



A NEW YEAR OF ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES

2025 is going to be an exceptional year for training at the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI). We are excited for another cycle packed full of challenging hands-on training, essential classroom courses, and elite special events. IFSI is consistently updating and developing our training grounds, props, and curriculum to ensure we are offering the most relevant and innovative training and information possible.

Make this the year YOU complete training at the Illinois Fire Service Institute.



INSTITUTE UPDATES FOR 2025

- 10 Active Shooter Incident Management (ASIM) Advanced has been completed and launched.
- 9 The Vehicle and Machinery Program is now the Common Passenger and Heavy Vehicle Rescue Program.
- 8 Respectful Entry, an alternative to Forcible Entry, is now available through the Cornerstone Program.
- 7 For the 5th year in a row, FDIC at IFSI RIT Under Fire will take place on grounds in April.
- 6 New for 2025, IFSI will be offering quarterly "Discover IFSI" events where the general public can learn about who we are, what we do, and also about what a career in the fire service looks like.
- 5 A brand new residential burn prop was built that will allow for realistic training for basement fires.
- 4 Small Unmanned Aircraft System (sUAS) Operations will be offered Spring 2025.
- 3 Two new iPUMPS training simulators will be traveling around the state.
- 2 A brand new engine will be added to the IFSI fleet in early 2025.
- First Due for Fire Alarms is a new course now offered through the Cornerstone Program.









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JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			New Year's Day	2	3	4
			IFSI OFFICE CLOSED			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
						BASIC OPERATIONS FIRE FIGHTER BLEMED ORIENTATION
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
						WINTER FIRE SCHOOL JANUARY 18-19
19	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	21	22	23	24	25
WINTER FIRE SCHOOL JANUARY 18-19						
26	IFSI OFFICE CLOSED	28	29	30	31	
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FOR THE COMPLETE COURSE LISTING AND TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES, VISIT FSI.ILLINOIS.EDU

DECEMBER 2024									
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NFPA FIREFIGHTER I ACADEMY

The Basic Firefighter / NFPA Firefighter Academy is a 7-week resident program designed to give new firefighters the practical and cognitive training needed to operate safely and effectively on the fireground. The Academy exceeds requirements outlined by the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal for entry-level firefighter training.

BASIC OPERATIONS FIREFIGHTER BLENDED (BOF)

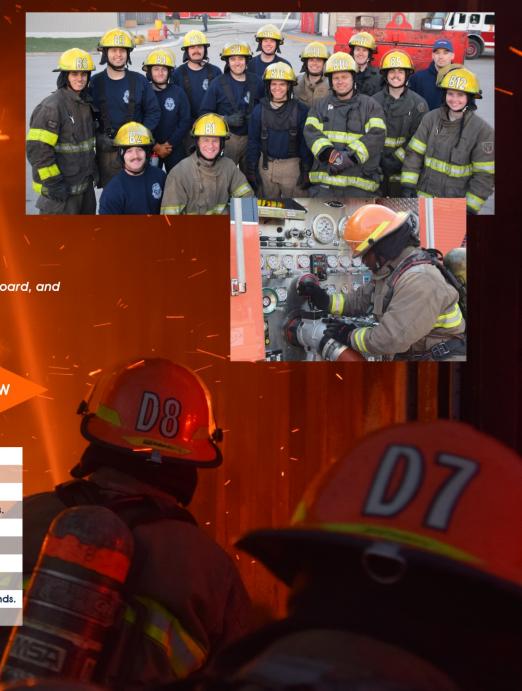
The Basic Operations Firefighter / NFPA Firefighter I Blended course is an 18-week course delivered through a unique and flexible schedule format featuring 9 practical weekend sessions and online learning. Students complete the coursework through an instructor supported online classroom. Practical weekend sessions are offered across the state, eliminating the need for students to travel long distances to complete the training.

Upon successful completion of these programs, students will meet OSFM, Pro Board, and IFSAC NFPA Firefighter I certification requirements.



THINGS EVERY NEW FIREFIGHTER SHOULD KNOW

- 10 Firefighting is often seen as a "brotherhood", you'll be a part of a new family.
- 9 There are no national standards when it comes to being a firefighter.
- 8 Career firefighting has many parallels to being in the military.
- 7 The process to promote within a department varies, learn your department's requirements.
- 6 You will face challenges, make sure you have someone you can talk to when you need it.
- 5 The most common schedule for a fire department is 24 hours on and 48 hours off.
- 4 Firefighting is a career that will always require on-going training. Never stop learning.
- 3 Ongoing education and training open doors for advancement in the fire service.
- 2 Stay physically fit. Regular exercise keeps firefighters physically prepared for the job's demands.
- 1 Be willing to share information and learn from firefighters from other departments.



