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County of Erie  
Department of  
Homeland Security &  
Emergency Services  
Division of Fire Safety

# 2018 NYS OFPC

**BEFO** BASIC EXTERIOR  
FIREFIGHTING OPERATIONS

**SCBA/IFO** SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS/  
INTERIOR FIREFIGHTING OPERATIONS

**BLENDED LEARNING** INTERNET  
BASED

# FIREFIGHTER 1

# BOOT CAMP

# STUDENT PACKET

V.170330  
[PUBLISHED]

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**Fire Prevention  
and Control**

**COUNTY OF ERIE**  
**ESU**  
**EMERGENCY SERVICES**



**RECRUIT**

# 2018 Erie County Blended Learning Two-Week Firefighter 1 Boot Camp BEFO / SCBA/IFO–2016 Edition

ERIE COUNTY COURSE#: 1S18003B / NYS OFPC COURSE#: 01-05-0066

## COURSE DETAILS:

### Course Name

This course shall be referred to as the “Erie County Blended Learning Firefighter 1 Boot Camp” course or; alternately as the Blended Learning Two Week BEFO & SCBA/IFO 2016 Edition course.

NOTE: This student packet applies specifically only to the 2018 offering of this two-week blended learning delivery in Erie County NY. While much of the information is similar to the traditional offerings of BEFO / SCBA/IFO; much of it is tailored to this compressed blended learning offering only.

### Course Description

Effective September 1, 2016, the Firefighter 1 course no longer exists as a single course in its entirety. The New York State OFPC Firefighter-1 certification is now delivered in two (2) separate courses. Both will be delivered in succession during this Blended Learning Boot Camp Delivery.

This course is designed for entry level fire department members seeking to become interior structural firefighters who are highly motivated, self-directed student with access to high-speed internet and who can commit to a very aggressive training schedule in a compressed time format.

Students must be available to attend a three-hour orientation session (Week#1), weekend units at Week#3; and two consecutive full weeks of units in Weeks# 8 and 9. Final written and skills evaluation will be performed at the end of Week#9 in person at the Training & Operations Center.

Students will be expected to read three chapters, complete the three respective on-line interactive slide shows and score 80% on three on-line chapter tests each week. On-line assignments must be completed at the specific deadlines and before participation in the in-person skills units. Students will be monitored and assisted by an instructor through email and online forum course contact.

As the initial entry program for firefighting personnel, this combined course introduces firefighting concepts, practices and techniques necessary for the new member to become an interior structural firefighter who can perform under direct supervision of a company officer.

Completion of this course achieves the 21 objectives of Function#4.2 of the NYS OFPC “Recommended Best Practices for FD Training Programs” (01/15) document:  
(<http://www.dhSES.ny.gov/ofpc/training/firefighting-best-practices.cfm>).

1. **BEFO w/HMFRO:** ALL students begin with Basic Exterior Firefighting Operations with Hazardous Materials First Responder Operations (Most often represented as “BEFO w/HMFRO”).  
  
This part of the course is designed to prepare students to respond to emergencies as EXTERIOR FIREFIGHTERS. The completion certificate for this course will state: “Basic Exterior Firefighting Operations w/HMFRO”.
2. **SCBA/IFO:** Students will then progress directly into the SCBA/Interior Firefighting Operations portion of the course (Most often represented as “SCBA/IFO or SIFO”) to be trained as an Interior Structural Firefighter who will wear a self-contained breathing apparatus. The completion certificate for this course will state: “SCBA/Interior Firefighting Operations-Firefighter 1”.

## **NOTE FOR STUDENTS WISHING TO BRIDGE FROM LEGACY COURSES:**

Due to the Blended Learning/Boot Camp style of delivery of this course, there is NO bridge available into the SCBA/IFO portion of this course for students who previously completed either the 2015 BEFO; SSO-Scene Support Operations; Basic Firefighter or Firefighting Essentials curriculums. However, they can bridge into a traditional delivery model of the SCBA/IFO course.

### **Course Length**

This blended learning delivery consists of twenty-six (26) units of on-site skills training and twenty-two (22) units of independent on-line learning; all conducted over a 9-week period.

### **Class Size**

The minimum number of students required to conduct this course shall be 16. The maximum course size shall be 24.

