

Course Code: FST 153**Course Title:** Firefighter I Academy**Department:** Allied Health**Effective Date:** Summer 2026**PCS Code:** 1.2 - Occupational/Technical Instruction**CIP Code:** 43.0203**Repeatability:** 0

Credit Hours

Catalog Notation: 8-16-13**Credit Hour Distribution:**

Lecture: 8

Lab: 6

Clinical: 10

Total: 13

General Course Information

Catalog Description

Basic Firefighter/NFPA Firefighter I Academy is designed to give new firefighters practical and cognitive training needed to operate safely and effectively on the fireground. The Academy exceeds the requirements outlined by the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal for entry-level firefighter training.

General Course Objectives

The Academy exceeds the requirements outlined by the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal for entry-level firefighter training. The Academy focuses on an intense hands-on approach to firefighting, which promotes both skill competency and an understanding of the fireground. Students complete numerous fireground-speed evolutions and rolling responses, which encourage them to apply their skills to a variety of scenarios.

Minimum Placement Levels

English	Reading	Math
Placement out of ENG 098	Placement out of CCS 098	Placement into MAT 060

Prerequisites

Credit in FST 111

Methods of Evaluation

1 midterm, 1 final, 6-8 weekly quizzes, and 6-8 weekly performance evaluations.

Instructional Materials and Additional SuppliesEssentials of Fire Fighting, IFSTA, current edition. 978-0879396572

Course Content

General Learning Outcomes (GLOs)

- Communication: Students will demonstrate the ability to read, write, listen, and speak effectively.

Course Segments and Student Learning Outcomes

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Introduction to the Fire Service and Firefighter Safety	1. Explain the structure of Fire Departments and the safe practices of a firefighter. 2. Explain the function of different communication systems used in the fire service.	7	0	0
Academy Orientation	1. Examine the essential components of a firefighter. 2. Recognize the traits of a good follower.	6	0	0
Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment	1. Explain the use of the various forms of personal protective equipment used in the fire service and determine the proper use for each based on changing scenarios. 2. Adapt as needed and demonstrate proper donning and doffing of equipment to the call.	4	4	4
Apparatus	1. Identify the various types of fire department apparatus. 2. Discuss and organize considerations of a mobile water supply operation. 3. Adapt as needed and demonstrate the use of various types of fire department apparatus.	8	5	8
Building Construction	1. Identify and then compare and contrast the building construction features and how fire and heat affect structural components and materials.	6	0	0
Fire Dynamics	1. Explain the duties of a firefighter as they relate to cause and origin investigation. 2. Identify fire prevention and public education issues, components, and programs. 3. Demonstrate and construct a plan related to the understanding of fire behavior as related to cause and origin investigation of fires. 4. Adapt as needed and demonstrate the skills related to educating the public in issues regarding fire safety and prevention.	5	6	20
Hose	1. Explain features of fire hose and appliances, as well as factors affecting their use. 2. Respond and then adapt the use of hose and appliances in various fire-related scenarios.	3	4	6
Hose Operations and Hose Streams	1. Explain and determine how to effectively use nozzles and fire streams during firefighting operations. 2. Explain the basic operation of a master stream used on the fireground. 3. Construct a plan for proper use of various nozzle applications during firefighting operations. 4. Adapt and demonstrate the proper use of various nozzle applications during firefighting operations.	3	6	8
Ground Ladders	1. Explain proper procedures for utilizing fire service ladders. 2. Assemble and demonstrate how to adapt proper ladder safety, deployment, usage, and storage in a given fire related scenario.	3	4	6
Tactical Ventilation	1. Determine the different types of ventilation and consider associated problems with a given type of ventilation. 2. Organize the safe ventilation of a structure using tools and techniques. 3. Demonstrate and adapt to allow for safe ventilation of a structure using tools and techniques.	3	4	6

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Structural Search and Rescue	1. Identify the proper procedures to use when conducting a search and rescue operation. 2. Organize a safe and proper route to use when conducting a search and rescue operation. 3. Demonstrate and adapt the proper procedures to use when conducting a search and rescue operation.	4	6	7
Forcible Entry	1. Explain various techniques and procedures of forcible entry and determine the proper time for implementing different techniques. 2. Respond using various tools and techniques for gaining forcible entry into a dwelling. 3. Demonstrate and adapt the use of tools and techniques for gaining forcible entry into a dwelling.	3	4	5
Ropes and Knots	1. Determine the proper use of various knots and ropes in different scenarios. 2. Demonstrate and adapt the proper techniques of utilizing rope and tying knots.	2	6	4
Portable Extinguishers	1. Describe the uses and operation of portable extinguishers. 2. React and demonstrate the uses and operation of portable extinguishers.	3	4	0
Fire Suppression	1. Explain procedures of loss control. 2. Practice knowledge in reducing fire losses following fires and other types of incidents during practical exercises. 3. Describe the techniques of fighting wildland fires and how to determine the proper deployment of different tactics. 4. Practice techniques and tactics used in proper deployment of apparatuses, personnel, and equipment in wildland fire operations. 5. Explain principles of water supply with or without hydrants. 6. Demonstrate and adapt the water supply utilizing hydrants or apparatus operations. 7. Explain basic concepts of using master streams on the fireground. 8. Practice and demonstrate water control utilizing various nozzles and pressures. 9. Explain loss control on the fireground. 10. Explain firefighter responsibilities during a fire investigation. 11. Describe atmospheric monitoring procedures. 12. Demonstrate and adapt the techniques and tactics used in proper deployment of apparatuses, personnel, and equipment in wildland fire operations. 13. Demonstrate and adapt the knowledge in reducing fire losses following fires and other types of incidents during practical exercises.	13	15	45
Vehicle Fires	1. Explain principles of fire control and explain why different approaches may be necessary depending on conditions in a vehicle fire. 2. Organize the knowledge in fire control to construct a plan for safely approaching a fire scene for effective and safe outcomes on a vehicle fire scene. 3. Adapt the knowledge in fire control, safely approaching a fire scene for effective and safe outcomes on a vehicle fire scene.	4	4	8
Basement Fires	1. Explain principles of fire control and explain why different approaches may be necessary depending on conditions in a basement fire. 2. Organize the knowledge in fire control, safely approaching a fire scene for effective and safe outcomes on a basement fire scene. 3. Adapt the knowledge in fire control, safely approaching a fire scene for effective and safe outcomes on a basement fire scene.	4	4	8

