

*Celebrating two decades of training to help communities
around the nation.*



20TH ANNUAL SISSONVILLE FIRE AND RESCUE SCHOOL

MARCH 6-8 AND MARCH 13-15 2026

Welcome!

We would like to invite all Fire, EMS, and Law Enforcement personnel to the **20th Annual Sissonville Fire & Rescue School** in March 2026. Recently, we have trained OVER 800 first responders per year from West Virginia and other states.

We have teamed up with West Virginia Public Service Training to offer certifications for most of our courses, including many that are IFSAC eligible..

Firefighter Training Headquarters previously released a statement saying that "*Sissonville Fire and Rescue School offers one of the best fire academies in the US*".

General Assembly: General Assembly will be held on the first Saturday morning - March 7, 2026 - at 7:45 am.

Free T-Shirt: All students who submit their registration to us by February 16, 2026 will receive a Fire School T-Shirt with their registration. **Any registrations received after this date - including those at the door - will not receive a T-shirt.**

Refunds: No refunds will be given unless all three of your choices for a particular day are canceled or full. Second and Third Choices must be selected or you forfeit your option for a refund. All refund requests must be made in writing and submitted via U.S. Mail with your Fire Chief's (or other designee's) signature.

Meals: Lunch will be provided to all participants on both Saturdays. Lunch on Sunday will be on your own. Free refreshments will available on both Saturdays and Sundays.

Jr.
Approved

= Junior Firefighters are eligible to attend the course.

Event Schedule

Friday, March 6 and March 13, 2026

- ◇ 5:00pm to 10:00pm - Vendor Set up allowed
- ◇ 5:00pm to 6:00pm - On-Site Registration and Check-in
- ◇ 6:00pm to 10:00pm - Classes in Session

Saturday, March 7 and March 14, 2026

- ◇ 6:30am to 7:00am - Doors open for vendors and staff
- ◇ 7:00am to 8:00am - On Site Registration and Check-in
- ◇ 8:00am to 11:30am - Classes in Session
- ◇ 11:30am to 12:30pm - Lunch Break
- ◇ 12:30pm to 6:00pm - Classes in Session

Sunday, March 8 and March 15, 2026

- ◇ 6:30am - Doors open for vendors and staff
- ◇ 7:00am - Doors open for students
- ◇ 8:00am to 11:30am - Classes in Session
- ◇ 11:30am to 12:30pm - Lunch Break
- ◇ 12:30pm to 6:00pm - Classes in session

*** Lunch, break, and end times are estimates and will be determined by your instructor. ***

Pre-Conference Courses

Course 001

VEHICLE RESCUE AWARENESS & OPERATIONS - PASSENGER

20 HOURS

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN 8AM
JAN 31 & FEB 1

Instructors: Ritchie Gobble, Jason McCutcheon, Luke Grimm Tuition: \$125.00 Prerequisite: None

The Vehicle Rescue Awareness & Operations – Passenger course trains responders for basic vehicle extrication, covering scene safety, vehicle anatomy, hazard recognition, stabilization, and initial patient access/disentanglement, fulfilling NFPA standards. It's a foundational step, often followed by more advanced "Operations" or "Technician" levels, focusing on passenger vehicles and essential rescue functions.

***** THIS COURSE IS IFSAC ELIGIBLE *****

Jr.
Approved

Course 002

VEHICLE RESCUE AWARENESS & OPERATIONS - HEAVY

20 HOURS

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN 8AM
FEB 7 & FEB 8

Instructor: Ritchie Gobble and Luke Grimm Tuition: \$125.00 Prerequisite: None

The Vehicle Rescue Awareness & Operations – Heavy course trains responders for extricating victims from large, complex vehicle incidents (like semi-trucks, buses, or crushed cars) using heavy lifting/stabilization gear (airbags, struts, rams), hydraulic tools, and coordination with heavy wreckers meeting NFPA standards. It focuses on advanced stabilization, patient packaging, and complex extrication techniques for severe Motor Vehicle Accidents beyond typical passenger vehicle rescues.