### **Student Pre-requisites**

All roster-confirmed students enrolling in this course must:

- Obtain the Required Student Textbook prior to attending the first class.
- Provide proof of completion of an approved CPR course
- Provide proof of completion of the Introductory Incident Command Course IS-100 course online at: <http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/is/is100b.asp> *and* the Introduction to the National Incident Management System (NIMS) IS-700 course at: <https://emilms.fema.gov/IS700aNEW/index.htm> and bring both certificates of completion with you to class.
- Be physically capable of wearing SCBA and possess medical clearance for SCBA use. Students not possessing the pre-requisite will not be allowed to participate, for their own safety. A completed and signed "Training Authorization Letter" submitted with your course application will meet this requirement.
- Have a device to access the internet: desktop, laptop, tablet or any device capable of running a web based program.
- Bring a completed and signed NYS OFPC Training Authorization Letter with you to the first (orientation) class. (Form is included in this Student Packet or can be downloaded from [www.erie.gov/fire](http://www.erie.gov/fire)).

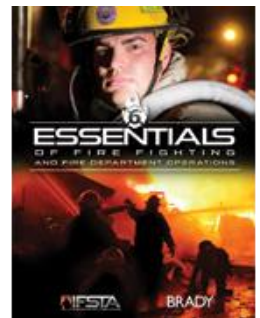
Students who do not meet the above requirement shall not be enrolled in this course.

### **Syllabus**

A course syllabus is included in this student packet. Any changes or updates shall be distributed to every student during the first course meeting.

### **Required Student Text Book**

The new Firefighter 1 (and Firefighter 2 and BEFO-Basic Exterior Firefighting Operations courses) curriculum are based on the IFSTA/Brady Essentials of Firefighting and Fire Department Operations-6<sup>th</sup> Edition. This book is required at the first class and they may be purchased at the Fire Safety Office at a cost of \$85 each, where your fire company or fire district will be billed by the Erie County Fire Chiefs Mutual Aid Organization. If you are purchasing from other sources – be sure that you are buying the version that includes "Fire Department Operations."



## Computer Use and Online (Out-of-Class) Activities

This course relies heavily on computer use during instructor-monitored online sessions and for completion of online quizzes and activities outside of the classroom.

Required Online Registration: Students must register at the IFSTA Resource1 Learning Management System (LMS) web site: [r1.ifsta.org](http://r1.ifsta.org) in order to complete required online activities and exams. There is a \$40 fee for registration and content on this site, payable thru IFSTA's Resource 1 website. Students will receive a login confirmation once registered.

Online assignments must be completed by the specific deadlines and before participation in the corresponding in-person skills instruction and evaluation that will occur at the Training & Operations Center during weeks 3, 8 and 9. Any student that does not complete all of the required activities shall not be permitted to take the final exam. Course activities shall be graded as complete or incomplete.

Discussion forum participation is not mandatory but allows the lead instructor to develop a sense of classroom community and make the course content more specific to the students enrolled.

NOTE: Computer use is not required during in-person instruction and evaluation sessions. Therefore, students are asked to be respectful of the instructors and other students, and limit their use of electronic devices during instructional time. Students that are unable to refrain from non-course usage may, solely at the instructor's discretion, be asked to close, turn off or put away their mobile device and to use it only when necessary.

## Grading

The following grading policy will be used in this Blended Learning Firefighter 1 course: The minimum passing grade for all tests and exams is 70.00%.

- **Skill Demonstration and Practice:** Is scheduled in proximity to the completion of the appropriate on-line chapters. Online videos of each skill are available on Resource1 for viewing by each student and are linked to the respective chapters.
- **Tests:** Students are required to take a total of nine (9) tests during this course. Each test is completed online at [r1.ifsta.org](http://r1.ifsta.org) and allows multiple attempts for students to achieve the highest grade possible. The online program automatically scores the test and enters the score in a downloadable spreadsheet accessible by the lead instructor.
- **Final Exam:** Final written and skills evaluation will be performed at the end of Week#9 in-person at the Training & Operations Center. The course final exam is completed in-classroom and is proctored by a NYS OFPC representative.

