

REQUIREMENTS FOR PERFORMING IAFF FIRE GROUND SURVIVAL SKILLS



The IAFF Fire Ground Survival (FGS) program includes instructional materials to train fire fighters how to perform skills necessary to survive a MAYDAY. The training delivered in this program puts fire fighters in simulated MAYDAY events that duplicate the stressors of survival on the fire ground. Many of the skills require fire fighters to perform at or near maximal efforts for extended periods of time. To ensure the highest degree of safety for fire fighters during FGS training, fire departments should, at a minimum, provide the following training facilities and equipment, as well as ensure FGS instructors follow the following procedures.

IAFF FGS Train the Trainer course students must understand the nature of the activities to be performed while involved in field training activities, known as Fire Ground Survival Training, requires mental judgment and a high degree of physical fitness, agility, and dexterity, and that this may include strenuous exercise in varying environmental conditions, which requires physical fitness, strength, and stamina. Field training involves the risk of injury or death, and students voluntarily assume these risks.

FIRE DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTIONS

- Adhere to FGS use requirements as per licensing agreement
- All fire department instructors teaching the IAFF FGS program must have successfully completed the IAFF FGS Train-the-Trainer program
- Students participating in FGS hands-on training exercises must have successfully completed the online FGS Awareness training program
- Ensure fire fighters are appropriately trained in the use of all firefighting personal protective equipment (PPE) and be able to perform basic firefighting skills
- Ensure fire fighters are medically and physically capable of performing at or near maximal effort for extended periods of time
- Provide immediate access to BLS and ALS care (standby preferred)
- Provide a dedicated medical/rehabilitation area with proper hydration, cooling/warming measures, and ability to provide emergency medical attention by licensed/certified personnel



IAFF FGS MASTER INSTRUCTORS WILL PERFORM THE FOLLOWING TASKS DURING THE FGS TRAIN-THE-TRAINER PROGRAM. THESE WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CERTIFIED FIRE DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTORS WHEN THEY DELIVER THE FGS OPERATIONS COURSE TO MEMBERS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE FIRE DEPARTMENT(S):

- Ensure ropes and equipment used for safety belay system within upper floor egress skills are, at minimum, consistent with NFPA 2500 Standards for Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents and Life Safety Rope and Equipment for Emergency Services

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- Ensure upper floor egress belay systems are set up and tended by personnel who are, at minimum, Level I Technical Rescuer trained as per NFPA 1006 – Technical Rescue Professional Qualifications
- Ensure personnel performing upper floor egress skills wear a Class 3 harness, helmet and appropriate safety equipment as dictated within the skill instructions contained within the FGS program

FACILITIES

Facilities used to conduct IAFF FGS skills training must meet the following requirements:

TRAINING CLASSROOM

- Enough tables and chairs to seat 30 participants
- The classroom must be free of distractions and at a comfortable temperature for the students
- LCD projector and projection screen
- Two (2) easels and easel pads or dry-erase boards with markers
- Copy machine
- Printer
- Electrical extension cords
- Computer with external speakers and internet access

TRAINING STRUCTURE FACILITY (E.G., TRAINING BUILDING, TRAINING TOWER)

- Three or more floors with windows on each floor where ladders can be positioned
- Three or more rooms no less than 10 feet x 10 feet. Rooms shall have movable furnishings that can be moved from room to room. Rooms must be able to be dimmed or darkened
- Anchoring points must be available on each floor for securing belay systems
- Two or more entrances/exits to structure
- Electrical sources must be available

TRAINING GROUNDS

- Flat surface around training structure to accommodate ground ladder placement.
- Large area where multiple skills can occur without interfering with each other. An area of 100 feet x 100 feet or more is recommended. Three smaller areas of less than 100 feet x 100 feet are allowed
- At least one working fire hydrant
- The course site is required to assemble the provided training props (at



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their own expense) prior to the start of the course, according to plans provided by the IAFF.

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TRAINING EQUIPMENT

- 600 feet of initial attack 1 ¾" or 1 ½" hose line
- SCBA and mask facepiece for each student
- One extra SCBA cylinder for each student
- SCBA cylinder refill capabilities
- Radios (minimum of 10) with at least two channels/frequencies that can be dedicated for training exercises
- Two 24-foot extension ladders
- Short or cutdown ladder (72-75 inches)
- Sixty (60) feet of life safety rope that meets NFPA 2500 Standard for Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents and Life Safety Rope and Equipment for Emergency Services
- Four (4) flashlights
- Hand tools - (6) axes, (6) Haligan tools
- Portable sound system to play CD or digital music file
- Extension cord
- Pre-incident plan and photographs (all four sides and roof view if possible) of a structure specific to the host department's response area



PERSONAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

- Structural firefighting ensemble meeting the requirements contained in NFPA 1500, *Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety, Health and Wellness Program*, including helmet, coat, trousers, boots, hood and gloves
- Personal equipment normally carried by jurisdiction's fire fighters (e.g., flashlight, wire cutters, axe, etc.)

MEDICAL AND LOGISTICAL FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

- Area out of direct sunlight that can be used for rehabilitation, with cooling and warming capabilities
- Medical kit (at a minimum, kit must contain essentials needed to provide basic life support care, including airways, dressings and a variety of first aid equipment)
- Four (4) radios for instructors with two dedicated frequencies/channels. One frequency/channel will be used by students in performing radio communications skills required during simulated MAYDAYS. The second frequency/channel will be used by instructors to communicate with medical personnel if a fire fighter is injured
- Water
- Cooling and warming capabilities
- Restrooms