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TRAINING GUIDE:
**Suggested
Training Paths**

County of Erie
Department of
Emergency Services
Division of Fire Safety

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INTRODUCTION:

The primary mission of the Fire Safety Division is to develop, deliver, and manage the training of firefighters in Erie County. As part of this mission, the Fire Safety Office schedules and administers the local delivery of almost 100 outreach programs delivered by fire instructors from the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control (NYS OFPC).

As the state and national standards for firefighter and fire officer development progress – so does the need for a clear and understandable training path.

Some of the most frequently asked questions of our office is “How do we get there?” and “Where do we go from here?” and “How do we make sense of it all?” in regards to satisfying training requirements.

This guide attempts to present the appropriate answers in a concise, logical sequence for both the fire department and the firefighter to understand.

Thus, the objectives of this training guide are as follows.

OBJECTIVES:

The goals of this guide are to create a fire service resource which:

- Utilizes a standardized training program
- Offers individuals an opportunity to become better qualified to perform their required functions
- Enables fire departments to adopt recommended training tracks as internal standards for firefighter and fire officer development and qualifications
- Offers individuals a logical sequence to follow towards personal career development
- Helps individuals to achieve desired fire service standards utilizing locally available outreach programs
- Promotes the resources available within NYS OFPC’s Outreach Training Program

The following is our effort to organize New York State’s outreach offerings into suggested training paths.

These paths are presented in three different formats for your use:

- Flow Chart
- Matrix
- Table form

TRAINING PATHS:

This guide creates training paths for the various “technician” functions in the fire service, each leading to line and then chief officer responsibility.

- Exterior Firefighter
- Interior Firefighter and Interior Firefighter-Team Leader
- Apparatus Operator
- Rescue Technician
- HazMat Technician

Each path outlined in this training guide uses the Exterior Firefighter level criteria as the basis for further development and as the minimum recommended standard for all participants at the incident scene.

Please note the following:

1. As shown in the flow chart on page 4, it is not recommended that a path be cut from Exterior Firefighter directly to Line Officer.
2. For those who choose not to take the path from:
Interior Firefighter
-to- Team Leader
-to- Line Officer,

it is recommended that the following supplemental courses be added to their training track in order to properly prepare you to make the transition to Line Officer.

Path: SUPPLEMENTAL COURSES					NOTES
#	PROGRAM	TYPE	HRS	UNIT	
23	Commanding the Initial Response	C	12	4	
1D	Principles of Building Construction-Combustible	C	12	4	
1A	Live Fire Training Safety	C	3	1	
TOTAL COURSES/HOURS		3	27		

If making the transition from Interior Firefighter-to-Line Officer, it is not necessary to re-take the 1A-Live Fire Training Safety Course, and thus the hours can be reduced by (3) –to (24) total.

3. If making the transition from HazMat Technician-to-Line Officer, it is not necessary to re-take the 33-HazMat Incident Command Course, and thus the hours can be reduced by (24) –to (48) total hours for the Line Officer module.
4. Whether or not a fire department elects to allow an Apparatus Operator, Rescue Technician or HazMat Technician to serve as a department officer overseeing all operations, or only as an officer overseeing their respective area of operations, is the department’s prerogative.

EMS & FIRE POLICE:

Training paths for “EMS Only”, or “Fire Police Only” type members are not included here because not all of the courses under the “Exterior Firefighter” training standard may apply to these categories.

As a minimum, it is recommended that EMS or Fire Police Members satisfactorily complete the following courses (in addition to the core requirements for their respective categories) to participate at the incident scene:

Path: EMS or FIRE POLICE – ONLY					NOTES
#	PROGRAM	TYPE	HRS	UNIT	
29	Incident Command	C	12	4	
31	Hazardous Materials First Responder Operations	H	16	5	
35	Confined Space: Awareness & Safety	C	6	2	
84	Weapons of Mass Destruction-Terrorism Awareness	C	4	1	
505	Erie County Fire Radio Communications	C	3	1	
TOTAL COURSES/HOURS		5	41		

PERFORMANCE BASED TRAINING:

While these tracks are only “suggested” or “recommended,” following them will prepare individuals to meet or exceed certain New York State and NFPA-National Fire Protection Association certification standards for firefighters.