***** THIS COURSE IS IFSAC ELIGIBLE *****

Jr.
Approved

Course 003

WILDERNESS FIRST AID

16 HOURS

FRI 6PM
SAT 8AM
SUN 8AM
FEB 14 & FEB 15

Instructor: Roger Brafford Tuition and Certification Card: \$150.00 Prerequisite: None

Wilderness First Aid (WFA) is a 16-hour course designed to equip participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively respond to medical emergencies and injuries in remote and outdoor settings. Students will learn how to assess, treat, and manage common injuries and illnesses that may occur in wilderness environments, where access to medical help is limited or delayed. This course emphasizes hands-on training, scenario-based learning, and practical application of first aid principles in challenging outdoor conditions.

Jr.
Approved

Multiple Weekend Courses

(March 6-8 and March 13-15, 2026)

FIRE FIGHTER 1 (HYBRID)

Instructors: Mat Neil and Kayla Neil

Tuition, Textbook & Online Access Code: \$550.00 Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to meet the job performance requirements of NFPA 1001. Students will learn the fundamentals of firefighting skills through this blended learning course which will combine online learning with intense practical application. The course is designed to assist students with obtaining certification through a self-paced style of instruction and includes certification in Firefighter Level I, First Aid and CPR, Hazardous Materials Awareness, and Hazardous Materials Operations.

Course 010

120 HOURS

FRI 6PM

SAT 8AM

SUN 8AM

THREE WEEKENDS

Jr.

Approved

***** THIS COURSE IS IFSAC ELIGIBLE *****

Students must attend the orientation to attend this course at the fire school. The orientation will be held on February 7, at the Sissonville Fire Department - Main Station - 383 Call Road, Charleston, WV 25312.

This class will meet on February 7, March 6, March 7, March 8, March 13, March 14, and March 15. On Friday's, class will begin at 6pm and on Saturdays and Sundays class will begin at 8am.

This is a Blended Learning class that requires independent study and a commitment to learning. Students will be given their text and a Course Access code at the first meeting. Students are expected to complete all of the on-line assignments and read the requisite course materials to be prepared to test on the weekend of March 13-15, 2026.

ABSOLUTELY NO REFUNDS CAN BE ISSUED FOR THIS CLASS ONCE YOU REGISTER.

**** Because this is a Blended Learning Class, each student will need to have a Mentor from their department or organization who is willing to work with the student and provide some out of class support. Mentors will work with students in their stations to ensure that the student is practicing key skills necessary for certifications. Fire School time will be devoted primarily to re-enforcing skills and assessing competencies - not teaching..**

***** There will be an additional \$100.00 fee to be paid to West Virginia Public Service Training for the supplies and live burn portion of this course. It is not included in your tuition.**

FIRE FIGHTER 2

Instructor: Scott Holmes Tuition and Textbook: \$250.00 Prerequisite: Fire Fighter 1

Designed as the last step for interior structural firefighters, Firefighter II is based on performance objectives from NFPA Standard 1001, Firefighter Level II. This course consists of performance criteria in incident command implementation, building materials and collapse, vehicle extrication, technical rescue, fire hose testing, foam operations, flammable liquid/gases, fire detection and alarm systems, fire cause and origin, fire department communications, fire reports, pre-fire planning, strategy, and tactics.

***** THIS COURSE IS IFSAC ELIGIBLE *****

***** There will be an additional \$100.00 fee to be paid to West Virginia Public Service Training for the supplies and live burn portion of this course. It is not included in your tuition.**

Course 011

40 HOURS

FRI 6PM

SAT 8AM

SUN 8AM

BOTH WEEKENDS

Jr.

