

ON OUR WATCH

ANNUAL REPORT | JULY 1, 2017 - JUNE 30, 2018



ILLINOIS FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

A MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR MORTENSON

It is my honor to present the 2018 Annual Report of the Illinois Fire Service Institute at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. It is always my privilege to write this message as it is my opportunity to reflect on the many successes that we encountered in the past fiscal year.

In FY2018, the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) delivered quality training and education to students from across the state, country, and world. Every IFSI program and course is at the forefront of national training standards. As a result of this effort, and our accreditation with the two nationally and internationally recognized fire service accreditation agencies, IFSI signed an intergovernmental agreement with the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) in November 2017 that recognizes IFSI end of course examinations as equivalent to OSFM state certification exams. This agreement is a great benefit to the men and women of the fire service and is a testament to the positive working relationship we have with OSFM and our shared commitment to the quality of training and education available in Illinois to first responders.

As I reflect on our successes, I must also highlight the positive increases in our program delivery. In the past fiscal year, IFSI trained 1,500 more students, enrolled over 1,300 more firefighters in the officer training program, and supported 217 more fire departments with training funded through the Cornerstone Program. With the recent inclusion of IEMA, IDOT, and IDOC statistics, IFSI increased the number of unique course deliveries by 56%. I am proud to report that we also served every county in the State of Illinois.

The growth of our organization led to the development and acquisition of onsite and mobile training props that adequately supported the needs of all fire departments. Onsite improvements

included the expansion of live burn training as part of the Streetscape prop. We acquired several mobile training props, including a mobile driver simulator, roof prop, pump simulator, and multiple forcible entry doors. The ability to utilize these mobile training tools throughout the state allowed us to meet the needs of volunteer and paid-on-call fire departments unable to assume the additional costs of travel to receive training. All of these efforts were backed by the creation and launch of several blended training programs that supported the flexible scheduling needs of first responders. We will continue these updates and developments in FY19 in order to meet the needs of those we serve.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge that our successes are a direct result of the hard work and dedication of the professionals who make up the team of IFSI staff and instructors. In January 2017, we launched an aggressive marketing campaign, WE ARE IFSI, to recognize the individuals who work tirelessly to support our mission. The campaign was very well received by our stakeholders and contributed to a significant increase in our social media presence. Because of the success of this effort, we will continue to support the project in FY19. I encourage you to stay connected with these staff and program highlights as they showcase our daily successes and the commitment and passion of our elite team of professionals.

Our programs are unmatched. Our team is strong. And we are ready to embrace another year of challenges and great successes. Thank you for your support of the Illinois Fire Service Institute. It is my honor to support our mission of Helping Firefighters Do Their Work Through Training, Education, Information, and Research.



Royal P. Mortenson
Director

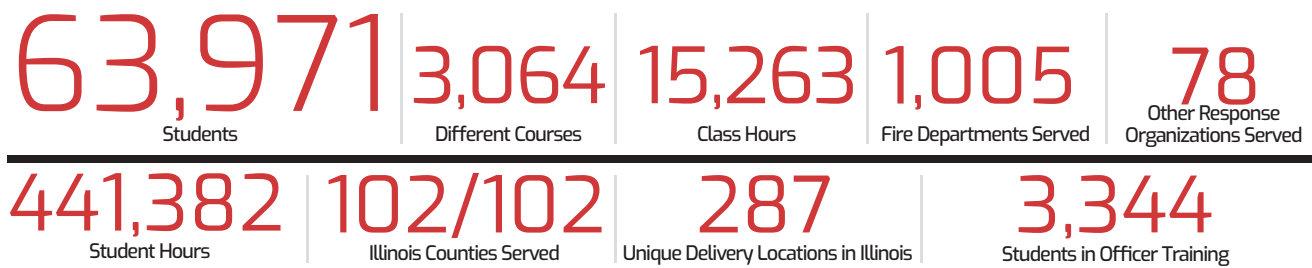
ILLINOIS FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Our Mission: Helping Firefighters Do Their Work Through Training, Education, Information, and Research.

The Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) is the statutory State Fire Academy for Illinois. It serves as the oldest continuous fire training institution in the United States. Since 1925, first responders from across the state and world have relied on IFSI to deliver hands-on, innovative, and top-quality training, education, and research.

