

The IAFF recognizes that every call is a potential HazMat call.

Each year thousands of fire fighters are exposed to chemical and biological hazards in the performances of their duties.

Our mission is to train all levels of fire fighters in their own departments and customize the training to jurisdictional hazards.

Our programs are developed and taught by highly trained fire fighters who bring valuable experience to the classroom.

The IAFF programs are funded by,  
and/or partnered with:



National Institute of  
Environmental Health Sciences



[IAFF.org/hazmat-training](https://iaff.org/hazmat-training)



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INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

1750 New York Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20006



**HAZMAT TRAINING  
DEPARTMENT**

**COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING FOR  
FIRST RESPONDERS**

# HAZMAT CURRICULA

The IAFF recognizes that every call is a potential HazMat call. Each year the IAFF Training, Education, and Grants Division works diligently to secure federal funds in order to develop and provide training programs to first responders. A team of highly trained instructors, appointed by General President Edward Kelly, deliver the training at no-cost to fire departments across the United States and Canada. Due to the competitive nature of granting agencies and the IAFF's commitment to firefighter health and safety, the HazMat Training Department is consistently creating and updating the course curricula to meet or exceed current fire safety standards.

## HAZMAT TECHNICIAN (80 HOURS)

### *\*Pro Board Certification*

This specialized training utilizes a modular format where a fire department may analyze its current level of competency and choose course modules that will provide the skills needed by its hazardous materials team. Training includes offensive procedures for mitigation of hazardous materials spills, leaks and exposures. Topics include: chemistry, detection devices, advanced recognition and identification, pre-incident planning, incident management, scene evaluation and termination, terrorism, toxicology, medical surveillance, emergency care, PPE usage and limitations and decontamination. Meets or exceeds OSHA (29 CFR 1910.120) and NFPA Standard (470).

## HAZMAT OPERATIONS (24 HOURS)

### *\*Pro Board Certification*

This operations-level course provides the tools needed to protect responder health and safety, while covering basic defensive actions, PPE, hazard recognition and identification, pre-incident planning and scene management. This course is facilitated through small group activities and real-life case studies. Meets or exceeds OSHA (29 CFR 1910.120) and NFPA Standard (470).

## CONFINED SPACE RESCUE: AWARENESS (8 HOURS)

### *\*Pro Board Certification*

This level of training focuses on defensive support procedures for fire fighters and emergency responders. Topics include confined space regulation, hazard recognition, victim communication, nonentry rescue, size-up, and support of operations or technician-level incidents. Meets or exceeds OSHA (29 CFR 1910.146) and meets NFPA Standard 1006, Chapter 7.1

## CONFINED SPACE RESCUE: TECHNICIAN (40 HOURS)

### *\*Pro Board Certification*

This training includes the information contained in the awareness-level course, and expands to include offensive procedures. Topics include confined space regulations and standards, responder health and safety, PPE, ventilation techniques, patient care and transport, retrieval systems and specialized rescue procedures. Meets or exceeds OSHA (29 CFR 1910.146) and meets NFPA 1006, Chapter 7. Prerequisite NFPA 1006, Chapter 5.2 Rope Rescue at the Operations level.

## PLANNING AND RESPONSE TO HIGH CONSEQUENCE INCIDENTS (8 HOURS)

This course was designed for fire fighters, emergency responders and other surrounding community members. Participants will learn how to prepare for, respond to, and recover from high consequence incidents while reducing possibility of exposure, injuries and fatalities. This course reviews information about hazardous materials that exist in communities, how to operate in a defensive manner, and reviews case studies of previous incidents including crude oil train derailments, terrorist attacks, and fertilizer explosions.

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS (8 HOURS)

This course focuses on the hazards, characteristics, and risks of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). The training will teach students how to safely respond to LNG fires and spills through classroom and hands-on activities. This course will satisfy annual HazMat refresher training.

## FRONTLINE SAFETY (8 HOURS)

This course provides students with the opportunity to examine their own values and those of their work team and organization when it comes to safety. Students learn about the National Fire Fighter Near-Miss Reporting System and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health's Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program, which provides information about the causes of fire fighter injuries and fatalities. The purpose of the course is to help decrease the number of injuries and deaths experienced by the fire service by helping students become safety leaders and advocates for safe behavior.

The IAFF Online Learning Center provides opportunities to expand your knowledge through online training. Classes are available at no cost to you and satisfy many refresher training requirements. Visit the IAFF website for more information.

## RESPONDING TO DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS (8 HOURS)

This course focuses on the dangers that first responders face when responding to drug-related incidents. Customizable to the jurisdiction, the training teaches participants how to identify specific drug labs, recognize the hazards, and respond to the incident. The course will review new tactics and guidelines for drug-related response in addition to safety procedures, detection devices, disposal of substances, among other topics, to ensure a safer response to illicit drug lab incidents. Supplementary information, fact sheets, and resources are available on the IAFF's Online Learning Center. This course will satisfy annual HAZWOPER refresher requirements.

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO TERRORISM: OPERATIONS (8 HOURS)

The Emergency Response to Terrorism: Operations course is a participant-centered, instructor-led training program. The program is designed to allow emergency responders to review the key concepts related to responding to incidents involving weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). This course will satisfy annual HAZWOPER refresher requirements.

## RESPONDING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY EMERGENCIES (8 HOURS)

This course is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to safely and effectively respond to emergencies involving lithium-ion batteries. As the use of solar panels, electric vehicles, consumer products, mobility devices, and battery energy storage systems become increasingly prevalent, understanding the unique hazards and challenges these technologies present is crucial. This course covers the fundamentals of batteries and thermal runaway, potential hazards, safety protocols, and research-based emergency response strategies.

# LICENSING

If your fire department is interested in ensuring training on a regular basis throughout the year, consider becoming a licensed training site. For a small cost each year your department will receive class materials, Pro Board certification exams in addition to a Train-the-Trainer course (Train-the-Trainer course based on federal funds). The IAFF will train a group of members from your department who can deliver the training within your jurisdiction. Contact the IAFF or visit the website for more information.

**Courses meet or exceed applicable OSHA regulations and NFPA standards.**