

FINAL RECOMMENDATION
January 25, 2001

Recommendation of the Action Plan Team: CORE Mission

Statement of Issue #: 10-16 The current on- and off-campus student population may not reflect the geographic and demographic diversity of the United States fire service.

Recommendation #R-41

- Summary: Distribute demographic information and student participation to nationally recognized organizations on an annual basis.
- Recommendation: Upon completion of the new fire department census project (see R-64 scheduled for completion in Oct 2001), a detailed demographic survey can be annually administered to a representative sample of fire departments.
- Background: The USFA needs to identify the composition of the fire services to ensure that the NFA student body, both on and off campus, is reflective of the national fire service. Currently, NFA collects data on students in the program. The following are samples of the information collected during 1995-1999 from students:
- Number of students by state attending on-campus and off-campus courses
 - Student profile summary for on-campus and off-campus courses
 - Overall comparison of NFA programs for the past five years
- Once the fire demographic survey has been completed, the NFA student body can be compared to the overall demographics of the national fire service participation. This information can be disseminated on a periodic basis.
1. Priority: High
- Step(s) to Achieve:
1. Upon completion of R40, compare findings of census information.
 2. Seek input from stakeholders and the Fire Service

- Leadership pertaining to items of interest.
3. Develop a survey instrument and obtain OMB approval.
 4. Administer the survey.
 5. Publish final report and findings as applicable.

Estimated Time Frame: The Census to be completed in October 2001. The survey to be completed in April 2002. The study will be completed 90-120 days following the survey. This survey instrument will be utilized on a continuing basis.

Estimated Cost: Staff time plus \$25,000 (Contractor)

Outcome: Implementation of the above steps should result in reasonable, unbiased estimates of the demographics makeup of the US fire services, in the most resource efficient manner possible. This survey, in combination with the fire department census will enable USFA to provide student information to our partners and customers.

Conclusion: The Core Mission Team supports this recommendation.

Submitted by:

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APPROVED/Date

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