

The Illinois Fire Service Institute Fund

IFSI has established a special fund to expand our firefighter training programs. With support from businesses, organizations and corporations, the Illinois Fire Service Institute Fund can help IFSI provide affordable low-cost instruction to more firefighters. The monies will also fund the development of new courses, training equipment and curricula for smaller departments.

Every dollar has an impact.

Just \$20 pays for one hour of training for one firefighter.

Your contribution to the Illinois Fire Service Institute Fund is an investment that will help IFSI continue improving the skills of firefighters and the safety of the citizens they serve. Your contribution is fully deductible. The Illinois Fire Service Institute Fund is part of the University of Illinois Foundation, which is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and will provide full support documentation for your contribution.



“Organizations become a bigger part of their communities when they can help first responders through better training and education – ultimately making firefighters and our communities safer.”

Royal Mortenson, IFSI Director

For information on partnering with the **Illinois Fire Service Institute Fund**, contact Dennis Spice, *Director of Corporate Relations* at 217-898-6507 or by email at dspice@illinois.edu.

For more information on the variety of training that IFSI provides, visit the IFSI web site at **www.fsi.illinois.edu**

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University of Illinois Fire Service Institute



Illinois Fire Service Institute Fund

Illinois Fire Service Institute Training Fund

The challenges of firefighter training

Today's firefighters face a dynamic and changing work environment – from the fireground to the disaster scene. In order for today's firefighters and first responders to be prepared to meet the challenges of these often high-risk environments, intensive training is required. In addition to the need to be skilled in the use of new equipment and technologies, today's firefighter is called upon to deal with a host of new hazards, rescue situations and fire characteristics.

Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) is a nationally-recognized leader in providing this instruction. More than 93 percent of all training delivered by IFSI is for firefighters. While some of this training is supported by grants, other essential training is paid for by local fire departments or individual firefighters. IFSI works hard to ensure this training remains affordable to all fire departments, but many departments remain fiscally challenged and are unable to provide this training.

IFSI's signature is hands-on training, rather than simply a classroom presentation – training



that requires extensive equipment and facilities. Live-fire structural burns are at the core of the IFSI training model and are essential in the replication of real-life situations. Illinois is one of the only programs in the country that uses live-fire structural burn training.



The environment of limited training resources is a constant reality for Illinois volunteer firefighters in rural communities. These smaller part-time departments, which comprise nearly 75 percent of all Illinois fire departments, often have little or no money for training. IFSI is the principle provider of essential and basic fire fighting skills training to these departments.

The Illinois Fire Service Institute Fund is intended to directly benefit fire departments that need assistance in attaining the essential skills training needed to keep their communities safe.

The Illinois Fire Service Institute Fund is intended to make training less expensive and more accessible for all firefighters. Training would be available for:

- **Basic firefighter skills**
- **Basic and advanced rescue techniques**
- **Officer training**
- **Hazardous materials**
- **Investigation and prevention**
- **Homeland Security planning and Incident Command**