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MARCH

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2	Casimir Pulaski Day	4	5	6	7	8
	SPRING ACADEMY AUTOMORIA ROS					
Daylight Saving Begins	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20	21	22
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SPECIAL OPERATIONS TRAINING PROGRAM

The Special Operations Training Program delivers essential technical rescue training that is at the forefront of national training standards. Courses offer hands-on training experiences that challenge even the most experienced students in 10 different areas:

- AGRICULTURE RESCUE
- CONFINED SPACE
- HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
- RESPONDER INTERVENTION TEAM (RIT)
- ROPE RESCUE

- SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (SUAS)
- STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE
- TRENCH RESCUE
- VEHICULAR RESCUE
- WILDERNESS SEARCH AND RESCUE







UNIQUE ASPECTS OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS TRAINING

- 10 Confined Space Rescue Technician has a final scenario that lasts 1 full day.
- 9 UAS is the only drone training program in the country that is ProBoard and IFSAC approved.
- 8 The Rope Rescue curriculum created at IFSI is used by programs all over the United States,
- 7 The realistic props and training environment in the Structural Collapse program make it the premier collapse program in the nation.
- 6 IFSI partnered with General Motors to deliver Battery Electric Vehicle education to first responders across the U.S.
- 5 Several SOTP programs have developed Field Operations Guide (FOG) manuals used during course delivery.
- Thanks to our partnership with Local 150 in Wilmington, Illinois, the Trench Rescue program uses live trenches in all training scenarios.
- 3 RIT Technician is the only course in the country that uses live, downed members in live-fire conditions.
- 2 WSAR Awareness is the only ProBoard recognized wilderness search and rescue course in the U.S.
- Many SOTP instructors have firsthand experience in performing actual rescues as they are active or past members of rescue response teams.











- APRIL 22

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International Firefighters' Day	5	6	7	8	9	10
Mother's Day	12	13	14	15	16	17
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25	Memorial Day 26	27	28	29	30	31
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SPECIAL EVENTS AT IFSI

Don't miss these special training events throughout the year. Unique classes are developed specifically for these events, ensuring students receive exceptional training from highly trained and motivated instructors.

WINTER FIRE SCHOOL
FIRE COLLEGE
EXPLORER CADET FIRE SCHOOL
VETERANS IN THE FIRE SERVICE

REASONS TO ATTEND A SPECIAL EVENT

- 10 Fire College is considered the IFSI Homecoming, a time to reconnect and train.
- 9 Special events offer the chance for elite training using a full cache of props and tools.
- 8 The BLING! T-shirts, water bottles, coins, giveaways from vendors and partners. Free stuff is fun!
- 7 Up close and personal interactions with premier instructors from all over the state and country.
- 6 Winter Fire School prepares attendees to deal with issues that arise in snowy, icy and freezing conditions.
- 5 Explorer Cadet Fire School allows young firefighters to be fully immersed in the fire service culture.
- 4 Special events offer the courses firefighters want most hands-on training in live fire conditions.
- 3 The bonding and friendships formed while training together can last a lifetime.
- 2 Our Veterans in the Fire Service event allows students with no experience to get a "taste" of firefighting.
- 1 Low cost special events mean you get the most "bang for your buck".

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JUNE 39

5	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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	FIRE COLLEGE JUNE 6-8						
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EXPLORER CADET FIRE SCHOOL JULY 17-20						BOGRIENTATION
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RESEARCH

IFSI Research provides state-of-the-art facilities for developing practical solutions to the problems and perils faced by emergency responders.

IFSI enjoys unique advantages from the close proximity of our laboratories to the live testing environments. Researchers have immediate access to equipment and human participants and can quickly measure interactions in the lab.

IFSI Research efforts focus on studies that have a direct impact on firefighters' work, health and safety.