Approved

Multiple Weekend Courses

(March 6 - 8 and March 13 - 15, 2026)

Course 012

48 HOURS

FRI 6PM

SAT 8AM

SUN 8AM

BOTH WEEKENDS



FIRE OFFICER 1 & 2

Instructor: Jason Burger Tuition and Textbook: \$350.00 Prerequisite: Fire Fighter 2

This course is designed to meet the job performance requirements of NFPA 1021. It identifies the requirements necessary to perform the duties of a first-line to mid-level supervisor. Introduces the student to the concepts of management and supervision on such topics as: Organizational Structure, Communication Skills, Human Resource Management, Public Relations, Planning, Emergency Service Delivery, Safety, information management, government structure, and department budget planning and management.

***** THIS COURSE IS IFSAC ELIGIBLE *****

Course 013

50 HOURS

FRI 6PM

SAT 8AM

SUN 8AM

BOTH WEEKENDS



INSTRUCTOR 1 & 2

Instructor: Mike Daley Tuition and Textbook: \$450.00 Prerequisite: Fire Fighter 2 & HazMat Ops OR EMT

This NFPA 1041 course will train participants to teach a class from a prepared lesson plan as well as the ability to develop goals and objectives for course success. This course introduces the student to the concept of utilizing training aids to enhance his/her presentation, and how to properly select and use these training aids. The student will give several presentations during the week, all leading to the twenty-minute graded presentation on the final day. Upon Successful completion of this course students will be issued certification for Instructor 1 & 2; however, this does not guarantee employment with WV Public Service Training, West Virginia University - Fire Ser-

Course 014

40 HOURS

FRI 6PM

SAT 8AM

SUN 8AM

BOTH WEEKENDS



EMERGENCY VEHICLE TECHNICIAN

Instructor: Ron Whittaker Tuition: \$250.00 Prerequisite: None

This EVT Prep Course will prepare the student to test for the EVTCC (Emergency Vehicle Technician Certification Commission) exam for Fire Apparatus categories of F-1 Inspection, Maintenance, & Testing of Fire Apparatus, F-2 Design & Performance Standards of Fire Apparatus, F-3 Fire Pumps and Accessories, and F-4 Fire Apparatus Electrical Systems. This track is for those technicians who service and maintain fire department pumpers, squads, aerial devices, tankers, wild land apparatus, etc. The exams cover design and performance standards, specialized systems and equipment, and accepted practices used in the service and maintenance of fire apparatus. The course will show the student what references are needed and how to use EVT study objectives. It will go heavy into theory so that the student will understand some basic physics as it applies to the subject matter at hand.

Each student will pay an additional exam fee per certification track to be tested.

Multiple Weekend Courses

(March 6 - 8 and March 13 - 15, 2026)

RESPONDER INTERVENTION TEAM (RIT) TECHNICIAN

Instructor: Paul Niedbalski and Darin Virag **Tuition :** \$350.00 **Prerequisite:** Fire Fighter 1

This course provides firefighters with the necessary advanced skills to effectively operate as a member of a responder intervention team. Responder Intervention Team Rescue Technician combines classroom lecture, firefighter fatality case studies, drags and carries, breaching, heavy lifting with hydraulic and pneumatic tools, cutting utilizing a variety of torches, and hands-on scenario-based training involving a firefighter mayday. Skills are practiced and honed under live fire conditions that will challenge each student mentally and physically. This course goes beyond any traditional class by utilizing rescue tools and techniques in the fire suppression environment. This physically intense course meets and exceeds NFPA 1407, preparing the responder for our worst-case scenario.

Course 015

50 HOURS

FRI 6PM

SAT 8AM

SUN 8AM

BOTH WEEKENDS



EMT - HYBRID BOOT CAMP

Instructor: Jonathan Evans and Jeff White **Tuition and Textbook:** \$950.00 **Prerequisite:** None

This "EMT – Hybrid Boot Camp" course will allow the student to complete their Initial EMT training in **just 6 weeks**. The training course equips you with the skills to respond to critical incidents, perform initial assessments, provide emergency treatment, and safely transport patients. This very intense course will be in a hybrid format where the student will complete part of the course online and their skills sessions in person. **You will have to devote your personal time to complete the online course work.** The time needed will depend how well you grasp the subject. In addition to the course dates listed, there will be mandatory weekly Zoom sessions with the instructors each Thursday evening. In-person dates will mainly be for skills sessions.