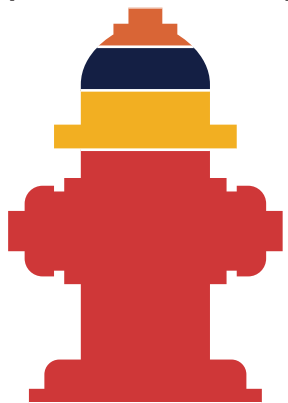
During FY2018:



ENROLLMENT BY PROGRAM



■ 64% All Volunteer
■ 15% Paid-On-Call Departments
■ 11% Paid Departments
■ 10% Combined Departments



ENROLLMENT BY CAREER TYPE

■ 15% 9,906 Students Completed Courses at Main IFSI - Champaign Campus
■ 28% 17,916 Students Completed Courses through IEMA/IDOT/IDOC



STUDENT REGISTRATIONS BY LOCATION

■ 57% 36,149 Students Completed Courses at Locations Other than the IFSI Campus

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CORNERSTONE PROGRAM

The Cornerstone Program supports the delivery of essential skills training to local fire departments, MABAS Divisions and Mutual Aid Associations throughout the state. Training is coordinated through seven IFSI Regional Representatives. Courses are funded through the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal and available at no cost to students or fire departments.

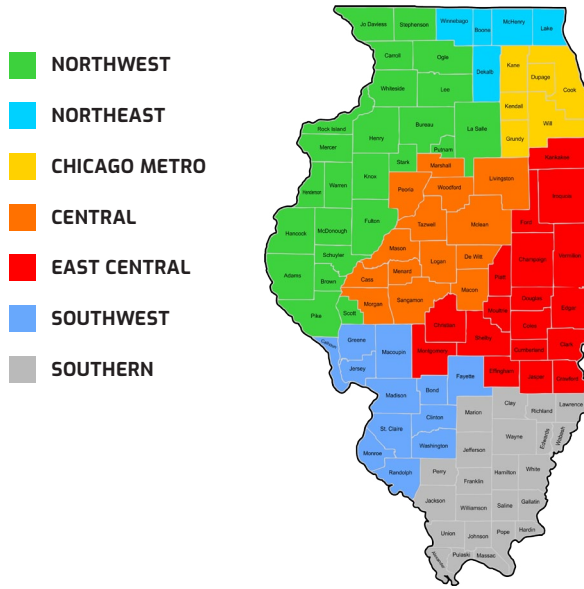
CORNERSTONE DELIVERY

484 | **936** | **11,022**

Classes Delivered | Departments Served | Students Reached

Delivery by Region

Central Region	80 Classes	1,911 Students	10,592 Class Hours
Chicago Metro	70 Classes	1,661 Students	9,462 Class Hours
East Central	66 Classes	1,449 Students	6,813 Class Hours
Northwest	65 Classes	1,338 Students	7,663 Class Hours
South Region	52 Classes	1,112 Students	6,181 Class Hours
Southwest Region	96 Classes	2,281 Students	11,061 Class Hours
Northeast Region	55 Classes	1,270 Students	7,102 Class Hours
	484	11,022	58,874



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The IFSI Leadership Team remained actively involved in the fire service profession across the state and world. In FY18, IFSI Director, Royal Mortenson, continued his service as Vice President of the North American Fire Training Directors (NAFTD) organization. Deputy Director, Jim Keiken, also led the strategic planning efforts of the NAFTD.

In April 2018, IFSI Director of Research, Dr. Gavin Horn, was the keynote speaker at the Fire Department Instructors International Conference (FDIC) in Indianapolis. This conference serves as one of the largest fire service gatherings in the world and brings in over 34,000 fire and rescue professionals from over 65 countries across the Globe.

CURRICULUM

The Illinois Fire Service Institute maintained accreditation with the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications (ProBoard) and International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC). In FY18, IFSI held 29 Pro Board approved levels and 3 IFSAC approved levels.

The IFSI Curriculum and Testing staff scored 5,927 total IFSI exams and administered 242 OSFM exams at regional testing sites. The team was responsible for the update of 10 IFSI courses and the development of 7 new courses.

Test security and relevancy is critical to our programs. As a result, the IFSI unit also validated 9 test banks totaling 1812 questions. This led to the implementation of 16 new exams in IFSI courses.



FY18 Social Media Engagement

Facebook:

- Increased the number of Facebook followers by nearly **3,000** users. In FY18, IFSI reached over **15,000** followers and likes.
- Posted **50** training highlights videos to the Facebook page allowing us to reach **165,100** video views. This was an **18%** increase from the previous year.

Twitter:

- Increased the number of Twitter followers by almost **300** users.
- Received **141,862** impressions from **172** tweets.

Instagram:

- Successfully launched the IFSI Instagram account. In the first year, we gained over **1,000** followers.

Media:

- IFSI was featured in over **25** TV news stories covered by local and national news outlets, including media from Springfield, Decatur, Chicago, Milwaukee, and Nashville markets.

FIREFIGHTING PROGRAMS

The IFSI Firefighting Program offers hands-on training opportunities for first responders. Courses provide students with a realistic learning experience.

