If you are part of the fire service who is willing to embrace the challenge of personal and professional leadership development, the Leadership Development and Decision Making (LDDM) program provides a one-of-a-kind training experience. As a student you will be immersed in topics through a Socratic teaching style that features highly-interactive, small group discussions, ethical and moral discussion groups/decision games, tactical decision games, sand table exercises/discussions, and practical application exercises. Each student is challenged to reach outside of their comfort zone through discovery learning, rather than the classic lecture and directed learning format. Students work with their own rank levels - firefighter, company officer or chief officer - for the first four days. On the fifth day, the three rank levels come together for a live-burn exercise.

The class is five days and 40 hours long and has limited enrollment to allow a balanced attendance of the three rank levels: firefighters, officers and chief officers. Each level experiences a totally-interactive learning environment. The class encourages students to learn from their peers, as well as their instructors. The LDDM Program incorporates seven “lines of education” in each rank level:
1) Leadership and followership
2) History and traditions
3) Communications
4) Morals and ethics
5) Professional development/tactics, techniques and procedures
6) Decision-making and critical thinking
7) Command climate and culture

The last day of class includes eight hours of practical, hands-on application of what was learned.

To register for class, visit the IFSI web site: www.fsi.illinois.edu

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