Upon successful completion of the course, you will be eligible to sit for the National Registry of EMT's exam. This test will be scheduled at your convenience at a Pearson Vue testing center. If seeking certification in a state other than WV, you will not need to complete the WV certification process/fees, and will simply need to pass practical testing and NREMT examination before proceeding with the certification process in your desired state.

Class will meet in person on March 6, March 7, March 8, March 13, March 14, March 15, March 21, March 28, April 4, and April 11, 2026. On Friday's, class will begin at 6pm and on Saturdays and Sundays class will begin at 8am.

Course 016

155 HOURS

FRI 6PM

SAT 8AM

SUN 8AM

BOTH WEEKENDS







Weekend One - Friday Courses

(March 6, 2026)

Course 100

Jr.
Approved

BASEMENT AND ATTIC FIRES

4 HOURS

Instructor: Tony Hess Tuition: \$40.00 Prerequisite: None

FRI 6PM
SAT N/A
SUN N/A
1ST WEEKEND

This course will depict and explain the most common causes of injuries and deaths firefighters encounter while operating at basement and attic fires. Topics will include the importance of the three phases of size-up, 1 - Command Sequence, 2 - Logical Thought Process for Decision Making, 3 - Action Planning and Outcome of Incident Priorities Concerning Size-up, etc..

Course 101

Jr.
Approved

EMERGENCY SCENE SIZE-UP

4 HOURS

Instructor: Lance Carney Tuition: \$40.00 Prerequisite: None

FRI 6PM
SAT N/A
SUN N/A
1ST WEEKEND

The outcome of an emergency scene is often dictated by the initial size-up by the first arriving unit. In today's fire service, often those making the initial scene size-up have limited to no critical decision-making training or experience. This lack of training may result in multiple issues, causing a fire scene to be reactive in nature instead of proactive. This course will provide insights on the decision-making process that should be conducted when observing multiple types of emergency scenes. Students will share experiences, opinions, and strategic thought processes to enhance our abilities enabling us to promote a more cohesive and efficient emergency scene operation.

Course 102

Jr.
Approved

HYBRID / ELECTRIC VEHICLE RESPONDER - AWARENESS LEVEL

4 HOURS

Instructor: Energy Security Agency Tuition: \$200.00 Prerequisite: None

FRI 6PM
SAT N/A
SUN N/A
1ST WEEKEND

This course is designed to provide students with a complete understanding of HEV Vehicles and the potential hazards related to them. Students will receive highly interactive instructional periods to safely identify and engage with HEV's in all potential hazard conditions. Some highlights of this course include Vehicle Identification; Available Resources; HEV Electrical Systems; Hazardous Condition Identification; Hazardous Condition Management; Environmental Considerations; and Standards and Compliance.

Course 103

Jr.
Approved

ROPE RESCUE AWARENESS

4 HOURS

Instructors: Mike Gray, Tracy Gray, Jason Sears Tuition: \$40.00 Prerequisite: None

FRI 6PM
SAT N/A
SUN N/A
1ST WEEKEND

This class that meets NFPA 1006 for Awareness level of Rope Rescue. It consists of classroom presentation regarding the safety, size-up, hazard recognition, hazard control, and First Responders Level of Rope Rescue Considerations. This training will provide rescuers with basic equipment identification utilized for Rope Rescue incidents.

*** THIS COURSE IS IFSAC ELIGIBLE ***

Course 104

Jr.
Approved

WILDERNESS SEARCH AND RESCUE AWARENESS

4 HOURS

Instructor: Roger Brafford Tuition: \$40.00 Prerequisite: None

FRI 6PM
SAT N/A
SUN N/A
1ST WEEKEND

This course is designed to train first responders whose responsibilities include searching for lost persons. The Awareness course is an introduction to the wilderness search and rescue process. Topics include recognition of weather and environmental concerns, appropriate clothing, gear and PPE, and mitigation of incident hazards. It also includes basic searching techniques and procedures including navigation. This course meets the requirements listed in NFPA 1006 Chapter II Wilderness Search and Rescue. This course focuses on teaching skills to responders searching for missing persons in land environments that do not require swift water or technical rescue skills.