Firefighting Program Support

Illinois Petroleum Resource Board (Oil and Gas)

1 Class	64 Departments	16 Students
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Illinois Propane Education and Research Council (IPERC)

57 Classes	5,949 Class Hours	1,534 Students
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Illinois Department of Natural Resources (Wildland Training)

17 Classes	5,752 Departments	334 Students
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Students Served in Firefighting Programs

Acquired Structure Burns	516 Students	2.83%
Agriculture	226 Students	1.24%
Courage to Be Safe	354 Students	1.94%
Apparatus Engineer/Traffic Incident Management/Driver/Operator	979 Students	5.37%
Firefighting (General Courses)	10,013 Students	54.97%
Truck Company Operations	113 Students	0.62%
Engine Company Operations	381 Students	2.09%
Advanced Breathing Apparatus Specialist (Smoke Divers)	49 Students	0.27%
Academy	64 Students	0.35%
Light and Fight	544 Students	2.99%
Fire Attack and Suppression Techniques	108 Students	0.59%
Fire Officer	383 Students	2.10%
Liquefied Petroleum	1,534 Students	8.42%
Responder Intervention Team Rescue	362 Students	1.99%
Fire Prevention and Investigation	643 Students	3.53%
Wildland	334 Students	1.83%
Vehicle and Machinery Rescue	600 Students	3.29%
Technical Rescue Awareness	368 Students	2.02%
Online	648 Students	3.56%
	18,219 Students	100%

INDUSTRY:

2,981 Students

SPECIAL OPERATIONS TRAINING PROGRAM (SOTP)

The Illinois Fire Service Institute Special Operations Training Program (SOTP) delivers technical rescue training to first responders. Courses offer immersive training experiences that challenge even the most experienced students. IFSI SOTP is at the forefront of technical rescue training programs.

Students Enrolled in SOTP Courses

Agriculture Rescue	296 Students	1%
Confined Space	177 Students	1%
Hazmat IFSI/IEMA/IDOC/IDOT	18,941 Students	94%
Rope Rescue	475 Students	2%
Structural Collapse	135 Students	1%
Trench Rescue	174 Students	1%

20,198

100%

NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS)

In FY18, the NIMS Program delivered 39 classes to 1,046 students in 24 training locations. This was an increase of 48% compared to the previous fiscal year. The program delivered 21,520 hours of training through 13 unique courses.



SPECIAL EVENTS

IFSI offers affordable, hands-on training experiences throughout the year. In FY18, special event programs reached close to 1,000 students.

- **The 94th Annual Fire College**, America's oldest continuous fire school, brought 385 firefighters to Champaign for hands-on training. Over the course of the four-day training event, IFSI reached 122 Illinois fire departments in addition to firefighters from four additional states and Brazil.

- **The 23rd Annual Winter Fire School** supported our effort to offer training throughout the calendar year. The two-day event served 308 first responders from 54 Illinois counties and 3 additional states.
- **The 16th Annual Explorer Cadet Fire School** offered students ages 15 to 20 from throughout the country a preview of a potential fire service career. During the four-day program, 230 students trained in basic and advanced firefighting skills.



LIBRARY

The IFSI Library is the only library in the state dedicated to fire and emergency services. It is also the third largest fire and emergency services library in the United States. The library holdings included **72,224** titles as of June 2018.

FY18 Highlights:

- The IFSI Library was named as Finalist for the Institute of Museum and Library Services 2017 National Medal of Honor for Museum and Library Services.
- The IFSI Library Team answered **5,342** reference requests, including **105** in-depth, long-term reference requests, **613** reference requests dedicated to IFSI instructors and staff, **105** reference requests dedicated to the Illinois Firefighters Life Safety Research Center, **129** reference requests related to the IFSI Curriculum Department, and **307** reference requests dedicated to international partners' research.
- The Library added **526** items to the collection, received **208** general donations, added **26** borrowers, loaned **1,228** items, received **12,684** views of library created online subject guides LibGuides, and filtered **99** items of IFSI Library materials to the Peoria Fire Academy.

The IFSI Library maintains the Illinois Firefighter Medal of Honor and Medal of Valor database and the Illinois Firefighter Line of Duty Death Database (IFLODD). The staff also supports continued exhibitions in the IFSI Firefighter Memorial Hall. In FY18, **18** former instructors were added to the memorial exhibit.