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Foam	1. Explain how to effectively use nozzles and fire streams during firefighting operations. 2. Practice, assemble, and demonstrate the proper use of various nozzle in a variety of applications. 3. Demonstrate and adapt the proper use of various nozzle applications.	3	4	5
Installed Systems	1. Identify the various types and components of installed fire suppression systems. 2. Describe and determine the fire and life safety programs as they pertain to community risk reduction.	4	0	0
Firefighter Survival	1. Determine the initiatives to enhance firefighter survival. 2. Organize a training for personal firefighter survival skills. 3. Demonstrate and adapt the training of personal firefighter survival skills.	4	4	5
Rapid Intervention Teams (RIT)	1. Explain the techniques and strategies used during RIT operations. 2. Construct a practice drill and strategy for RIT operations in a safe and effective manner. 3. Demonstrate and adapt the techniques and strategies for RIT operations in a safe and effective manner.	1	4	5
ICS 100.C: An Introduction to the Incident Command System	1. Explain the principles and basic structure of the Incident Command System (ICS). 2. Describe the NIMS Management Characteristics that are the foundation of the ICS. 3. Describe the ICS functional areas and the roles of the Incident Commander and Command Staff. 4. Identify the General Staff roles within ICS. 5. Identify how the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Management Characteristics apply to ICS for a variety of roles and discipline areas.	2	0	0
IS-200.C: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response	1. Describe how the NIMS Management Characteristics relate to Incident Command and Unified Command. 2. Describe the delegation of authority process, implementing authorities, management by objectives, and preparedness plans and objectives. 3. Identify ICS organizational components, the Command Staff, the General Staff, and ICS tools. 4. Describe different types of briefings and meetings. 5. Explain flexibility within the standard ICS organizational structure. 6. Explain transfer of command briefings and procedures. 7. Explain the use of ICS to manage an incident or event.	4	0	0
IS-700.B: An Introduction to the National Incident Management System	1. Describe and identify the key concepts, principles, scope, and applicability underlying NIMS. 2. Describe activities and methods for managing resources. 3. Describe the NIMS Management Characteristics. 4. Identify and describe Incident Command System (ICS) organizational structures. 5. Explain Emergency Operations Center (EOC) functions, common models for staff organization, and activation levels. 6. Explain the interconnectivity within the NIMS Management and Coordination structures: ICS, EOC, Joint Information System (JIS), and Multiagency Coordination Groups (MAC Groups). 7. Identify and describe the characteristics of communications and information systems, effective communication, incident information, and communication standards and formats.	4	0	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Courage to Be Safe	1. Explain and develop an individual action plan towards prevention of firefighter line-of-duty injury and death.	4	0	0
Fire Service Vehicle Operator (FSVO)	1. Describe the Fire Service Vehicle Operator course. 2. Identify the requirements of an emergency vehicle operator. 3. Describe the components of a vehicle care and maintenance program. 4. Describe the common braking systems found on fire service vehicles. 5. Describe the effect of vehicle characteristics on the handling and operation of emergency vehicles. 6. Describe safe driving practices when operating emergency vehicles. 7. Describe defensive driving strategies when operating emergency vehicles. 8. Describe how to safely operate an emergency vehicle when responding to an emergency. 9. Describe the proper positioning of fire apparatus for a given scenario. 10. Demonstrate the practical exercises required to complete the Fire Service Vehicle Operator course.	7	1	0
Hazardous Materials Awareness - NFPA	1. Explain why every first responder needs to have a basic understanding of hazardous materials. 2. Explain the influences that laws, regulations, and standards have on the management of hazardous materials/WMD incidents. 3. Identify the characteristics of hazardous materials. 4. Identify the presence of hazardous materials based on clues given by the incident. 5. Identify possible indicators of a terrorist attack. 6. Demonstrate how to make effective, basic scene decisions at a hazardous materials/WMD incident.	6	1	0

Total Contact Hours

Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
120	90	150