

The following guidelines are the recommended minimum training protocols as set forth by the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control (OFPC)

Exterior Firefighters:

All firefighters should complete a training program(s) addressing these core competencies:

- Complete a training program addressing the subject areas/core competencies associated with OSHA 29 CFR1910.120 requirements or Hazardous Materials First Responder Operations
- Complete a training program addressing the subject areas/core competencies associated with Infection Control to achieve compliance with OSHA 29CFR1910.1030
- Complete the objectives for Basic First Aid
- Complete the objectives for Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation
- Completion of the latest version of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) courses ICS-700 and ICS-100
- Fire safety principles familiarization
- Tool and scene safety awareness
- Building Construction in relation to fire service operations
- Understanding fire behavior and development
- Familiarizations with personal protective equipment (PPE) and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) as assigned;
- Familiarization with fire service communication operations
- Familiarizations with incident management principles
- Familiarizations with fire prevention principles
- Arson awareness
- Familiarizations with fire extinguisher operations
- Familiarizations with hose practices, nozzles and fire streams (excluding interior structural fire attack)
- Understanding of water supply operations
- Familiarization with ground ladder operations; and
- Ropes and knots

These competencies are presented within the Firefighter-1 Scene Support course instructed by the Suffolk County Fire Academy.

Interior Firefighters:

In addition to core competency training provided for all exterior firefighters, interior firefighters should complete a training program(s) addressing the following core competencies:

- How to initiate a response to a reported emergency
- Fire service communication operations
- Familiarizations with assigned self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) during emergency operations

- Safe fire apparatus response to an emergency incident
- Scene safety and operating at an emergency incident
- Familiarization with forcible entry techniques
- Operating as a team member within a hazardous area
- Familiarization with ground ladder operations
- Familiarizations with safe operations at vehicle fires
- Understanding outside or exterior fires and defensive operations
- Familiarizations with structure fire search and rescue operations
- Familiarization with interior fire attack operations
- Familiarization horizontal and vertical ventilation operations
- Understanding overhaul operations
- Familiarizations with salvage and property conservation techniques
- Familiarization with water supply operations
- Understanding of fire chemistry and behavior
- Familiarization with fire extinguisher operations
- Ground cover fires
- Fire equipment, hose and PPE inspection and maintenance
- Building construction related to interior structural firefighting operations

These competencies are presented within the Firefighter-1 course instructed by the Suffolk County Fire Academy.

Apparatus Operators:

In addition to core competencies for exterior firefighters, apparatus operators should complete a training program addressing the following core competencies:

- Performing routine preventive maintenance, inspection and being capable of initiating the service of vehicle systems, components, equipment, tools and appliances assigned to the vehicle and be capable of initiating correction of any deficiencies noted.
- Be capable of documenting routine maintenance, inspection and service of the vehicle's systems, components, equipment, tools and appliances mounted on or assigned to vehicle. Be capable of initiating correction of any deficiencies noted during this process or any corrective actions required to address deficiencies
- Be capable of demonstrating safe operation of the vehicle in compliance with applicable laws, regulations and standards during routine driving and emergency responses
- Be capable of demonstrating defensive driving practices
- Be capable of demonstrating safe maneuvering of the vehicle around obstructions and in restricted spaces both forward and reverse
- Be able to demonstrate safe backing procedures and the use of a spotter
- Be knowledgeable of operational capabilities and limitations of the vehicle, its systems and components, equipment, tools and appliances mounted on or assigned to that vehicle

- Understand the operation of the functional systems, tools, equipment and appliances mounted on or assigned to the vehicle; and
- Be capable of demonstrating the ability to operate the pump or other functional systems on the apparatus.

These competencies are presented within the following courses instructed by the Suffolk County Fire Academy:

Apparatus Operator – Pump / Apparatus Operator – Aerial Devices / EVOC / Ladder Company Operations

Incident Commanders: (Line Officers and Chief Officers).

In addition to the core competencies required for interior firefighters and apparatus operators, incident commanders should have a demonstrated knowledge and experience in the following core competencies:

- Safe and effective assignment and supervision of tasks, or responsibilities to managing unit officers at emergency incidents (including those on highways and roadways), during training and under routine or non-emergency circumstances
- Be capable of communicating clear direction and supervision of members during training
- Knowledge of administrative policies and procedures and records management, including incident reports
- Knowledge of building construction and fire behavior, including structural soundness and the significance of fire load;
- Be capable of evaluating and implementing scene security and evidence preservation;
- Be capable of developing and implementing an incident action plan;
- Be capable of conducting a post-incident analysis;
- Be knowledgeable of safety principles, including injury and accident prevention;
- Be familiar with fire department injury and accident reporting requirements according to department policies;
- Be familiar with firefighter health and wellness for recognition of issues, e.g. stress, heart attack and other issues that would hinder firefighter's response capabilities.
- An understanding of strategy, tactics and operations in fire suppression;
- An understanding of vehicle extrication procedures and department capabilities and limitations;
- Awareness of other situations expected to be encountered in the department's immediate response area
- Be capable of initiating scene size-up procedures;
- Be familiar with initial arrival report (“C.A.N. [Conditions, Actions, Needs] - Report”) protocols
- Be familiar with radio communications operations;
- Be capable of communicating fire-ground reports (location of fire, water on fire, searches, knock-down, etc.) and

- Be familiar with urgent & mayday communication protocols;
- Be familiar with how to mitigate miscellaneous emergencies (Gas leaks, CO, Electrical, elevator rescues, hazmat containment etc.);
- Understand RIT/FAST Operations and how to implement them;
- Obtain a certificate for the latest version of NIMS ICS-200;
- Understanding the use and limitations of special fire department equipment, e.g. gas meters, thermal imaging cameras, self-escape equipment, gas powered tools etc.

These competencies are presented within the following courses instructed by the Suffolk County Fire Academy:

Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations (STICO) / Intro to Fire Officer / Fire Officer-1 / ICS 300 / ICS 400

Training Guidance for Fire Department Training Instructors:

Fire department training instructors must receive a higher level of training and education than the fire department members they will be instructing. This includes being more knowledgeable about the functions to be performed by the fire department and the hazards involved. The instructors should be qualified to train fire department members and demonstrate skills in communication, methods of teaching, and instructional motivation.

Training Instructors should demonstrate and possess the following skill set core competencies to instruct personnel effectively which includes but is not limited to:

- 1) Preparation
- 2) Presentation
- 3) Application
- 4) Testing
- 5) Summary
- 6) Knowledge of relevant subject matter, applicable policies, rules and regulations

These competencies are presented within the following courses instructed by the Suffolk County Fire Academy:

Principles of Instruction / Fire Instructor-1

In addition to the above listed recommendations by OFPC, the following courses are required annual training by OSHA/PESH:

Hazardous Materials Annual Refresher / Blood Bore Pathogens Annual Refresher

In addition to the above required training, OSHA/PESH Standard 29 CFR 1910.156(c)(2) requires that Fire Department Training Programs be designed to address annually the proficiency of each member's knowledge and abilities as it relates to that member's expected assignment.