Students must pass the final exam with a raw score of 70.00% or higher to pass the course. No student shall be issued a certificate for this course that has not passed the final exam.

- **Course Failure:** A student who fails to achieve a minimum score of 70% will be deemed to have failed the course. The instructor will meet individually with the student to identify and discuss the student's grade deficiency.

In the event that a student fails the final exam (with a raw score of lower than 70%) the student will be afforded one opportunity to retest at a later date.

Failure to successfully complete the course after one (1) attempted re-test will require the student to have to retake portions of the course. Certificates will not be issued to students who do not successfully complete the course.

**Attendance**

Students are expected to be in attendance for all class sessions. Students should contact the lead instructor immediately if an absence is anticipated.

**Individual Training Records**

An individual training record which denotes completion of each activity and out-of-class activity shall be kept. This record shall also accurately record the average for all tests, scores for each exam, final exam score, and the final course average.

**Reasonable Accommodations**

Any student who may need an accommodation for testing based upon the impact of a disability must complete the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services "Application to Request Reasonable Accommodation of a Disability" and submit it, with the required supporting documentation, as soon as possible. Accommodations will not be provided without submission of the "Application to Request Reasonable Accommodation of a Disability" and the necessary supporting documentation.



County of Erie

MARK C. POLONCARZ

County Executive

DANIEL J. NEAVERTH JR.  
Commissioner

JAMES H. REGER  
Deputy Commissioner  
Fire Safety

**DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**Division of Fire Safety**

3359 Broadway – Cheektowaga NY 14227

716/681-7111 – FAX/681-3645

[www.erie.gov/fire](http://www.erie.gov/fire)

# **2018 Blended Learning** **BEFO/SCBA/IFO/Firefighter 1** **Course Preparation Suggestions:**

Delivery of this Blended Learning BEFO / SCBA/IFO / Firefighter 1 course will be very labor intensive for both the students and the instructors. Some sections of this course are very physically and intellectually challenging.

If you are not conditioned, you may struggle to get through the evolutions necessary to pass the course. If you are not committed to completing the online and out-of-class activities, you may struggle to demonstrate competency in the required areas of study. While everyone involved is dedicated to ensuring your success, you must be equally dedicated and prepared.

If you have any physical or learning limitations that may impact your successful completion of the course, please make the lead instructor aware of the situation prior to, or at the start of the course.

Following is a list of suggestions to better prepare you before coming to your assigned course:

1. Practice donning/doffing (putting on and taking off) your Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including gloves and hood. Make sure that the PPE is good fitting and compliant for the fire service.
2. Practice donning and doffing your SCBA on top of your PPE. The national standard we will be striving for is for you to don your complete PPE and SCBA in less than two minutes.

3. All Task Oriented Air Consumption (TOAC) tests are held at the Erie County Emergency Services Training & Operations Center in Cheektowaga.

The air consumption test is not a race, but a test of physical abilities and endurance that establishes a personal benchmark for you to understand just how long a nominal 30 minute air bottle may last you under firefighter working conditions. Instructors will work with you to prepare you to be successful in this training scenario. It consists of eight (8) stations that simulate real firefighter tasks to be completed on the fireground:

1. Hose Carry/Stair Climb
2. Hose Stretch & Hose Pull
3. Tool Lift/Carry
4. Ladder Raise
5. Forcible Entry
6. Search
7. Rescue
8. Ceiling Push/Pull

Recruit Firefighters must complete all eight (8) stations and stay on breathing air for a minimum of 10 minutes. Once all eight (8) stations are completed and the student still has air left in their SCBA cylinder, they will continue to rotate through each station until such time that their air is completely breathed down from their cylinder. Each firefighter is partnered with a shadow/escort who monitors them frequently and records their air consumption and time after each station.