Please note that the use of these training tracks to test for, or attain county, state or national certification requires that the student participate in and satisfactorily complete the quiz and skills evaluations in the courses listed in the following table and as dictated by the appropriate certification levels. ‘Attendance Only’ Certificates are not recognized in the certification process.

Certificates Requiring “Passed Final Exam” Stickers			
01	Aircraft Rescue & Firefighting	46	Fire Officer I
1F	Truck Company Operations	47	Rescue Technician-Basic
15	Accident Victim Extrication	78	Apparatus Operator-Pump
32	Hazardous Materials Technician Operations	79	Apparatus Operator-Aerial Devices
33	Hazardous Materials Incident Command	91	Basic Firefighter-Training2000
37	Principles of Fire Investigation	92	Intermediate Firefighter-Training2000
45	Introduction to Fire Officer I	93	Advanced Firefighter-Training2000

EQUIVALENTS:

With the introduction of NYS OFPC’s Training2000 program, several core curriculums were replaced or updated. The following chart outlines the equivalents to today’s Basic, Intermediate and Advanced Firefighter Courses. These equivalents are acceptable for certification purposes.

If you completed:	You satisfy the equivalent of:
02-Firefighting Essentials AND 03-Fire Behavior & Arson Awareness	91-Basic Firefighter
02-Firefighting Essentials AND 03-Fire Behavior & Arson Awareness AND 10-Initial Fire Attack	92-Intermediate Firefighter
02-Firefighting Essentials AND 03-Fire Behavior & Arson Awareness AND 10-Initial Fire Attack AND 22-Fire Attack II	93-Advanced Firefighter

NATIONAL CERTIFICATION:

NFPA Standard 1001 establishes two different levels of firefighter classification. Completion of the following courses satisfies the objectives of this standard and serves as the necessary pre-requisite courses to apply for the national certification exam at each level.

However, national certification is only achieved through successful completion of a comprehensive examination process of both written and performance based evaluations. Certification exams are offered at the New York State Academy of Fire Science at Montour Falls and at regional examination centers. Announcements for these regional exams are provided from the Erie County Fire Safety Office.

Path: NFPA CERTIFIED FIREFIGHTER I					NOTES
#	PROGRAM	TYPE	HRS	UNIT	
91	Basic Firefighter-Training2000	H	42	14	
92	Intermediate Firefighter-Training2000	F	36	12	
31	Hazardous Materials First Responder Operations	H	16	5	
	Certified First Responder EMS Training				Or NYS OFPC Approved First Aid Training Equivalent
TOTAL COURSES/HOURS			3+	94+	

Path: NFPA CERTIFIED FIREFIGHTER II					NOTES
#	PROGRAM	TYPE	HRS	UNIT	
Meet Qualifications of an NFPA Firefighter I, Plus:					
93	Advanced Firefighter-Training2000	F	24	8	
15	Accident Victim Extrication	H	16	4	
TOTAL COURSES/HOURS			2	41	

ACADEMY BASED COURSES:

While these training tracks are created using only locally available outreach programs, individuals and fire departments are encouraged to consider additional state and/or national fire academy courses as required criteria or electives. Examples include but are not limited to:

- 3117-Instructional Techniques for the Company Officer*
- 1553-Legal Issues of the Volunteer Fire Service*
- Fire Officer II*
- Developing Volunteer Resources**

* = Available at the NYS Academy of Fire Science at Montour Falls

** = Available from the New York State Emergency Management Office (SEMO).

SUMMARY:

Our ultimate goal is not to create yet another standard, but to establish simple direction for achieving those already established.

Nonetheless, it is the intent of this office to present “Certificates of Recognition” to individuals upon attainment of each level of these training goals.

