required)
  - Quote or other cost basis
  - Turnout Gear Maintenance Policy
  - Other Supporting Information (Up to 2 attachments)

If your agency has an Authorized Official with a different title than those listed in the Certified Assurances section of the VFDG Project Package, official documentation naming that position as the Authorized Official for your agency must be included here or your application will not be considered for funding

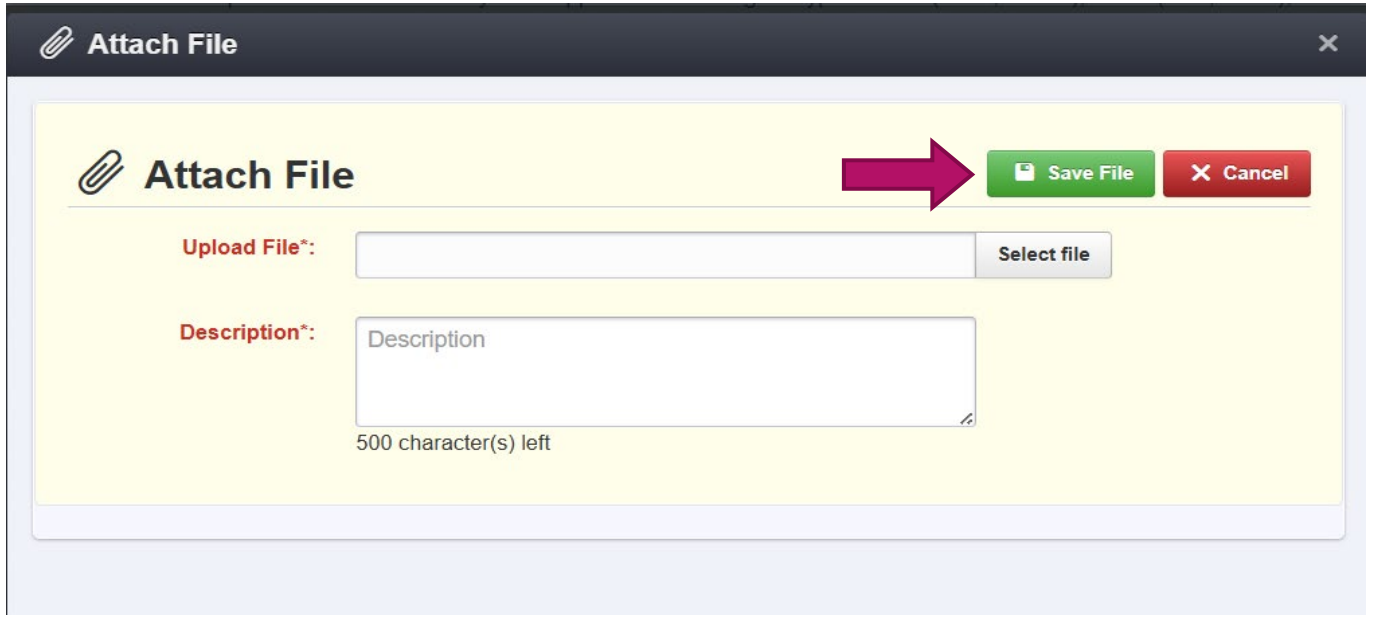
Named Attachments Form

- To add each attachments, select the name of the attachment