Watch this video to learn what will be expected of you and what you should start practicing for: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRo2SnrR9cg&feature=youtu.be>

4. View this physical fitness training tip from SFI Scott Janowski at <http://www2.erie.gov/fire/index.php?q=content/training-tips-preparing-success-firefighter-1> or download and share this [Training Tip](#) with your Chief/Training Officers and Firefighter 1 Candidates.
5. Be sure to always have hydration materials with you and hydrate frequently.
6. All registered students and designated alternates must bring the following items to the first unit of the course:
  - Completed and signed NYS OFPC Training Authorization Letter (Form can be downloaded from [www.erie.gov/fire](http://www.erie.gov/fire))
  - IFSTA Essentials of Fire Fighting and Fire Department Operations, 6th Ed. (Available for purchase at the Training & Operations Center)
  - Complete set of Personal Protective Equipment including helmet, hood, coat, pants, boots, firefighting gloves in good working condition; and complete SCBA with one extra spare SCBA cylinder (two total). All SCBA bottles must be hydrostatic tested compliant. Face pieces must be fit tested to the student.
  - One (1) 15 ft. length of ½” kern mantle rope (no clothes line)
7. Fire departments sending recruits to the Firefighter 1 course are expected to provide equipment, manpower and/or apparatus as requested to assist in the course delivery. Please be sure all equipment has been properly inspected and certified including hose, ladders, pumps etc. See attached class schedule/reading assignments for list of needed equipment.

**NYS OFPC Firefighter-1 Task Oriented Air Consumption Evolution  
Erie County Training and Operations Center Equipment List**

Station #1 – Stair Climb – Using indoor tower stairs participants will climb to the top of the 3<sup>rd</sup> set of stairs and return back to the entry door while carrying a 50ft. section of 2 ½” hose packed into a dual stack shoulder load approximately 3ft in length.

Needs: 2 – 50’ sections of 2 ½” hose and duct tape to secure the hose

**Participants will read their remote pressure gauge and report their air pressure to their escort who will document the reading and the time after completion of each station’s task. The escort will need to start the stop watch when the participant begins breathing air from their cylinder and only stops it when the participant exhausts the air from the cylinder and steps off the course.**

***After the completion of each station, participants will then walk a recovery lap around two cones placed 40’ apart located in the middle of the course. It is not required to walk a recovery lap between stations 2a and 2b.***

Station #2a- Hose stretch – The participants will drag an 1 3/4” hose and “sled” to a cone 35’ away and return it to the starting point. The “sled” contains the remaining 40’ of hose and an additional 30 lbs. of weight in a reinforced milk crate. The participant will place the attached nozzle and 8’ of hose over their shoulder and across their chest to drag the sled the required distance. They will then proceed directly to Station 2b without a recovery lap around the cones.

Needs: 1- 50’ section of 1 ¾” hose, automatic fog nozzle, milk crate, 30 lbs of weight, two cones and method to secure hose to milk crate

Station #2b – Hose pull – The participant will go down on at least one knee and pull the 1 ¾” hose until the coupling returns to them. The 1 ¾” hose will be connected to itself and looped around the base of the hydrant located near the North overhead apparatus door. The coupling will be placed at the furthest distance away from the hydrant.

Needs: 1-50’ section of 1 ¾” hose and secured fire hydrant or bollard with room for the hose coupling to clear as it passes around.

Station #3 – Saw Carry – The participant approaches the simulated apparatus cabinet and removes each saw from the cabinet and places it on the ground. The participant then carries both saws and walks 75’ to a marked cone and returns to the simulated cabinet. The participant then returns each of the saws to the cabinet one at a time.

Needs: 1 – rotary/ rescue saw (preferred 30 lbs + or – 3 lbs.), fire chain vent saw (preferred 28 lbs. + or – 3 lbs.), simulated apparatus cabinet with shelf 4’ from the ground, one cone located 75’ from the cabinet.



Station #4 – Ladder raise – Participant approaches the secured 24’ extension ladder (secured to the simulated window at the end of the floor collapse simulator) and hoists the fly of the ladder all the way up using a hand over hand method without stopping and returns it to the ground in a controlled manner without allowing it to drop.

Needs: 1 -24’ fire service extension ladder, brackets to secure the ladder to the wall that would allow the fly section to be extended completely out using the halyard.

Station #5 – Forcible Entry – participants will approach the table with mounted and inflated tire and strike the tire with an ten pound sledgehammer until the tire moves from one end of the table and returns to its starting point.

Needs: reinforced table, mounted and inflated truck tire, ten pound sledgehammer.

Station #6 – Search – participants will approach the first floor of the SCBA Maze and follow a right or left hand search pattern preceding 64’ through a darkened search area with obstacles.

