IFSI Partnerships: Your investment in community safety

Today’s firefighters and other first responders face rapidly changing challenges in their work for the public. They’re being called upon to deal with a host of unconventional hazards and rescue situations, and to succeed, they must adapt quickly to new equipment and technologies.

To prepare for these responsibilities, firefighters need intensive, continuous training in settings that replicate real-life situations. Every year, more than 50,000 students count on the University of Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) to help them respond to these challenges.

• **Directed gifts** – You can designate your gift to support a specific research or education program that has significance to your business or industry. Or, you can direct your donation to an IFSI regional training center or program in your community.

  **IFSI takes pride in guaranteeing that 100 percent of your donation will be used to directly support our firefighter training, research and education programs.**

**Your gift is fully tax-deductible.** IFSI is a part of the University of Illinois Foundation, which is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and will provide full support documentation for your donations. Contact your tax consultant.

**Start your partnership now**

Your donation will have an immediate impact on the quality and scope of IFSI’s training and research efforts. Call IFSI today to discuss our programs and explore your options for supporting the men and women who are responsible for our safety.

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Your help is vital

You can play an important role in delivering this training and building safer communities by becoming an IFSI Partner. Your support makes it possible for IFSI to train more firefighters and to assure that they have access to the most up-to-date facilities, props and materials.

Practical, hands-on instruction is the signature of IFSI, and it’s a commitment that requires extensive resources. A sampling of typical training expenses:

• Average training cost per firefighter per hour: $16
• Bunker gear for one firefighter: $2,000
• Average training cost for ten firefighters per year: $2,760
• A late-model auto for updated training in passenger rescues: $20,000

The development of specialized courses and additional training facilities will require far more resources than are currently available. IFSI also has a critical need for more research on the best ways to employ new technologies and protect first responders.

The benefits of partnership

As an IFSI partner, you’ll be the beneficiary of expanded programs that will help protect residences, businesses, farms, transportation corridors and other infrastructure in your community and others throughout Illinois and the nation.

Five levels of sponsorship

IFSI partners can participate at five different levels of support:

- **Copper Level:** $50 - $4,999
- **Bronze Level:** $5,000 - $9,999
- **Silver Level:** $10,000 - $14,999
- **Gold Level:** $15,000 - $19,999
- **Titanium Level:** $20,000 or more for five consecutive years

In addition to cash donations, there are many other ways you can provide partnership support. They include:

• **Gifts in kind** – IFSI’s hands-on courses require constant repair and replacement of burn buildings and other props. Partners may choose to donate construction materials, vehicles, equipment and other supplies that will help IFSI maintain a safe and effective training environment.

• **Employee programs** – Most Illinois firefighters are volunteers, and their employers can demonstrate their support by making direct donations to IFSI in the employee’s name. Many employers also offer to match their employees’ charitable contributions to IFSI.