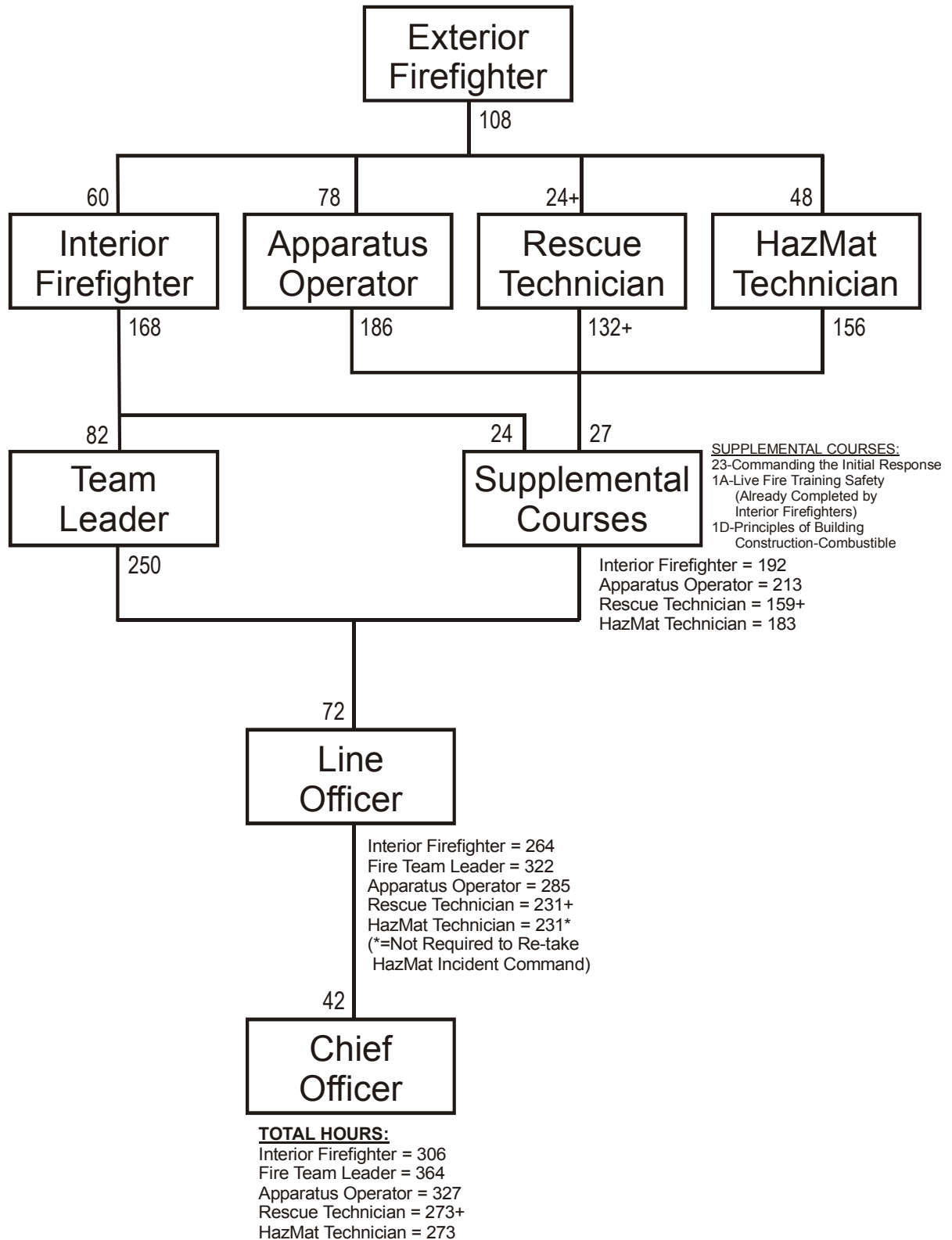
We welcome your input and feedback regarding this material and hope that you find it helpful in developing your personal and departmental standards of achievement.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

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- Brian Benstead/Fire Protection Specialist - NYS OFPC
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- Tiger Schmittendorf/Assistant Fire Coordinator – Erie County Fire Safety
- Michael Tuburdyke/Fire Instructor – Erie County Fire Safety

FLOW CHART: Suggested Firefighter Training Paths – Using NYS OFPC Outreach Programs



