

September 19, 2025 Communiqué 2025-06

Municipal Reimbursement Program for Emergency Response into Unincorporated Ontario

This communiqué supersedes *Fire Marshal's Communique 2024-03 Amended*, issued on June 4th, 2024.

On March 19th, 2022, the government launched a program to <u>reimburse</u> municipalities for emergency responses in unincorporated Ontario in areas that are not already protected by a fire department. The reimbursement is for wide and varying types of responses that are being undertaken by municipal fire departments in unincorporated Ontario.

The following emergency response call types may be eligible for reimbursement:

- on roads that are not considered provincial highways by the Ministry of Transportation:
 - o motor vehicle collisions
 - o hazmat
 - vehicle fires
- false alarms
- public hazard assistance calls:
 - o carbon monoxide incidents
 - o public utility incidents
 - o electrical utility incidents
 - o natural, propane or other gas utility incidents
- structure fires
- rescue (defined as an emergency incident that primarily involves activities directed at locating and rescuing endangered persons and removing those persons to a safe location, this could also include, but is not limited to, the provisions of emergency medical care)
- the provisions of any emergency services listed above, within a provincial park in unincorporated Ontario.

The following call types are <u>not eligible for reimbursement</u> under the program:

- any call into an unincorporated area where an established fire department is responding
- any mutual aid or automatic aid calls
- any calls to attend a Federal Park

- any calls to attend a Provincial Park that lies within your municipal jurisdiction
- any call to an area or location with a Fire Protection Agreement in place with the municipality making a claim through Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON)
- any call for which another government funded agency has established a separate reimbursement process for responses by the municipality (i.e., responses covered by the Ministry of Natural Resources, Ministry of Transportation or Hydro One)
- tiered medical response, first response, medical response.
- any call for which a government funded agency or emergency service is mandated to provide a service and requests a fire department to provide the service.

Reimbursement rates are consistent with the Ministry of Transportation response rates.

Additional Information

Application for reimbursement for any emergency response calls that occur between March 17th, 2025, and March 15th, 2026, can be submitted starting September 19, 2025, and must be submitted by March 23rd, 2026.

Municipalities who are interested in participating in the reimbursement program administered through the Office of the Fire Marshal are encouraged to request a copy of the required Transfer Payment Agreement and the Procedure for Fire Protection Reimbursement for Unincorporated Ontario from their local Fire Protection Adviser and are encouraged to visit the Ontario Government funding opportunities site to apply.

For all enquiries related to the reimbursement program, please contact your local Fire Protection Adviser.