Weekend One - Saturday Courses

Course 200



FORCIBLE ENTRY: THROUGH THE THRESHOLD

Instructor: Box 1971, LLC Tuition: \$100.00 Prerequisite: None

8 HOURS

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN N/A
1ST WEEKEND

In this 8 hour Hands On Class you will gain plenty of reps. Not like your typical force one or 2 doors in the class and stand around. We will utilize the FHU blue doors (2), a crush door prop and through the lock props. Box 1971, LLC instructors bring real world job knowledge from the career and volunteer ranks. 1 man, 2 man, left and right swinging doors, metal doors, wood jambs, high security locks and saw work will all be covered. Ready for sweat equity? Join us. You won't be disappointed.

Course 201



GROUND LADDERS AND VENTILATION

Instructor: Dan Taaffe Tuition: \$60.00 Prerequisites: Fire Fighter 1 (recommended)

8 HOURS

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN N/A
1ST WEEKEND

This course will focus on helping students gain an understanding of the dynamics of ventilation used in the fire service today. "Why" ventilation is necessary, "When" ventilation should begin, and "Where" ventilation should be set up will all be demonstrated. Students will learn proper techniques of positive pressure, vertical, and horizontal applications. Correct ladder carries, aggressive placement, working from ladders, and rescues will also be taught in this intensive course.

Course 202



HYBRID / ELECTRIC VEHICLE RESPONDER - OPERATIONS LEVEL

Instructors: Energy Security Agency Tuition: \$300.00 Prerequisites: None

8 HOURS

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN N/A
1ST WEEKEND

This course is designed to provide students with a complete understanding of HEV Vehicle Response and Hazard Management. Students will receive highly interactive instructional periods to safely identify and engage with HEV's in all potential hazard conditions. Practical Exercises allow students to perform shutdown procedures, HEV system orientation and HEV extrication techniques.

Course 203



ONE MAN AND A TRUCK

Instructor: Eddie Bottoms Tuition: \$90.00 Prerequisite: Fire Fighter 1 (recommended)

8 HOURS

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN N/A
1ST WEEKEND

This course is designed for those who work in volunteer or combination departments as fire apparatus operators. It is also beneficial for officers of fire departments who respond to incidents and arrive on the scene before the first apparatus. Topics include scene size-ups, personnel and resource management, and establishing initial strategies and tactics. Decisions made by the "one man" will set the stage for the rest of the fire incident. Students will participate in scenario-based training that prompts challenging discussions about how best to react when they respond and arrive with "One man and a truck."

Course 204



WATER RESCUE AWARENESS - SWIFT, FLOOD, SURFACE, WATERCRAFT

Instructor: TBD Tuition: \$60.00 Prerequisite: None

10 HOURS

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN N/A
1ST WEEKEND

This course is the first level of water rescue training. Course topics include organizational roles and objectives, safety, the drowning problem, water types, reading water and water flows, rescue failures, logistics, hand signals, risk versus benefit, environmental concerns, flood characteristics, response strategies, PPE, and types of water rescue. Students will obtain four separate water rescue awareness certifications: Swift Water, Flood Water, Surface Water, and Watercraft Rescue.

*** THIS COURSE IS IFSAC ELIGIBLE ***

Weekend One - Two / Three Day Courses

CHOOSING TO COMMAND

Jr.
Approved

Course 250

Instructor: Dennis Rubin

Tuition: \$125.00

Prerequisite: None

16 HOURS

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN 8AM
1ST WEEKEND

The ability to make sound, timely decisions is critical in fire and emergency operations. This course examines the importance of integrating Crew Resource Management (CRM) into the Incident Command System (ICS) to improve firefighter safety, operational efficiency, and leadership effectiveness. Building on practices developed in the aviation and military sectors, CRM is designed to minimize human error and enhance decision-making under high-pressure conditions. Key topics include: Leadership and teamwork principles; Effective communication strategies under stress; Task allocation and resource management; Impact of CRM in various operational contexts, including abandoned buildings, aviation fires, and large-scale incidents; and Strategies for enhancing incident command and safety protocols.