MATRIX: Suggested Firefighter Training Paths – Using NYS OFPC Outreach Programs

OFFPC COURSE#	COURSE TITLE	TYPE	HOURS	UNITS	PROGRAMS							
					EXTERIOR F/F	INTERIOR F/F	TEAM LEADER	LINE OFFICER	CHIEF OFFICER	APPARATUS OPS	RESCUE TECH	HAZMAT TECH
01	Aircraft Rescue & Firefighting	C	12	4	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
1A	Live Fire Training Safety	C	3	1		X	/	/	/			
1B	Live Fire Training Safety-Evolutions	C	3	1					X			
1C	Incident Safety Officer	C	15	5					X			
1D	Principles of Building Construction-Combustible	C	12	4			X	/	/			
1F	Truck Company Operations	H	18	6			X	/	/			
03	Fire Behavior & Arson Awareness	C	12	4	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
05	Fire Police	H	9	3	X	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
09	Radiation Safety for Firefighters	C	9	3	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
15	Accident Victim Extrication	H	16	4	X	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
23	Commanding the Initial Response	C	12	4			X	/	/			
26	Apparatus Operator-Emergency Vehicles	H	12	3	E	E	E	E	E	X	E	E
27	Mask Confidence	F	12	4		X	/	E	E			
29	Incident Command	C	12	4	X	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
31	Hazardous Materials First Responder Operations	C	16	5	X	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
32	Hazardous Materials Technician Operations	H	24	6								X
33	Hazardous Materials Incident Command	C	24	6				X	/			X
34	Hazardous Materials Refresher	H	8	2								
35	Confined Space: Awareness & Safety	C	6	2	X	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
36	Confined Space Rescue	H	21	7							E	
37	Principles of Fire Investigation	C	24	6	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
38	Water Supply Operations	H	18	6				X	/	X		
39	Bus Rescue	C	4	1	E	E	E	E	E		E	
45	Introduction to Fire Officer I	C	27	9				X	/			
46	Fire Officer I	C	24	8					X			
47	Rescue Technician-Basic	H	24	8		E	E	E	E		X	E
52	The Challenge of Pesticides and Poisons	C	12	4	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
53	Basic Wildland Fire Suppression	H	12	4	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
54	Introduction to HazMat Emergency Planning	C	4	1				E	E			E
78	Apparatus Operator-Pump	H	24	8	E	E	E	E	E	X		
79	Apparatus Operator-Aerial Devices	H	24	8	E	E	E	E	E	X		
84	Weapons of Mass Destruction-Terrorism Awareness	C	4	1	X	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
85	Alternative Fuel Vehicles/New Veh. Technologies	C	4	1	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
87	Firefighter Survival	H	9	3		X	/	E	E			
88	Firefighter Assist & Search Teams (FAST)	H	16	4			X	E	E			
91	Basic Firefighter-Training2000	H	42	14	X	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
92	Intermediate Firefighter-Training2000	F	36	12		X	/	/	/			
93	Advanced Firefighter-Training2000	F	24	8			X	E	E			
96	Flammable Liquids Workshop	C	16	4	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
505	Erie County Fire Radio Communications	C	3	1	X	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
506	Intro to the New Fire Reporting System-NFIRS 5.0	C	3	1	E	E	E	X	/			
TOTAL REQUIRED HOURS					108	60	82	72	42	78	24	48

TYPE:

C = Classroom Instruction Only

H = Combination of Classroom and Hands-on Training – May require turnout gear or other equipment

F = Combination of Classroom, Hands-on, and Live Fire Training – Requires turnout gear, SCBA

COURSE STATUS:

X = Required course for completion of this category

/ = Pre-requisite for this category

E = Elective Course

TABLE: Suggested Firefighter Training Paths – Using NYS OFPC Outreach Programs

Path: EXTERIOR FIREFIGHTER					NOTES
#	PROGRAM	TYPE	HRS	UNIT	
91	Basic Firefighter-Training2000	H	42	14	
31	Hazardous Materials First Responder Operations	C	16	5	
35	Confined Space: Awareness & Safety	C	6	2	
29	Incident Command	C	12	4	
05	Fire Police	H	9	3	
15	Accident Victim Extrication	H	16	4	
84	Weapons of Mass Destruction-Terrorism Awareness	C	4	1	
505	Erie County Fire Radio Communications	C	3	1	
TOTAL COURSES/HOURS			8	108	

