



Size-Up

Illinois Fire Service Institute Updates

(Roger D. Lunt, Deputy Director)

August 1, 2011

Mark Your 2011 Training Calendar

McLean County Fire School	Heyworth F.P.D.	September 10 & 11, 2011
Madison County Fire School	Madison Illinois	September 24, 2011
Light and Fight-Live Burn Training	Robinson Fire Dept.	September 24, 2011
Firefighter II Academy	IFSI-State Fire Academy	Sept. 12, - Oct. 21, 2011
Firefighter II Mod A	Online	Sept. 19 - Nov. 4, 2011
Light and Fight-Live Burn Training	Charleston Fire Dept.	October 1, 2011
IFA Firefighter Down & Dirty	IFSI Champaign	October 6 – 9, 2011
Fire Fighting Weekend		
Light and Fight-Live Burn Training	McLean County	October 15, 2011
National Fire Academy Classes		

National Fire Incident Reporting System: Introduction to NFIRS 5.0

Date: October 13, 2011 - October 14, 2011

Location: Aurora, IL

Decision Making for Initial Company Operations

Date: October 15, 2011 - October 16, 2011

Location: Marion, IL

Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations

Date: October 22, 2011 - October 23, 2011

Location: Troy, IL

Light and Fight training and other Cornerstone Training Activities [Contact your IFSI Regional Rep. for dates and locations]

Illinois Firefighter's Association Support

The Illinois Firefighter's Association has once again provided generous support toward the production of Down and Dirty DVDs for Illinois Firefighters. On July 23rd IFA President John Swan presented Director Jaehne a \$30,000 gift to be applied toward the production of three Down and Dirty DVD projects. The finished DVDs will be shared with every fire department in the State of Illinois. Those projects are:

Fire Fighting Skills 2nd edition – projected completion date is October 2011

Fires On The Farm – projected completion date is January 2012

Fire Attack – projected completion date is late summer 2012

The Illinois Firefighter's Association has partnered with IFSI on previous Down and Dirty CD and DVD projects: ***Fire Fighting Skills, Engine and Pump Operations, Rural Water and Tender Operations, and Fireground Support and Aerial Operations.***

The "Down and Dirty" skills packages are multimedia training sets. These packages provide local instructors the multimedia materials necessary to conduct training in their home fire departments. They can also be used by individual firefighters.

These packages may all be downloaded for free inside of the IFSI Resource Center found in the IFSI web site. <http://www.fsi.illinois.edu/>

Every fire department in Illinois was provided a free copy of each CD series.

ITTF Validation Exercise

The Illinois Fire Service Institute will be the location of the 2011 Illinois Terrorism Task Force Validation Exercise. Teams from throughout Illinois will participate. They will operate continuously from October 25th through October 29th.

ProBoard National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications

In July, IFSI was notified that our request to extend accreditation of the following Illinois Fire Service Institute courses was approved by the ProBoard Committee on Accreditation:

Confined Space Rescue Operations, Confined Space Rescue Technician, Hazardous Materials Awareness, Hazardous Materials Operations, and Incident Safety Officer.

For a complete list of ProBoard accredited courses, or if you have any questions on ProBoard accreditation feel free to contact; Assistant Deputy Director, Brian Brauer; brbrauer@fsi.illinois.edu.

Illinois Fire Service Institute Website; <http://www.fsi.illinois.edu/>

This fall you will see a new look on the IFSI website. The improved look will be more user friendly with easier access to the areas for which you have an interest or questions. We are anxious to get this new look up and running.



Firefighter II Academy Tuition

There will be a tuition hike for the Academy beginning this fall. Tuition will move from \$2,500 to the new rate of \$2,750. The \$250 tuition change will cover the cost of the textbook and student workbook previously purchased by the student. The student also receives a new NFPA helmet. IFSI had been providing these helmets for the last couple years, and waited as long as possible to increase the tuition. At the end of the Academy the helmet belongs to the department or student. Some departments give it to the candidate, keep it for training, or use it as a probationary helmet until the FF proves himself/herself. We started issuing the NFPA helmet to cut down on the wear and tear of the more expensive FD issued helmets.

DHS Grant

The University of Illinois Fire Service Institute has received its fifth Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Fire Prevention & Safety Research and Development grant. The grant for \$996,505 will fund research on the combined influence of design and size of self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) on firefighter's metabolic stress and safety of movement.

Earlier DHS projects looked at the influence of firefighter personal protective equipment, as well as strenuous firefighting activities, on firefighter's cardiovascular system. The most recent DHS grant-funded project is examining the influence of an aspirin regimen on firefighter's cardiovascular system.

