

Responding to Drug-Related Incidents



Course Description

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 and disposal of substances — among other topics — to ensure a safer response to illicit drug lab incidents. Supplementary information, fact sheets and resources are available to participants on the IAFF's Online Learning Center. This course will satisfy annual HAZWOPER refresher requirements.

Course Objectives

After completing this course, participants will be able to:

- Identify the problem responders face when responding to a drug-related incident.
- Identify six categories of licit and illicit drugs.
- Define the term “illicit drug lab.”
- Describe two types and three general categories of illicit drug labs.
- Identify drugs produced in illicit drug labs and the three processes used in the manufacture of them.
- List at least four common locations for illicit drug labs.
- Identify and describe the four stages of APIE: A Risk-Based Response Process.
- List at least five clues for identifying illicit drug labs.
- Identify chemical hazards when responding to a reported illicit drug lab.

- Describe operational hazards, considerations and products involved in the illicit drug manufacturing process.
- Describe potential safety hazards encountered by response personnel.
- Identify appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for fire fighters and hazmat technicians responding to drug-related incidents.
- Discuss the limitations of structural firefighting protective clothing (SFPC) in preventing chemical exposures.
- Describe decontamination procedures for responders and civilians encountering at an illicit drug lab.
- Describe hazards that need to be monitored and identify appropriate detection devices to use when performing mission-specific operations.
- Describe the fire department's support role and potential roles of other responding agencies.
- Identify steps of the terminating incident.
- Apply risk-based response to a given drug-related incident scenario.

Course Specifications

Provider: International Association of Fire Fighters

Delivery Method: Classroom

Prerequisite: Online course

Course Hours/Days: 8 hours/1 days



If you are interested in bringing this training to your department, please visit iaff.org/hazmat-training
If you have any questions or need more information, contact hazmat@iaff.org or call (202) 737-8484