Course 251

Jr.
Approved

FARM RESCUE AND EXTRICATION

Instructors: Steve Cavender and Adam Bryant

Tuition : \$90.00

Prerequisite: None

16 HOURS

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN 8AM
1ST WEEKEND

This course will provide firefighters and emergency medical personnel with knowledge of farm accidents, farm hazards, and general rescue/extrication procedures when responding and operating an agricultural emergency. Classroom, lecture and field exercises on tractor, power take off and farm implement stabilization, rescue and extrication procedures. The course concentrates on agriculture and agriculture incidents.

Course 252

Jr.
Approved

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: AIR MONITORING AND SAMPLING

Instructor: Matt Gregg

Tuition: \$90.00

Prerequisite: HazMat Operations

16 HOURS

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN 8AM
1ST WEEKEND

This certification course prepares Hazardous Materials Operations Level responders to detect, monitor, and sample hazardous materials safely and effectively. Students will learn how to evaluate concentration, dose, and exposure limits, while gaining hands-on experience with common detection and sampling devices. The course also covers equipment capabilities, limitations, and proper maintenance, giving responders the tools they need to make informed decisions during hazardous materials incidents.

Course 253

Jr.
Approved

INCIDENT SAFETY OFFICER

Instructor: Zach Adkins

Tuition: \$90.00

Prerequisite: None

16 HOURS

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN 8AM
1ST WEEKEND

The Safety Officer's responsibilities fall into two clear cut categories: those associated with responding at the incident scene, and those associated with managing the day-to-day affairs of the department. The Incident Safety Officer (ISO) course is focused on the incident and the role the Safety Officer plays as part of the Command Staff. The target audience is Company Officers who are experienced in firefighter safety issues and are familiar with an Incident Command System, hazardous materials management, and related emergency operations. The program provides the student with the decision-making process and skills required to recognize unsafe acts and conditions and take appropriate corrective actions.

Weekend One - Two / Three Day Courses (cont.)

Course 254

PASTORAL CRISIS INTERVENTION: PSYCHOLOGICAL AND FAITH-BASED CRISIS INTERVENTION



13 HOURS

Instructor: Amber Elmore

Tuition: \$150.00

Prerequisite: None

FRI N/A

SAT 8AM

SUN 8AM

1ST WEEKEND

The purpose of this ICISF (International Critical Incident Stress Foundation) course is to improve the ability of the participants to practice "Pastoral Crisis Intervention" (PCI). PCI may be thought of as the practice of psychological crisis intervention within a spiritual/religious context. The purpose is NOT to teach theology. This is an "entry-level" class. Students will be able to understand and differentiate the key terms and concepts relevant to the study of psychological crisis intervention and PCI and understand the nature and definition of Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) and its role as a continuum of care. In addition, you will be able to understand and PRACTICE the steps in the SAFER-R model of individual psychological crisis intervention/PFA and the SAFER-R model for suicide intervention.

Course 255

ROPE RESCUE OPERATIONS

20 HOURS

Instructors: Mike Gray, Tracy Gray, Jason Sears

Tuition: \$150.00

Prerequisite: Rope Rescue Awareness

Jr. Approved

FRI N/A

SAT 8AM

SUN 8AM

1ST WEEKEND

This course is designed to provide you with the skills and knowledge required to perform basic rope rescue operations utilizing appropriate equipment, methodologies, protocols, and patient and resource management techniques. The course covers Chapter 6, "Rope Rescue" of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1006, Standard for Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications, including the area of multi-point anchors, rappelling systems, and ascending systems.