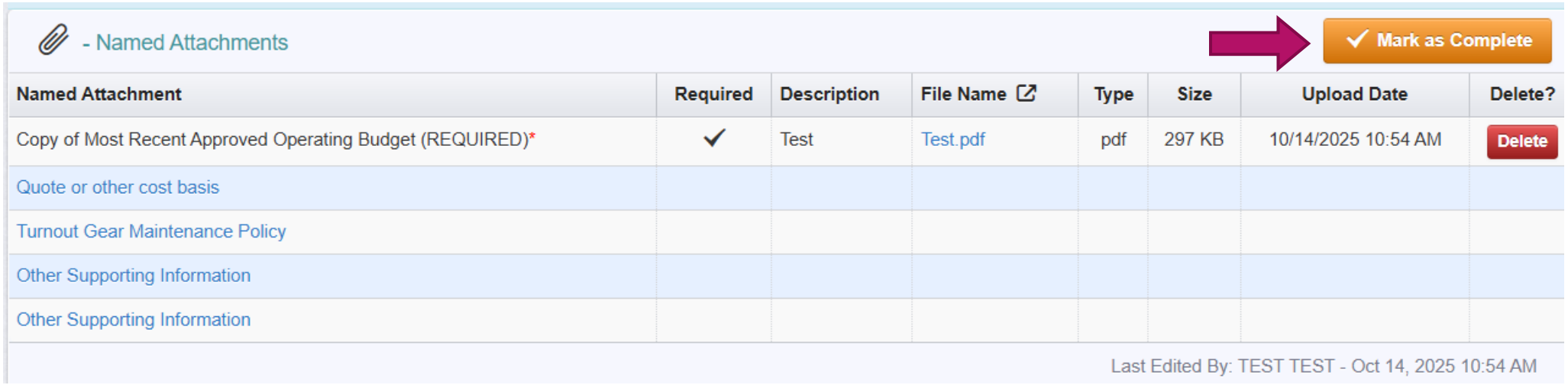
Named Attachments Form

- Browse to select document
- Add a description to identify the document in the application, and select “Save File”



Named Attachments Form

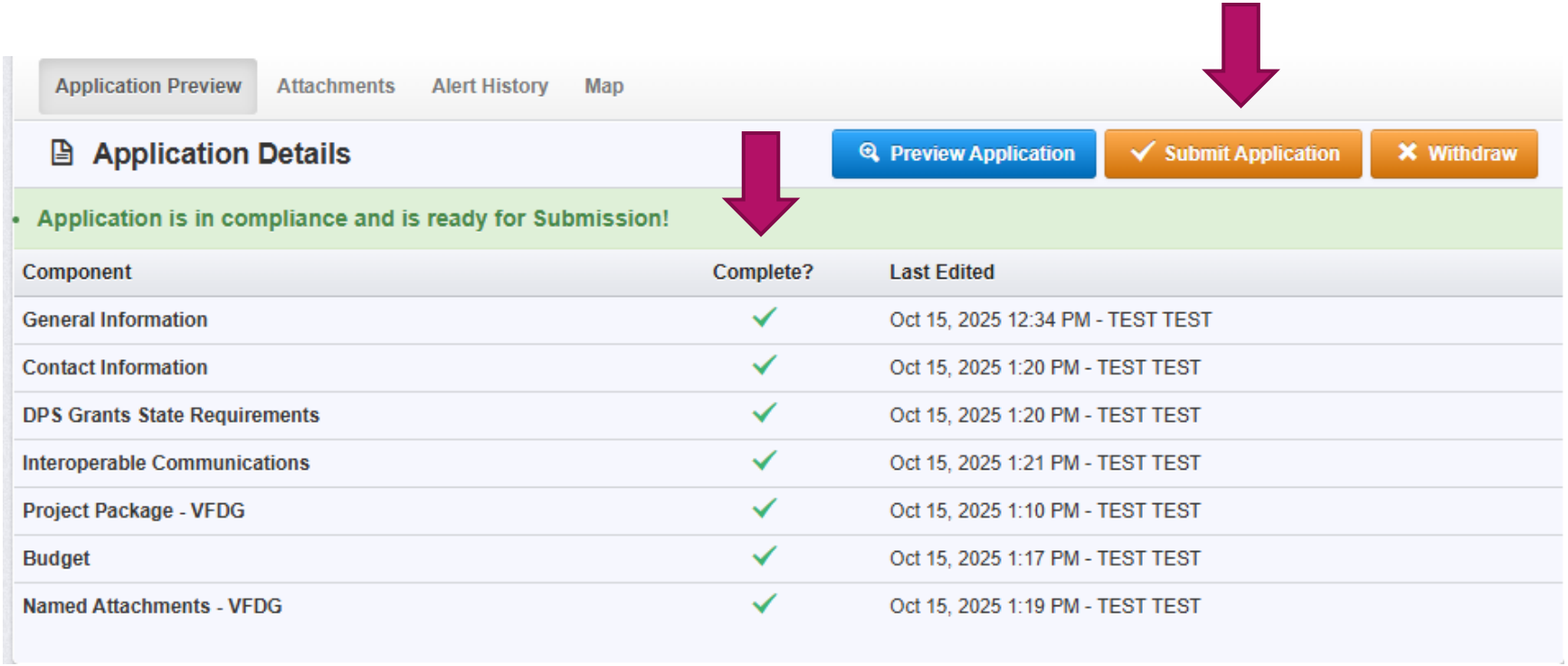
- When you have finished adding the attachments, select “Mark as Complete”



Application Submission

All forms **must be** marked complete in order to submit the application

When everything is complete select “Submit Application”



Questions

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