



Pennsylvania State Fire Academy

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Minimum Standard for Accreditation (MSA)

Date: 9-2012

Last Revision:

Course Title: Preparation for Initial Company Operations

SFA Course Code: PICO

Course Length: 16 hrs

Lecture/Lab Breakdown: 10/6

Prerequisites: ELIF

Referenced Text(s): NFA Curriculum-IG

Course Goal: This course is designed to provide a basic foundation for the management of one or more companies operating at a structural fire emergency.

Course Description: This course is designed to develop a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a Company Officer in preparing their company for incident operations. In addition, to clarify the transition from firefighter to company officer and the new roles relating to leadership and safety. This course is designed for company officers, acting company officers, or senior firefighters responsible for the management of a single fire company at an emergency incident. Those officers who are responsible for company readiness, personnel safety, and leadership as it relates to company operation.

Description of Methodology: Lecture with interactive discussion and Student Activities

Student Equipment & Supplies: PICO SM for each student

Equipment/Audiovisual/Facility/Supply Requirements:

Classroom with computer, projector and screen, DVD-Intro to NIMS//NRP

Special Notes & Conditions: Total time is based on presentation of material as well as breaks and administrative duties.

Course Outline

<u>Time</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Notes</u>
4 hr 10 min	Roles and Responsibilities	
1 hr 30 min	Readiness	
1 hr 35 min	Communications	
3 hr 30 min	Building Construction and Fire Behavior Factors	
3 hr 35 min	Preincident Planning	

Competency Evaluation Mechanism: Interactive discussion, group activities as well as a written exam

Learning Outcomes (Behavioral Objectives):

Upon successful completion the student shall be able to;

1. accept the need for a system for the management of resources committed to the mitigation of an emergency incident.
2. explain the key safety behaviors that affect safe tactical operations.
3. identify the CO's responsibility for an organized approach to emergency incident management.
4. describe the primary sizeup factors and determine their impact on strategies and tactics.
5. analyze the command sequence action planning cycle
6. prioritize personal values and describe their relationship to incident management and firefighter safety.
7. describe the five elements of company readiness and explain the importance of each element
8. list four benefits of effective incident communications and explain the importance of each
9. list the six steps identified in the communications model and explain the importance of each step.
10. apply the communications model to practical fireground communications when given a scenario
11. given a simulated incident where communication is a critical issue, develop a sizeup report of fireground conditions, complete the Primary Factors Size-Up Chart, and document progress using the Command Sequence Tactical Chart.
12. list the five classifications of buildings and explain the characteristics of each classification.
13. identify the strengths and concerns for each building construction classification.
14. list and explain the critical fire behavior factors that relate to tactical operations for an assigned fire scenario.
15. properly calculate required fire flow for structures using the National Fire Academy (NFA) fire flow formula.

Questions/Comments: Contact PSFA Assistant Administrator