Needs: simple pattern arranged in the first floor of the SCBA maze with some obstacles. The area needs to be darkened. (see attached document for guides to creating obstacles)

Station #7 – Rescue – Participant approaches the 165 lb. mannequin and drags it 35’ around a cone and returns it to the starting point.

Needs: 165 lb. mannequin, one cone to mark the 35’ distance

Station #8 – Ceiling push/ pull – participant will approach the ceiling breach simulator and complete 2- sets of 3 repetitions of pushing the ceiling plate up and 5 repetitions of pulling the hook down using a 6’ pike pole.

Needs: ceiling breach simulator, 6’ pike pole without handle. (ceiling push up plate is 60 lbs. and the pull down mechanism is 80 lbs.)

When the participants complete all 8 stations they proceed to station #1 and continue working the course until they run nearly out of air. When they completely expend all of the air in their cylinder, the evolution ends for them. Each participant’s escort will document the time and air pressure readings and return the document to the Participant for review. Once the participant reviews the document they will give it to the lead instructor.

To keep the flow of participants moving, assign the participants to 5 companies of 4 – 5 participants each. The first company to run the course will be escorted by company 3 members. This allows company 2 to be prepared to begin the course as soon as company 1 clears the course. Company 2 will be escorted by company 4. Company 3 will be escorted by company 5. Company 4 will be escorted by company 1 who should be ready after their period in rehab. Company 5 will be escorted by company 2.

<b>ERIE COUNTY DIV. OF FIRE SAFETY – TRAINING GUIDELINES</b>				
<b>SOG#</b>	<b>SUPERSEDES</b>	<b>CREATED</b>	<b>LAST UPDATED</b>	<b>REVISION#</b>
1009	---	03/02	---	0
<b>SECTION</b>		<b>AREA</b>		
Training		SCBA Face-piece Seal Protection		

**1009.01 Scope:**

This training procedure establishes guidelines for ensuring the safety of training participants with facial hair or other conditions that may impede the SCBA face-piece to face seal.

**1009.02 Background:**

While it is the responsibility of each firefighter’s employer to ensure their compliance with appropriate OSHA regulations, it is ultimately the responsibility of Erie County Fire Safety Instructors to ensure the safety of all participants.

Thus, it is this division’s policy to enforce compliance with OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard 29 CFR 1910.134 of students participating at county training facilities or under the direction of county fire instructors.

This policy is a reiteration of the above mentioned OSHA standard and OSHA’s standard interpretations of this policy.

**1009.03 Seal Protection Policy:**

Per the above referenced OSHA standard, students shall not be allowed to wear SCBA or be permitted to participate in evolutions which may expose them to smoke or toxic environments (live fire):

1. If they have facial hair (including beard, goatee or moustache) that comes between the sealing surface of the face-piece and the face, and/or
2. If they have any other condition that may interfere with a proper face to face-piece seal or valve function

This is applicable to fire training situations as well as confined-space training programs.

**NYS OFPC Training Administrative Guide  
Appendix B-4**

**Training Policy: Students with Facial Hair (Beards)**

**Date of Issue: 08/01/96  
Current Revision: 9/20/2005**

Students with beards or facial hair that may interfere with a proper face mask seal shall not be allowed to wear SCBA or be permitted to participate in evolutions which may expose them to smoke or toxic environments.

This is applicable to fire training situations, as well as confined space training programs. State Fire Instructors shall advise students at the start of any class that may involve SCBA use of this policy.

Reference Standards:

29CFR 1910.134 – Facepiece and seal protection.

1910.134(g)(1)(i) – The employer shall not permit respirators with tight-fitting facepieces to be worn by employees who have:

1910.134(g)(1)(i)(A) – Facial hair that comes between the sealing surface of the facepiece and the face or that interferes with valve function; or

1910.134(g)(1)(i)(B) – Any condition that interferes with face-to-facepiece seal or valve function.

NFPA 1500 7.11.8\* – Members who have a beard or facial hair at any point where the facepiece is designed to seal with the face or whose hair could interfere with the operation of the unit shall not be permitted to use respiratory protection at emergency incidents or in hazardous or potentially hazardous atmospheres.