- **64** new items submitted to IFLODD
- **805** firefighters with incident summaries
- **898** IFLODD firefighter records
- **91,105** IFLODD database hits since 5/2007

RESEARCH

- IFSI Research collaborated on a proposal to study Bullying, Harassment and Resilience in the Fire Service with collaborators at NDRI, which was awarded a FEMA Fire Prevention & Safety grant
- IFSI Research led a proposal to study the impact of PPE and Base Layer on Fireground Vapor and Particulate Exposure Risk along with partners at NIOSH, UL FSRI and Globe, funded by DHS FP&S R&D grant
- IFSI Research and students from MechSE collaborated with UL FSRI to collect new measurements on trapped occupant risk (steam and burn risk as well as new measurements on HCN) as part of ULs Coordinated Fire Attack project in Sidney, OH
- Multiple new multimedia tools released for the Fire Service
 - Released new online course "Evidence Based Approach to Reduce Your Cardiovascular & Chemical Exposure Risks": <https://bit.ly/2DZKWQ6>
 - Launched Online Toolkit for Cardiovascular and Chemical Exposure Risks in Today's Fire Service project: www.fsi.illinois.edu/CardioChemRisks
 - Created new videos to examine contaminated doffing of firefighting gloves (<https://t.co/ETRm1cJBpv>) and hoods (<https://t.co/sWatoTAXDd>).
 - Published Firehouse Supplement "10 Considerations Related to Cardiovascular and Chemical Exposure Risks". <http://firehouse.com/special-content>
- Completed data collection on large scale studies including our NIST funded Facepiece study, our DHS FP&S funded PPE Cleaning study and collaboration with UL FSRI on their FP&R R&D funded Training Fires project.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

IFSI hosted the Librarians Scholarly Exchange Program for the **14th** consecutive year. In FY18, **33** librarians attended the program. Since 2005, the program has trained **382** librarians from **130** organizations in China.

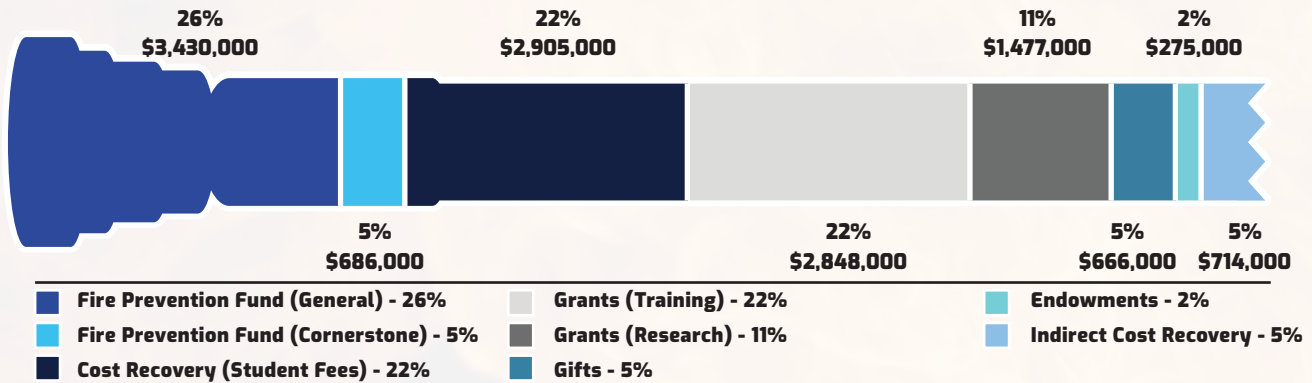
- In November 2017, IFSI delivered the fourth Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations training program in Huizhou, China. IFSI trained **28** Chinese first responders during the ProBoard certified course.
- In September 2017, **4** officers from the Hong Kong Fire Services Department attended the IFSI Hazardous Materials Technician course in Champaign. Since 2009, **58** Hong Kong officers have completed this training program.
- During FY2018, IFSI welcomed **29** Chinese visiting scholars to IFSI. Since 2008, IFSI has sponsored and received **82** visiting from multiple institutions in China.





IFSI FUNDING SOURCES

Total Annual Operating Budget - \$13,000,000



The Illinois Fire Service Institute received **\$2,367,000** in gifts in-kind from corporate partners and other entities.



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AFFILIATE SUPPORT

IFSI's many strategic affiliations allow us to share knowledge and resources with leading educators, researchers, corporations, professional associations, and other organizations. In addition to those listed, we are grateful for the support received through fire service vendors and suppliers who contribute to fulfilling our mission.

IFSI AFFILIATES:

- Office of the State Fire Marshal
- Illinois Fire Chiefs Association
- Illinois Firefighters Association
- Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts
- Chicago Fire Department
- Illinois Propane Education and Research Council (IPERC)
- Illinois Petroleum Resources Board
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- Illinois Fire Services Association
- State of Illinois Fire Caucus
- Underwriters Laboratories
- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health



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