

National Fire Academy Criteria for Contract Instructor Selection

Course: Command and Control of Fire Department Operations at Natural and Man-Made Disasters (R0308)

Curriculum: Incident Management

This course addresses fire and rescue department operations at natural and man-made disasters that may require interagency or interjurisdictional coordination. Earthquakes, hurricanes, blizzards, civil disturbances, terrorism, hazardous material releases, tornadoes, and floods are some of the topics covered. Primary focus of course is directed at the operational component of a fire department's response to these incidents. Emphasis is placed on command and control decision-making skills and the interrelationship of the operational function to hazard preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery. Advanced applications of the Incident Command System (ICS), command and control, the ICS/Emergency Operations Center (EOC) interface, the Integrated Environmental Management System, evacuation, and sheltering and communications are just a few of the areas covered.

Criteria for Contract Instructor Selection

All new contract instructors shall be evaluated in three consecutive course deliveries in accordance with the National Fire Academy's (NFA's) Contract Instructor Evaluation program. Existing contract instructors are subject to evaluation in accordance with this program.

1. Academic Requirement

Minimum

- a. One year of college or equivalent from an institution that is nationally or regionally accredited, preferably in the fire science field.
- b. Must have successfully completed ICS-100, ICS-200, ICS-300 and ICS-400 or equivalents.

Preferred

Bachelor's degree or equivalent from an institution that is nationally or regionally accredited with a strong emphasis in the fire science field. (Please provide copies of certificates, diplomas, transcripts or equivalent training material in order to satisfy this requirement.)

2. Documented Knowledge and Experience in the Subject Area

Minimum

- a. Candidate must have demonstrated teaching experience in upper level fire service courses and knowledge in the use of computers.
- b. Candidate must have experience as a chief officer with a fire and rescue department at the division or deputy chief level, or acting in this position, with functional responsibilities that are commensurate with the management of a major function with a fire and rescue department. (An example is a battalion chief with operations division responsibilities.) Candidate must have demonstrated experience in or a thorough knowledge of:
 - National Incident Management System (FIRESCOPE) ICS.
 - Use of ICS Forms.
 - Integrated Emergency Management System.
 - ICS/EOC interface/National Response Plan.

Describe this in no more than one page for each area.

- c. Candidate must provide information that demonstrates his or her application of this knowledge in the role of a senior staff member. This can be satisfied by identifying three situations that the candidate was involved in while using these systems, concepts or centers. (Describe this in no more than three paragraphs.)
- d. Candidate must have demonstrated emergency response experience in a command or general staff function during a catastrophic incident in which at least three of the general staff positions within ICS were used. Candidate must describe a catastrophic incident where this occurred and describe, as well as explain, why the general staff sections were implemented. (Describe this in no more than one page.)
- e. Candidate must have experience in developing an Incident Action Plan. Please provide one or describe an incident where you used this component of the ICS.

Preferred

Prefer additional experience in conducting large-scale simulation exercises. Candidate must have experience as a chief officer with a fire and rescue department with operational experience at the division/battalion chief level or higher, with demonstrated experience involving mutual-aid operations, disaster operations, and EOC operations. Prefer Type 1 or 2 Overhead Team assignment, federal disaster experience, or interface with United States Forest Service Operations.

3. Additional Considerations or Submittals

- a. Demonstrated effectiveness instructing at the fully professional level in an active training environment. For a course in which you were a primary instructor:
 - Provide course description, objectives and syllabus.
 - Provide three references from individuals in organizations where you have delivered training. **Do not include the NFA as one of these organizational representatives.**
- b. Resume indicating level and extent of responsibility and authority, include three references.
- c. A one-page synopsis of current issues, trends and research that directly relates to the fire service and/or specific course.
- d. Must have attended the course as a student within the past three years (or latest version).
- e. Must shadow or “student teach” with the given course.

4. Continuing Practice or Education

Instructors must maintain currency in the relevant subject matter. This requirement may be satisfied in one or more ways including:

- a. Continuing education on an annual basis (documentation required).
 - Certification of completion of in-service training at the senior staff level within an existing fire and rescue department; (This is to be maintained every two years.) or
 - Certification of completion or satisfactory attendance at a nationally recognized fire service conference or state and local training conference. (Must be within the program area and will be required every two years. This can be in lieu of training within an existing fire and rescue department.)
- b. Continuing activity and application of relevant concepts through employment with a recognized emergency response agency.
- c. Delivery of course, as designed by the U.S. Fire Administration, at least once every two years.

Failure to provide approved documentation of ongoing training or instruction may result in revocation of the contract instructor status.

Submit cover letter and documentation to:

National Fire Academy
Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
16825 South Seton Ave.
Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727
fema-nfainstructorapp@fema.dhs.gov