

Fall 2026 Rescue Squad Assistance Fund (RSAF) Grant

Board of Supervisors | August 25, 2026

RSAF Grant

Brief History

- ⤵ Greene County EMS (GCEMS) began operation in October 2020 after the contract provider announced its intent to terminate the contract in April 2020. By that time, the volunteer squad had already told the BOS it could not meet staffing needs. The BOS voted unanimously to create a career EMS agency to meet the needs of Greene County.
- ⤵ Public safety (EMS, GCSO, and Fire) is the largest component of the County's budget outside of the school system. The best way to leverage taxpayer dollars is to find grants for expensive equipment necessary for patient care.
- ⤵ GCEMS is the sole emergency medical services agency serving Greene County, Virginia, which presents unique challenges to the delivery of timely emergency medical care including rural roads, steep terrain, wooded areas, unpaved and unimproved roadways, large private properties, recreational areas, and locations that can be difficult or impossible for a conventional ambulance or Quick Response Vehicle to access safely during adverse conditions, such as flooding or snow/ice.

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Justification of need:

- ↓ This is an identified operational need rather than a convenience or supplemental resource to close gaps to patient care that were identified during snow and ice this winter.
- ↓ A UTV would allow EMS personnel to traverse terrain and access locations that may be inaccessible to a conventional ambulance while carrying essential medical equipment and, when appropriate, assisting with patient movement.
- ↓ The primary purpose of this UTV is not transportation of patients; it is access to patients. In rural EMS, an ambulance is only effective if it can physically reach the patient.
- ↓ The requested equipment would directly improve the county's ability to provide timely emergency medical care, particularly to residents living in remote or difficult-to-access areas. It would also improve responder safety by reducing the need for ambulance crews to attempt to navigate terrain or road conditions that exceed the capabilities of a conventional emergency vehicle.

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Request

- ↓ Purchase of a Utility Terrain Vehicle—**Cost \$18,916.50**
- ↓ The state will only fund \$8,000.00 for a UTV, which is really is only \$4,000.00 with the 50-50 match.
- ↓ QTAC skid cost of **\$4,995.00** and Utility Trailer cost of **\$2,899.00** would need to be covered as well to utilize the UTV when needed.
- ↓ Total cost of the project is **\$26,810.50**.
- ↓ We request permission to apply for the state funding and utilizing \$11,000.00 in Opioid Abatement Funds and \$11,810.50 in donations that EMS has received, to completely pay for the full project. We do not need to decide that until we receive an award letter in January and we'll come back to ask for that direction.