Path: INTERIOR FIREFIGHTER					NOTES
#	PROGRAM	TYPE	HRS	UNIT	
Meet Qualifications of an Exterior Firefighter Plus:					
1A	Live Fire Training Safety	C	3	1	
92	Intermediate Firefighter-Training2000	F	36	12	
87	Firefighter Survival	H	9	3	
27	Mask Confidence	F	12	4	
TOTAL COURSES/HOURS			4	60	

Path: INTERIOR FIREFIGHTER-TEAM LEADER					NOTES
#	PROGRAM	TYPE	HRS	UNIT	
23	Commanding the Initial Response	C	12	4	
1D	Principles of Building Construction-Combustible	C	12	4	
1F	Truck Company Operations	H	18	6	
88	Firefighter Assist & Search Teams (FAST)	H	16	4	
TOTAL COURSES/HOURS			5	82	

Path: LINE OFFICER					NOTES
#	PROGRAM	TYPE	HRS	UNIT	
Meet Qualifications of an Exterior Firefighter Plus Technician (Fire/Apparatus/Rescue/HazMat); Plus:					
45	Introduction to Fire Officer I	C	27	9	
38	Water Supply Operations	H	18	6	
33	Hazardous Materials Incident Command	C	24	6	1
16	Fire Reporting Workshop (NYS OFPC)	C	3	1	OR
506	Intro to the New Fire Reporting System-NFIRS 5.0	C	3	1	
TOTAL COURSES/HOURS			4	72	

Path: CHIEF OFFICER					NOTES
#	PROGRAM	TYPE	HRS	UNIT	
Meet Qualifications of Line Officer Plus:					
46	Fire Officer I	C	24	8	
1B	Live Fire Training Safety-Evolutions	C	3	1	
1C	Incident Safety Officer	C	15	5	
	Electives based on local needs				
TOTAL COURSES/HOURS			3+	42+	

Path: APPARATUS OPERATOR					NOTES
#	PROGRAM	TYPE	HRS	UNIT	
Meet Qualifications of an Exterior Firefighter Plus:					
26	Apparatus Operator-Emergency Vehicles	H	12	3	
38	Water Supply Operations	H	18	6	
78	Apparatus Operator-Pump	H	24	8	AND/OR
79	Apparatus Operator-Aerial Devices	H	24	8	
TOTAL COURSES/HOURS			4	78	(Both=78, Pump or Aerial=54)

Path: RESCUE TECHNICIAN					NOTES
#	PROGRAM	TYPE	HRS	UNIT	
Meet Qualifications of an Exterior Firefighter Plus:					
47	Rescue Technician-Basic	H	24	8	
39	Bus Rescue	C	4	1	Elective
85	Alternative Fuel Vehicles/New Veh. Technologies	C	4	1	Elective
36	Confined Space Rescue	H	21	7	Elective
	Other Electives in area of Rescue Specialty	H			Elective
TOTAL COURSES/HOURS			1+	24+	

Path: HAZ/MAT TECHNICIAN					NOTES
#	PROGRAM	TYPE	HRS	UNIT	
Meet Qualifications of an Exterior Firefighter Plus:					
32	Hazardous Materials Technician Operations	H	24	6	
33	Hazardous Materials Incident Command	C	24	6	
TOTAL COURSES/HOURS			2	48	

Path: ELECTIVES					NOTES
#	PROGRAM	TYPE	HRS	UNIT	
01	Aircraft Rescue & Firefighting	C	12	4	
09	Radiation Safety for Firefighters	C	9	3	
32	Hazardous Materials Technician	H	24	6	
37	Principles of Fire Investigation	C	24	6	
52	The Challenge of Pesticides and Poisons	C	12	4	
53	Basic Wildland Fire Suppression	H	12	4	
54	Introduction to HazMat Emergency Planning	C	4	1	
96	Flammable Liquids Workshop	C	16	4	

NOTES:

1. Not required if transitioning directly from HazMat Technician