



# ***Suffolk County Fire Academy***



**V.E.E.B. – Est. 1943**  
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February 19, 2025

To: All Fire Service Personnel

From: Scott W. Davonski, Executive Director

Re: Youth Basic Exterior Firefighting Operations Course

The Suffolk County Fire Academy will once again be conducting a New York State Basic Exterior Firefighting Operations (BEFO) course exclusively to members of fire department junior/youth/explorer programs.

This program will provide up-and-coming members of our departments with an early start in the training that will be necessary for them to become contributing members to the fire service and their departments.

Prospective students must be active members of a fire department junior/youth/explorer program, will require sponsorship by their department, as well as parent/guardian authorization. Students must be 16 ½ years old by the start of the course.

The BEFO course will consist primarily of lecture-based, classroom delivery. Upon successful completion of the course, students will receive New York State certification in Basic Exterior Firefighting Operations. Those who are interested will have the opportunity to progress to an accelerated Interior Fire Operations (Firefighter I) program where they will only be required to complete a limited amount of course work, all the hands-on training (HOT), and the final practical skills and written exam. Upon successful completion of these, students will receive New York State certification in Interior Fire Operations (Firefighter I). Please note, however, this must be completed within 18 months of receiving the BEFO certification.

This 15- session course will be held at the North Patchogue Fire Department on Sunday mornings from 9:00am-12:00pm. Class meeting dates are as follows:

Session 1 – Aug 10	Session 9 – Oct 19
Session 2 – Aug 17	Session 10 – Oct 26
Session 3 – Aug 24	Session 11 – Nov 2
Session 4 – Sep 7	Session 12 – Nov 9
Session 5 – Sep 14	Session 13 – Nov 16
Session 6 – Sep 21	Session 14 – Nov 23
Session 7 – Sep 28	Session 15 – Dec 7
Session 8 – Oct 5	

For student applications and questions please contact Assistant Chief Walter Dunn via email at [wdunn@scfa-li.org](mailto:wdunn@scfa-li.org) or at 631-924-6822 ext. 208.