FACTS YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T KNOW

- 10 Over 50 IFSI employees are also authors with published pieces of work.
- 9 IFSI Research efforts focus on studies that have a direct impact on firefighters' work, health and safety.
- 8 As of 2024, 21 IFSI instructors have earned the Illinois Medal of Honor award.
- 7 The library maintains the IFLOOD collection database which documents the ultimate sacrifice of over 800 Illinois firefighters over the past 150 years.
- IFSI Research built a mobile lab allowing them to travel across the state to collect study samples from firefighters.
- 5 As of 2024, 27 IFSI instructors have earned the Illinois Medal of Valor award.
- 4 IFSI Research launched the Illinois Firefighters Cancer Research Study in 2025.
- 3 Heat stress research became a defining component of IFSI Reseach in 1989, successfully combining a traditional academic study with live fire testing.
- The Research lab was renovated in 2024 to allow for more in-depth study of the effect of carcinogen exposure on cancer progression.
- 1 The IFSI Library is the only library in the state dedicated to fire services.

LIBRARY

The IFSI Library provides fire/emergency library and information assistance and services to IFSI staff, students, Illinois fire departments and firefighters, and other first responders in the successful and effective performance of their jobs.

The IFSI Library collection contains more than 14,000 books, videos, DVDs, films and CDs. The collection also contains periodicals, fire codes, pamphlets, standards, technical reports, legislation, and newsletters.

The Library maintains the Illinois Firefighter Line of Duty Deaths (IFLOOD). This database documents the ulitmate sacrifice of more than 800 Illinois firefighters over the past 150 years.

The library team is also tasked with keeping a record of the Illinois Medal of Honor and Illinois Medal of Valor award winners that are current or past instructors for IFSI.

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SEPTEMBER 25

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Labor Day 1	2	3	4	5	6
	IFSI OFFICE CLOSED					
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OUR STUDENTS – WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

IFSI is honored to serve nearly 60,000 students each year. Our students truly are the reason we work so hard to provide the best training in the state and country. We will continually strive to provide the most up-to-date props, curriculum, and courses to meet the needs of all students.

Thank you for trusting IFSI with your training and education needs.



THINGS STUDENTS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT IFSI

- 10 Great group of instructors who instructed flawlessly, stayed engaged and were fun to work with.
 - Confined Space Awareness and Operations
- This course was extremely beneficial for the firefighters who are expected to be senior members and move up into the officer position occasionally. The time spent on radio communication and tactics was especially beneficial.

 Advanced Technician Firefighter/NFPA Firefighter II
- 8 Great course to take to become more proficient on handling & moving hose to the fire. Engine Company Operations
- 7 Basic operations but very well taught for the new hire all the way up to command level. First Due for Fire Alarms
- The course is essential for first responders, giving them the tools and the repetition to be ready to respond quickly and efficiently in a worst-case scenario. The simulations added a new dimension to the content and gave opportunities for police and fire to work together on complex concerns. ASIM Advanced
- 5 Dave is an extremely passionate instructor for this course matter and driven. Grain Bin Rescue Awareness
- 4 An absolute career saver. Leadership Development and Decision Making
- Any person that is in a command position should absolutely take this class. It is a very humbling class that gives you the best preparation for a mayday event. RIT Chief
- 2 ISFI has done an outstanding job with classes. I leave confident with the skills learned. Vehicle and Machinery Operations
- Awesome. One of the best classes I have ever taken. 99% of that is because of the instructors.

 Search Techniques for the Fireground











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OCTOBER 25

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						ILLINOIS FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE GRADUATION	
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PARTNERSHIPS MATTER

IFSI relies on generous businesses, corporations and organizations that are willing to share their resources to further IFSI training capabilities. Our strong parternships have an immediate impact on training first responders. The support from our partners ensures that IFSI has access to the most up-to-date facilities, props, tools, and equipment. We promise to continue to nurture and grow these important relationships knowing that it will allow us to reach and train more first responders.





REASONS TO BE A CORPORATE PARTNER WITH IFSI

- 10 Increased brand exposure with direct access to 60.000+ fire service professionals.
- 9 Charitable tax benefits.
- 8 Real-time feedback and evaluation of tools and technology from SMEs.
- 7 Research opportunities.
- 6 Opportunity to test new equipment for efficacy.
- 5 Partnership benefits the American fire service industry.
- 4 Targeted gifting is available through four unique funds.
- 3 Gift-in-kind options that have a direct connection to training activities.
- 2 Collaboration on new technology.
- 1 Access to a 28-acre training ground and multiple live-fire props for product testing.



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NOVEMBER

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Daylight Saving 2 Ends	3	4	5	6	7	8
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9	10	Veterans Day 11	12	13	14	15
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						VETERANS IN THE FIRE SERVICE NOVEMBER 22-23
VETERANS IN THE FIRE SERVICE NOVEMBER 22-23	24	25	26	Thanksgiving 27	28	29
NOVEMBER 22-23						
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DECEMBER 25

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