## COURSE SYLLABUS

<b>In-Class Unit</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading/ On-line Tests</b>	<b>SFIs</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Regular Course Unit</b>
#1 3 hours	Saturday 05/26/18	Orientation, registration; Sign on Resource1		2		1
On-Line Assignment		Intro to Fire Service/FD Organization; FF Safety; Personal Protective Equipment	Ch 1, 2, & 6		One Week after Orientation Monday 05/29/17 0800	2
On-Line Assignment		FD Communication; Building Construction; Fire behavior	Ch 3, 4, & 5		Two weeks after Orientation Monday 06/05/17 0800	4, 5, 6
On-Line Assignment		Portable Fire Extinguishers; Webbing, Ropes & knots; Ground Ladders	Ch 7, 8, & 12		Three Weeks after Orientation Saturday 06/10/17 0730	7 & 8
#2 & 3 8 hours	Saturday 06/23/18 0800	PPE Skills; SCBA Donning/Doffing; Fire Extinguisher Skills; General Review	On-Line assignment due by start of class	3	Three Weeks after Orientation	3 & 7
#4, 5, & 6 9 hours	Sunday 06/24/18 0800	Ground Ladder and Rope Skills		3	Three Weeks after Orientation	9, 10, & 11
On-Line Assignment		Water Supply; Fire Hose; Fire Streams	Ch 14, 15, & 16		Four Weeks after Orientation Monday 06/19/17 0800	12
On-Line Assignment		Loss Control; Origin & Cause; Life Safety Initiatives	Ch 10,18, 19, & 21		Five Weeks after Orientation Monday 06/26/17 0800	15, 16, & 17
On-Line Assignment		Forcible Entry; tactical ventilation; Emergency Medical Care	Ch 11, 13, & 22		Six Weeks after Orientation Monday 07/10/17 0800	18 & 20

<b>In-Class Unit</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading/ On-line Tests</b>	<b>SFIs</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Regular Course Unit</b>
#7 & 8 6 hours	Monday 07/16/18 0800	Hose, water supply, fire stream skills; Hose Skills		3/4	7 weeks after Orientation	13 & 14
#9 & 10 6 hours	Tuesday 07/17/18 0800	Forcible Entry Skills; BEFO Final Written & Skills		3	7 Weeks after Orientation	19 & 21
#11 & 12 7 hours	Wednesday 07/18/18 0800	Hazardous Materials Activities & Skills; carry over Skills		3	7 weeks after Orientation	25 & 3 added
On-Line Assignment		Hazardous Materials	Ch 23 & 24		7 weeks after Orientation Wednesday 07/12/17 0800	22, 23, & 24
On-Line Assignment		Structural Search	Ch 9		7 Weeks after Orientation 07/13/17 0800	IFO 3
IFO- 1 & 2 6 hours	Thursday 07/19/18 0800	Orientation to IFO, PPE Skills; Structure Fire Search, victim removal		3	7 Weeks after Orientation	IFO 1 & 4
IFO 3, 4, & 5 9 hours	Friday 07/20/18 0800	PPE-Air Consumption #1, Victim removal down ladder; Survival Skills; Forcible Entry, tactical vent skills		3/4/3	7 weeks after Orientation	IFO 5, 6, & 8
On-Line Assignment		Fire Control	Ch 17		8 Weeks after Orientation 07/17/17 0800	IFO 2

<b>In-Class Unit</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading/ On-line Tests</b>	<b>SFIs</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Regular Course Unit</b>
IFO 6 & 7 6 hours	Monday 07/23/18 0800	SCBA Emergencies, TOAC; hose, hose advancement Skills		4/3	8 weeks after Orientation	IFO 7 & 9
IFO 8 & 9 6 hours	Tuesday 07/24/18 0800	TOAC make-up, Skills review; Vehicle fires		3/4	8 Weeks after Orientation	IFO 10 & 11
IFO 10 & 11 8 hours	Wednesday 07/25/18 0800	Structural Fires 1 & 2		4	8 Weeks after Orientation	IFO 12 & 13
IFO 12 & 13 6 hours	Thursday 07/26/18	Initial Company Ops; Final Skills Evaluation		4/3	8 Weeks after Orientation	IFO 14 & 15
IFO 14 3 hours	Friday 07/27/18	SCBA/IFO Final Written Evaluation/ make-up skills		3	8 Weeks after Orientation	IFO 16
	Friday 07/27/18 1830	GRADUATION				