Cornerstone:

Cornerstone program funding support will increase for FY 2012 over FY 2011. The Cornerstone program assists with the training of about 10,000 firefighters per year. It is important and easy for fire departments to take advantage of this training support opportunity. If you have questions or would like a guest speaker to address the Cornerstone Program please contact your IFSI Regional Representative or IFSI directly. It is never too early to request a Cornerstone training session. If you have not done so already, send in your training requests for this fall, winter and next spring now.

New Course Cancellation Policy:

Previous course cancellation policy created a costly delay between the 6 week cancellation date and the 2 week withdrawal date. The new policy is; Courses will be cancelled and withdrawal-without-penalty at 4 weeks from the 1st day of training.

Parkland Community College Agreement:

Most IFSI course will qualify for Parkland Community College Transcript Credit. If the student completes a registration with Parkland, the credits are transferable as Parkland College transcript courses to other community colleges and universities. The course credits are provided at no cost to the Illinois Fire Service Institute student. This IFSI / Parkland community College Agreement was placed in effect on July 1, 2010 and has been extended thru 2012.

Annual Explorer / Cadet "HOT" Fire School

This year the Illinois Fire Service Institute announced a onetime full scholarship opportunity for a limited number of Fire Service Explorers, Cadets, and Junior Firefighters, Venturers, CERT, or votec program participants from financially disadvantaged circumstances. The scholarship being a tuition or event fee waiver and not a direct cash award. The candidate must have been nominated by his/her organization's Lead Advisor. The nomination was to be based on financial need as well as superior service as an Explorer or Cadet.

There were over 350 registered students and advisors for the 2011 school. Attendees traveled from Alabama, California, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, and Michigan. The Annual Explorer / Cadet "HOT" Fire School will be scheduled again in late June, 2012.

Firefighter II OnLine:

The Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) Firefighter II Online program is delivered in the modular form as prescribed by the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and meets the cognitive requirements for Firefighter II certification. The practical requirements are the responsibility of the student, under the direction of their own fire department. A student practical package will be provided to guide and document student performance.

The Online Firefighter II Course consists of 22 subject areas delivered from the IFSI Student and Staff Resource Center web classroom pages. The web pages provide an overview of each subject, define learning objectives, outline reading assignments, as well as have available; audio lectures, chat sessions, student assignments, and electronic quizzes. Students should be familiar with the use of the computer and have access to the Internet.

Course registration may be done by paper form or electronically. Your Chief will need a PIN number from IFSI if you use electronic registration.

Students will be required to complete the following weekly studies.

- Start new subject area (weekly instructors will oversee learning activities).
- Complete required reading.
- Listen to audio lectures.
- Complete between 1-3 homework activities.
- Attend live internet chat.
- Complete online quiz upon successful completion of homework.

At the end of each module the course administrator will sign up each student that has successfully completed all module requirements for the OSFM state certification test. The location of the test is selected by the student so they can take it at a local OSFM test site.



- Practicals must be completed by the end of the entire program.
- Hazardous Materials Awareness is a requirement for state certification. Student can take the IFSI Haz-Mat Awareness online course to fulfill this requirement.

The cost of each module will be \$300.00. Students can take the entire course or individual modules.

For more information contact; Rich Valenta, E-Learning Program Director: richfsi@sbcglobal.net or call 847-226-6106

Quick Hit Training



One key to a successful fire attack is to get a quick knock on a fire. In many cases this must be accomplished in a short period of time with limited personnel. "Quick Hit Training" works on the same premise. With limited time and manpower in mind we are providing short training segments that can be viewed by an individual or a group of emergency response providers. These training modules will concentrate on skills and knowledge that are important for both new and seasoned responders. Each module is ideal for new or review training. We hope you can fit this method of "Quick Hit Training" in your daily training schedule.

We encourage you to regularly visit this area of Virtual Campus for additional training modules in the future.

An example of one of the "Quick Hit" topics is offered below;

Modern Wood Construction

Training addresses Light Weight Building Construction. Studies have shown that light weight construction components exposed to fire are at risk to failure with little or no notice. Training includes, Awareness Level Training for Modern Wood Components, IFSI Floor Tests, Street Smart Modern Construction Considerations for Firefighters and a new fire test burns completed by Underwriters Laboratories (UL) and the Chicago Fire Department showing how loading under fire conditions effects light weight construction.

Online Courses



IFSI has made it a goal of the online programs to offer every Awareness-level course online.

The following courses are currently running on the IFSI Virtual Campus. Certified Firefighter II, Technical Rescue Awareness, Emergency Response to Terrorism, Hazardous Materials Awareness, Fire Service Vehicle Operator, Origin and Cause, Ethanol Awareness, and Enhancing Grant Writing Skills.