***** THIS COURSE IS IFSAC ELIGIBLE *****

Course 256

THE FIRST RESPONDER AND ACTIVE THREAT SITUATIONS



16 HOURS

Instructor: Chad Cox and George Fleming

Tuition: \$125.00

Prerequisite: None

FRI N/A

SAT 8AM

SUN 8AM

1ST WEEKEND

First responders may likely encounter a violent or potentially violent scene during their career. What do you need to know to be prepared for this situation? How can I protect myself and my crew? What resources are readily available? What does vigilance and situational awareness even mean? This course will cover these topics, compare what schools and businesses are utilizing for training and more. AVERT training is also included (certification card is an additional charge). The course will be hands-on with multiple scenarios in various settings. There will be loud noises and simulated weapons used.

Course 257

TRENCH EMERGENCIES AND THE FIRST ARRIVING FIRE COMPANY

Jr. Approved

16 HOURS

Instructor: David Gray

Tuition: \$90.00

Prerequisite: None

FRI N/A

SAT 8AM

SUN 8AM

1ST WEEKEND

This course designed to prepare fire and rescue personnel to safely and effectively manage trench and excavation incidents from the moment they arrive on scene. The course focuses on recognizing trench hazards, understanding soil mechanics and collapse indicators, implementing immediate protective actions, and establishing command, isolation, and rescue priorities before specialized resources arrive. Emphasis is placed on responder safety, size-up, risk assessment, and practical decision-making that the first-arriving company must execute to prevent secondary collapses and additional victims. This training equips firefighters with the critical knowledge and confidence needed to stabilize complex trench emergencies and protect both trapped workers and responding crews.

Weekend One - Two / Three Day Courses (cont.)

VEHICLE RESCUE TECHNICIAN - PASSENGER

Jr.
Approved

Course 258

Instructor: Jonathan Mitchell Tuition, Textbook, Supply Fee: \$235.00

Prerequisites: Vehicle Rescue Ops, Vehicle Rescue Ops - Passenger, or Vehicle and Machinery Ops

20 HOURS

FRI	N/A
SAT	8AM
SUN	8AM
1ST WEEKEND	

This course is designed to train responders to safely extricate victims from common passenger vehicles, focusing on stabilizing the vehicle, creating access/egress, and removing patients using hand and hydraulic tools, following NFPA standards for incidents on wheels, sides, or roofs, and emphasizing rescuer/patient safety. This role involves systematic scene size-up, hazard mitigation, and advanced problem-solving with various equipment. Meets or exceeds National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1006 standards.

***** THIS COURSE IS IFSAC ELIGIBLE *****

WILDERNESS SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS

Instructor: Roger Brafford Tuition: 150.00

Prerequisites: Wilderness SAR Awareness AND either EMR or EMT or Wilderness First Aid

Course 259

20 HOURS

FRI	N/A
SAT	8AM
SUN	8AM
1ST WEEKEND	

This course is designed to provide the participants with the core knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform search and rescue operations in a wilderness environment. A heavy focus is placed on the need for the Incident Command System, safety, search team coordination and communication, PPE, search techniques, land/air navigation, and practical skill exercises. The student will learn self-survival skills, including what equipment should be taken when going on a search, how to build an overnight shelter, water treatment options, wilderness first-aid, and investigation skills for different types of searching. Course will also include patient packaging and patient removal from the wilderness.

Prerequisite of Wilderness First Aid is available at Sissonville Fire and Rescue School on February 14 & 15, 2026. Course number 003.

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20th Annual - 2026 Sissonville Fire & Rescue School Registration

PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME _____ AGENCY _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PERSONAL PHONE _____ AGENCY PHONE _____ BIRTHDATE ____ / ____ / ____

T-SHIRT SIZE _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED VIA TEXT OR EMAIL FOR CLASS CANCELLATIONS OR CLASS CHANGES

PRE-CONFERENCE COURSES

- 001 - Vehicle Rescue Awareness & Operations - Passenger
- 002 - Vehicle Rescue Awareness & Operations - Heavy
- 003 - Wilderness First Aid