AS OF: 2/22/18



# COUNTY OF ERIE

**MARK POLONCARZ**

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**DANIEL J. NEAVERTH JR.**  
Commissioner

**JAMES H. REGER**  
Deputy Commissioner  
Fire Safety

## **DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

### **Division of Fire Safety**

EMERGENCY SERVICES TRAINING & OPERATIONS CENTER  
3359 Broadway – Cheektowaga NY 14227  
www.erie.gov/fire – fire@erie.gov  
716/681-7111 – FAX/681-3645

Dear Fire Chief and/or Training Officer:

Your firefighter has enrolled in a BEFO/IFO/SCBA Blended Learning Firefighter 1 Boot Camp training course conducted by the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control at the Erie County Emergency Services Training & Operations Center.

Together, we strive to give your firefighter the best fire training experience and we are asking for your support during this course to accomplish that goal. Your leadership and guidance will help your firefighter succeed.

A chief or training officer is requested to attend the first two (2) hours [only] of the first orientation unit which provides the student with course requirements, instructor expectations and course completion policies to prepare the student firefighter for the educational tasks ahead. The instructor will also explain any need for your department to occasionally supply equipment, apparatus and/or experienced firefighters to assist in the training of your new firefighter. If you are unable to attend, please send an assistant chief, training officer or other appropriate representative.

Accompanying your firefighter to this orientation lesson will demonstrate your commitment to your firefighter's training and demonstrate the importance you place on your firefighter being well trained and prepared to perform the best, but most dangerous job in the world.

Please ensure that your firefighter brings a completed and signed New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control Training Authorization letter. That letter must be signed by a chief officer stating the student has completed a mask fit test and received medical clearance for S.C.B.A. use. This form is included in the 2018 Firefighter 1 Student Packet or can be downloaded from the Erie County Fire Safety web site at <http://www.erie.gov/fire>.

## REGARDING THE AIR CONSUMPTION TEST:

Details of what is included in the Task Oriented Air Consumption test are included in this 2018 Firefighter 1 Student Packet. We encourage you and your student to watch the video we created to learn what will be expected of each student and what they should start practicing for:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRo2SnrR9cg&feature=youtu.be>

The air consumption test is not a race, but a test of physical abilities and endurance that establishes a personal benchmark for the firefighter to understand just how long a nominal 30 minute air bottle may last them under firefighter working conditions. Instructors will work with each student to prepare them to be successful in this training scenario.

Recruit Firefighters must complete all eight (8) stations and stay on breathing air for a minimum of 10 minutes. Once all eight (8) stations are completed and the student still has air left in their SCBA cylinder, they will continue to rotate through each station until such time that their air is completely breathed down from their bottle. Each firefighter is partnered with a shadow/escort who monitors them frequently and records their air consumption and time after each station.

Review the student packet, check out the video and start preparing your candidate. Please share with all existing and future Firefighter 1 students.

## REGARDING SKILLS:

There are a total of (68) skills to be completed during the Firefighter 1 program.

We encourage you to use these skill sheets as a tool to make your Firefighter 1 candidate a better firefighter for you. You and your firefighter can also access videos of the skills and other free training resources online at [www.r1.ifsta.org](http://www.r1.ifsta.org).

Please take the time to ensure your candidate knows the skills. The instructors may choose to evaluate the candidates on a portion of these skills during the course and *any* of these skills may be chosen for the final skills evaluation to be held at the end of the course.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us or the lead instructor should you have any questions or require further information. Thanks in advance for your cooperation and commitment to the success of your firefighter student.

### **Course Coordinators:**

Bill Taylor – Fire Protection Specialist  
NYS Office of Fire Prevention & Control  
518.380.0547– [william.taylor@dhses.ny.gov](mailto:william.taylor@dhses.ny.gov)

James Reger – Deputy Commissioner  
Erie County Division of Fire Safety  
716.681.7111 – [James.Reger@erie.gov](mailto:James.Reger@erie.gov)

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