

LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS

2780

(No. 15 January 2001)

Congress authorized the loan of FEPP to Local Fire Departments (LFD) when it passed the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (PL 95-313). This Act began the present effort to loan FEPP to local communities with FEPP. Property for LFDs are acquired through the FEPP loan program from the USDA Forest Service in cooperation with CAL FIRE. Local fire departments use the equipment to assist in the agency's mission and to reduce the cost of fire operations. The equipment comes to the recipient at no cost other than pick-up. It is available for fire protection use only, and must be monitored to ensure that it is used 90 percent of the time for this purpose only.

The requirements for participation in the LFD program and for the use of FEPP include the following:

- The fire department must have a mutual aid agreement signed and ratified by its own legal authority.
- The Fire Chief and Unit Chief must sign this agreement which imposes the condition that the property is acquired for fire protection purposes only. Incidental use for other than fire protection is limited to 10 percent.

Each unit is responsible for informing the LFD of the FEPP program and opportunities.

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[\(see Forms or Forms Samples\)](#)