

Program of Instruction

Course Syllabus

Course Title: Fire Service Vehicle Operator

Course Duration: 8 hours

Program: Driver/Operator

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Description: This 8-hour course is designed for Firefighters or Engineers who are assigned, or may be assigned, to operate fire department apparatus during the normal course of their duties. Students will learn about their role as an emergency vehicle driver, proper care and maintenance of fire apparatus, vehicle characteristics, safe driving practices, emergency response driving, and scene positioning. This course, when combined with an AHJ-provided driving portion, allows the student to apply for Illinois OSFM certification. IFSI does not offer the driving portion of this course.

Course Requirements and/or Recommendations:

Pre-Course Work: None

Course Work: Attend and participate

Post-Course Work: Complete practical driving exercises

Course Policies:

Attendance Policy: IFSI requires students to attend (100%) or make up all course content that leads to certification. Students are expected to attend on time and to remain in class for the duration of the course. Students **MUST COMPLETE** all portions of a certification course, both classroom and practical, to be eligible to receive their certification.

If a student misses any portion of class with an accumulated absence of 20% or less of scheduled class time, it will be the student's responsibility to arrange the make-up of the missed course content with the instructor(s) or program manager. The student must make up the specific course content that s/he missed, not just the hours. Make-ups are limited to 20% of scheduled class time. Make-ups must be documented on the class roster. If a student's absence is greater than 20% refer to "True Emergences" section of the IFSI Examination Policy.

Safety Policy: Students shall understand and follow all instructions pertaining to operational safety, as stated by instructors, or as written in course materials. Instructors and students shall be always mindful of safety. Conduct judged to be unsafe shall be grounds for dismissal from the course.

Academic Integrity Policy: IFSI has the responsibility for maintaining academic integrity so as to protect the quality of the education provided through its courses, and to protect those who depend upon our integrity. It is the responsibility of the student to refrain from infractions of academic integrity, from conduct that may lead to suspicion of such infractions, and from conduct that aids others in such infractions. Any violation of the code of conduct is grounds for immediate dismissal from the course.

Grading Policy: Decisions regarding certificates of course completion shall be made solely by the lead instructor of the course. All grading of exams shall be conducted by the Curriculum/Testing Office. All grading of practical exercises shall be based upon the standards set by the regulatory agency referenced in the course material and IFSI.

Retesting: If a student fails to pass an exam, retesting takes place on set dates at regional sites across the state. More information is provided in the course completion e-mail and on the IFSI website.

American Disabilities Act: As guaranteed in the Vocational Rehabilitation Act and in the American Disabilities Act, if any student needs special accommodations, they are to notify their instructor and provide documentation as soon as possible so arrangements can be made to provide for the student's needs. If arrangements cannot be made at the class site, the student will test at an alternative time and place where the special accommodations can be made.

Evaluation Strategy: Students will be evaluated with a written exam at the completion of the course.

Practical Exam: Students must complete a practical driver's exam to be eligible for Illinois OSFM certification. The practical driver's exam is to be completed by the AHJ and consists of a core competency course and a road course.

Reference List: (listed in alphabetical order)

Driving Safety Training, EVOC-101 Fire Course Training

Driving Safety Training, FleetDriver-101 Training

IFSTA, Pumping and Aerial Apparatus Driver/Operator Handbook, 3rd Edition
2015

Illinois Department of Transportation, Traffic Incident Management Responder
Training Program Version 7, 2019

Illinois Secretary of State, Commercial Drivers' License Study Guide, 2020

Jones and Bartlett Learning, Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator, 3rd Edition 2018

NFPA 1001, Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications, Edition 2019

NFPA 1002, Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional
Qualifications, Edition 2017

NFPA 1091, Standard for Traffic Control Incident Management Personnel
Professional Qualifications, Edition 2019

NFPA 1451, Standard for Fire Service Vehicle Operations Training Program,
Edition 2018

NFPA 1500, Standard for Fire Department Occupational Health and Safety
Program, Edition 2021

NFPA 1582, Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire
Departments, Edition 2018

NFPA 1901, Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus, Edition 2016

NFPA 1911, Standard for the Inspection, Maintenance, Testing, and Retirement
of In-Service Automotive Fire Apparatus, Edition 2017

ResponderSafety.com, Blocking Procedures at Roadway Incidents, 2014

USFA, Safe Operation of Fire Tankers, FA-248

USFA, Emergency Vehicle Safety Initiative, FA-336

Volunteer Fireman's Insurance Services, Emergency Vehicle Driver Training,
2008 Edition

Course Content:

Module: 1

Title: Introduction to Fire Service Vehicle Operator

Terminal Learning Objective:

1. At the conclusion of this module, the student will describe the Fire Service Vehicle Operator course.

Module: 2

Title: The Emergency Vehicle Driver

Terminal Learning Objective:

2. At the conclusion of this module, the student will identify the requirements of an emergency vehicle operator.

Module: 3

Title: Fire Apparatus Care and Maintenance

Terminal Learning Objective:

3. At the conclusion of this module, the student will describe the components of a vehicle care and maintenance program.

Module: 4

Title: Vehicle Braking Systems

Terminal Learning Objective:

4. At the conclusion of this module, the student will describe the common braking systems found on fire service vehicles.

Module: 5

Title: Vehicle Dynamics

Terminal Learning Objective:

5. At the conclusion of this module, the student will describe the effect of vehicle characteristics on the handling and operation of emergency vehicles.

Module: 6

Title: Safe Driving Practices

Terminal Learning Objective:

6. At the conclusion of this module, the student will describe safe driving practices when operating emergency vehicles.

Module: 7

Title: Defensive Driving Principles

Terminal Learning Objective:

7. At the conclusion of this module, the student will describe defensive driving strategies when operating emergency vehicles.

Module: 8

Title: Emergency Response Driving

Terminal Learning Objective:

8. At the conclusion of this module, the student will describe how to safely operate an emergency vehicle when responding to an emergency.

Module: 9

Title: Scene Positioning

Terminal Learning Objective:

9. At the conclusion of this module, the student will describe the proper positioning of fire apparatus for a given scenario.

Module: 10

Title: Practical Exercises

Terminal Learning Objective:

10. At the conclusion of this module, the student will describe the practical exercises required to complete the Fire Service Vehicle Operator course.

Course Schedule

<u>Event</u>	<u>Duration</u>
Module 1 – Introduction to Fire Service Vehicle Operator	45 minutes
Module 2 – The Emergency Vehicle Driver	1 hour
Module 3 – Apparatus Care and Maintenance	1 hour
Module 4 – Braking Systems	45 minutes
Module 5 – Vehicle Dynamics	1 hour
Lunch	
Module 6 – Safe Driving Practices	30 minutes
Module 7 – Defensive Driving Principles	30 minutes
Module 8 – Emergency Response Driving	1 hour
Module 9 – Scene Positioning	1 hour
Module 10 – Practical Exercises	30 minutes