

To all Nebraska Volunteer Fire Departments,

The State of Nebraska Office of the CIO is writing to provide you with an update regarding the FY24 Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) Radio Grant.

## **Motorola Equipment Delivery Expected**

SRS is beginning to receive Motorola equipment. Based on estimates, we expect to have enough equipment for the sessions in Gering, Bridgeport, and Hershey, Nebraska, on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup> respectively. If you were previously registered for one of those three sessions, you should be able to receive your equipment there.

VFDs that are not registered for the sessions listed above will need to register for a different date as new training sessions become available. The SRS plans on rescheduling all canceled sessions as soon as we receive equipment. Currently, June training will become available for registration in early May.

In order to have up-to-date information on when sessions become available, please check the [website](#) for any changes ([link](#); QR code available below).



Those who ordered cases will receive them during the training sessions.

VFDs that requested installations will be contacted by their chosen vendors at a later date. The vendor will schedule a time to install the radio in the chosen vehicle. You do not need to bring your VFD's vehicle for training.

## **Training Information on Website**

Training materials are now available on the website. These include videos, instructions, and other information for utilizing your equipment. Additional materials may be added in the future. You can reach the website at [this link](#) or by using the QR code available above.

## **SRS Booth at Fire School**

SRS will have a booth at Fire School on May 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> in Grand Island, Nebraska. This gives VFDs the opportunity to ask questions regarding the grant radios or Statewide Radio System.

## Current Training Schedule

Date and Time	Availability	Location	Equipment Available
April 15 <sup>th</sup> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Full	Gering Volunteer Fire Department 1025 M St, Gering, NE 69341	Kenwood and Motorola
April 16 <sup>th</sup> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Full	Bridgeport Volunteer Fire Department 1621 S. Main Street, Bridgeport, NE 69336	Kenwood and Motorola
April 17 <sup>th</sup> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Full	Hershey Volunteer Fire Department 117 Railroad St, Hershey, NE 69143	Kenwood and Motorola
April 23 <sup>rd</sup> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	CANCELED	Aurora Fire Department 906 13th Street Aurora, NE 68818	Kenwood and Motorola
April 25 <sup>th</sup> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	CANCELED	Plattsmouth Volunteer Fire Department 127 N 5th St, Plattsmouth, NE 68048	Kenwood and Motorola

*Additional cancelations due to equipment availability may be necessary.*

*Additional dates and locations, including May and June training sessions, will be posted in future updates.*

## System Users Group (SUG) Meetings

The Systems Users Group meets bi-monthly at the NPPD facility in York, Nebraska, and is streamed online using Microsoft Teams. The meetings are open to all users of the Statewide Radio System and anyone else with interest in the operations of the system.

These meetings provide an opportunity for users to discuss system operations, maintenance, and other pertinent topics. It is recommended that users of the SRS attend the meetings to network and address questions and concerns. In addition, vendors may be present to talk and perform presentations on their equipment.

The SUG Users List is where all communications are disseminated for system operation. Contact Kelsey Hetrick to be added to the list and receive information about dates and times.

## Future Grant Opportunities

LB1275 has been incorporated into LB1412, the main budget bill for this year. The bill allocates \$2,000,000 for continuing the VFD SRS Radio Project. Please contact your representative in the state legislature if you would like to see the funding passed.

## Grant Conditions

The following is a reminder of the conditions of the FY24 VFD Radio Grant.

- The VFD is expected to perform monthly testing from the department and dispatch center. Monthly testing involves powering on the SRS Radio Kit and speaking with the local PSAP.
- Radios are to remain the property of the State.
- VFDs are expected to maintain inventory tags on the radios.
- Grantees will be required to sign a document and show identification to receive their equipment.

## **Thank You!**

Thank you for your patience as we continue to receive, prepare, and distribute equipment. We look forward to providing your requested SRS-capable radios soon.

Regards,

Kelsey C. Hetrick - Systems Coordinator  
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**For additional details and updates please visit <https://cio.nebraska.gov/network-serv/publicsafety/index.html> and locate the “State of Nebraska Volunteer Fire Departments – Radio Grant Information” button on the page.**