



Pennsylvania State Fire Academy

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Minimum Standard for Accreditation (MSA)

Date: July 1992

Revised: 6/1/01)

Course Title: Incident Command System (NFA) (ICS)

Length of Course: 16 Hrs

Lecture/Lab Breakdown: 16/0

Prerequisites: None

Referenced Texts: NFPA 1500; NFPA 1561; SARA Title III; 29CFR1910; Student Manual

Course Goal: Upon completion of this course, the student will understand the basic concepts of incident management and ICS, and be able to apply those concepts to the management of an emergency incident.

Description of Course: This course is designed to meet the needs of fire officers and managers with responsibilities to use, deploy, implement, and/or function within the Incident Command System (ICS). This program addresses the need for incident management systems, an overview of the structure and expandable nature of ICS, an understanding of the command skills needed by departmental officers to use ICS guidelines effectively, and scenario practice on how to apply ICS. In addition, appendices provide guidelines and resource information for setting up and implementing a departmental ICS.

Description of Methodology to be used (Brief): Combination of lecture, guided discussion, and structured group activities.

Student Equipment/Supply Needs: Note taking materials, student manual

Equipment/Audiovisual/Supply requirements:

- Classroom -- desks (table and chairs), TV/VCR, projection screen, Slide projector, Easel pad, markers, Dry erase board.

COURSE OUTLINE (General - Not Detailed)

Time	Content	Instructor Requirements
0.5	Registration, Introductions	1
2.5	Module 1 – Introduction and Overview	1
3.0	Module 2 – Incident Command System and Command Staff Functions and Applications	1
2.0	Module 3 – Command Functions: Exercises	1
1.5	Module 4 – ICS General Staff Functions and Applications	1
2.0	Module 5 – Incident Command System Staff Functions: Exercises	1
4.0	Module 6 – Incident Command System Practical Applications	1
0.5	Critique, Exam	1

MINIMUM STANDARD FOR ACCREDITATION

Course Title: Incident Command System (ICS)

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Competency Evaluation Mechanism: The program will use a series of written exams at the completion of each module (or a single comprehensive exam at the end).

Course Objectives (specific): Upon successful completion, the student shall:

1. Identify the need for an organized approach to management of emergency incidents.
2. Recognize the laws and standards that require an organized approach to managing emergency incidents
3. List the elements of an effective management system.
4. Recognize the similarities between emergency incident and business management techniques.
5. Describe the factors that affect emergency management and list the components of an emergency management system.
6. Evaluate their department's capabilities to implement the various elements of an emergency management system.
7. Identify the responsibilities of the Incident Commander (IC) and the Command Staff positions
8. Describe the logical expansion of the Incident Command System (ICS) and the interrelationship of the various elements and functions.
9. Apply the Incident Command System (ICS) to various emergency incident scenarios.
10. Identify the need for the functions of Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration as functions within the Incident Command System (ICS)
11. Recognize how the functions of Command, Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration, and the Command Staff positions can provide the tools necessary to manage any incident effectively.
12. Demonstrate the ability to use the major functions of the Incident Command System (ICS) through a structured small group activity.
13. Apply Incident Command System (ICS) principles to emergency scenarios of various sizes, types, and complexities.

**Questions/Comments: Rita Wessel, Curriculum Specialist: Extension 106
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