



## Pennsylvania State Fire Academy

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### Minimum Standard for Accreditation (MSA)

**Date:** January 2005

**Last Revision:** Feb. 2006 by rbw/SFA

**Course Title:** NIMS ICS for the Fire Service (Replaces current NFA ICS)

**SFA Course Code:** NICS-FS

**DOH CEU Number:** 001642

**DOH CEUs Assigned:** 9.0 Other

**Course Length:** 16 hours

**Lecture/Lab Breakdown:** 10/6

**Prerequisites:** ELIF or EBM or equivalent emergency level course and IS 700

**Referenced Text(s):** The text to be used for this course is NIMS ICS for the Fire Service student manual, DHS/FEMA/USFA/NFA, January 2005.

**Course Goal:** To train fire service personnel to be able to manage major emergencies and/or disasters in harmony with the other emergency response agencies responding to these events.

**Course Description:** Incident command is a concept given considerable attention within the fire service. This course will help students recognize the importance of an effective management system and understand the various components that provide the basis for that system. The requirements necessary to make the system functional will be discussed. With DHS assistance in providing and mandating a single ICS, this Nation's emergency response personnel will move in the direction of greater management harmony, which will ensure much more effective management of America's major emergencies.

It is extremely important that the students realize that the ICS has application in small and large fire departments; at simple and complex incidents; and in career, combination, and volunteer organizations. Students will be allowed to compare the benefits of the ICS to their own department or jurisdiction to demonstrate to themselves that the effective implementation of the ICS and its subsequent use will have a positive effect on their incident management.

**Description of Methodology:** This course will be delivered by the use lecture, facilitated discussion, small group exercises and activities, and facilitated scenario response.

**Student Equipment & Supplies:** Students will need the NIMS ICS for the Fire Service student manual, notebook, and pen or pencil.

**Equipment/Audiovisual/Facility/Supply Requirements:** Computer, LCD projector, Screen, 1/2" DVD driver or player, Easel pads/Chalkboard, TV monitor(s)--for video playback, CD with Unit 1 thru 6 PowerPoint presentations, DVD w/Video – Unit 2: “In Command, The Evolution of the ICS System”.

**Special Notes & Conditions:**

**Course Outline**

<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Topic</u></b>	<b><u>Notes</u></b>
1 hour	Registration and introduction	
2 hrs. 15 min.	Unit 1: Introduction and Overview	
2 hrs. 55 min.	Unit 2: Incident Command System Command and Command Staff Functions and Applications	
2 hrs. 35 min.	Unit 3: Command Functions: Exercises	
1 hr., 15 min.	Unit 4: Incident Command System General Staff Functions and Applications	
1 hr., 30 min.	Unit 5: Incident Command System Command and General Staff Functions: Exercises	
3 hrs. 30 min.	Unit 6: Incident Command System Practical Applications	
1 hr.	Test, summary, conclusion	
<b>16 hrs.</b>	<b>Total Time</b>	

**Competency Evaluation Mechanism:** Competency will be determined by the student’s active participation in the small group exercises, activities, and scenario play; and, successful completion (70% or better score) of the 25 question final exam.

**Course Objectives:** By the end of the course, the student will be able to, with a minimum 70% accuracy;

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 Incident Command System (ICS).
4. Understand the various Incident Command and Incident Management Systems.

**Course Objectives continued:**

5. List the components of an Incident Management System (IMS).
6. Evaluate their departments' capabilities to implement the various elements of an ICS.
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. Understand the Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC).
10. Describe personnel accountability.
11. Apply the Incident Command System (ICS) to various emergency incident scenarios.
12. Identify the need for the functions of Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration, based on incident complexity.
13. Define and explain the responsibilities of Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/ Administration as functions within the Incident Command System (ICS).
14. 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.
15. Demonstrate the ability to use the major functions of the Incident Command System (ICS) through a structured small group activity.
16. Apply Incident Command System (ICS) principles to emergency scenarios of various sizes, types, and complexities.

**Questions/Comments: Contact the Curriculum Specialist**

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