MULTIPLE WEEKEND COURSES

- 010 - Fire Fighter I (Hybrid)
- 011 - Fire Fighter 2
- 012 - Fire Officer I & 2
- 013 - Instructor I & 2
- 014 - Emergency Vehicle Technician
- 015 - RIT Technician
- 016 - EMT Hybrid Boot Camp

WEEKEND ONE

- 100 - Basement and Attic Fires
- 101 - Emergency Scene Size-Up
- 102 - Hybrid / Electric Vehicle Responder - Awareness
- 103 - Rope Rescue Awareness
- 104 - Wilderness Search and Rescue Awareness
- 200 - Forcible Entry: Through the Threshold
- 201 - Ground Ladders and Ventilation
- 202 - Hybrid / Electric Vehicle Responder - Operations
- 203 - One Man and a Truck
- 204 - Water Rescue Awareness: Swift, Flood, Surface, Watercraft
- 250 - Choosing to Command
- 251 - Farm Rescue & Extrication
- 252 - HazMat: Air Monitoring and Sampling
- 253 - Incident Safety Officer
- 254 - Pastoral Crisis Intervention: Psychological and Faith...
- 255 - Rope Rescue Operations
- 256 - The First Responder in Active Threat Situations
- 257 - Trench Emergencies and the First Arriving Company
- 258 - Vehicle Rescue Technician - Passenger
- 259 - Wilderness Search and Response Operations

WEEKEND TWO

- 400 - Art of Reading Smoke
- 401 - F-500 Encapsulator: Encapsulate the World
- 402 - Recruitment and Retention - Building and Sustaining...
- 403 - The Ist Ten Minutes
- 404 - Thermal Imaging Cameras Awareness
- 500 - Dive Scene Operations and Management
- 501 - Emergency Incident Rehabilitation
- 502 - Firefighter Mayday: Response and Command Techniques
- 503 - Instructor 3 (Hybrid)
- 504 - Managing the Flood Response
- 550 - 1403 Live Burn Instructor
- 551 - Crisis Informed Peer Paracounseling: Intervention...
- 552 - EMT Refresher
- 553 - EVOC - Emergency Vehicle Operations Course
- 554 - Hazardous Materials Incident Commander
- 555 - Rope Rescue Technician
- 556 - Small Aircraft Crash Rescue
- 557 - Structural Collapse for Engine Company's
- 558 - Vehicle Rescue Technician - Heavy
- 559 - Wilderness Search and Rescue Technician

SECOND / THIRD CHOICES

(Enter Class Numbers)

Multiple Weekend Courses

2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____

Weekend One - Friday

2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____

Weekend One - Saturday

2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____

Weekend One - Sunday

2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____

Weekend One - Two/Three Day Courses

2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____

Weekend Two - Friday

2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____

Weekend Two - Saturday

2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____

Weekend Two - Sunday

2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____

Weekend Two - Two/Three Day Courses

2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____

NOTE: Enter 2nd / 3rd choices above as needed above. Courses will be selected for you if you do not list them.

WAIVER OF LIABILITY / MEDIA RELEASE / FEES

I agree not to hold the Sissonville Fire Department, West Virginia Public Service Training, Kanawha County Schools, NGK Spark Plugs, its sponsors, or anyone else associated with the Sissonville Fire & Rescue School responsible for any injuries that may occur to me while I am a participant in any class or function. I understand that that nature of fire and rescue classes can be hazardous and I agree to participate in a safe and responsible manner. I also confirm that I am covered under Workers Compensation Coverage at my Department / Agency. I give my consent for my image and likeness to be videotaped, audiotaped, or photographed for use in educational / instructional media, recruitment / outreach media, development media, and newsworthy documentation to be used by the Sissonville Fire Department / Sissonville Fire and Rescue School. I certify that I am at least 18 Years old and do not need permission to participate in any class. I acknowledge that there will be an additional fee for supplies and the live burn portion of Fire Fighter I and other live burn courses that are not covered in the tuition.

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

EARLY REGISTRATION IS DUE BY

FEBRUARY 16, 2026

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A FREE T-SHIRT

MAIL PAYMENT AND REGISTRATION TO:

SISSONVILLE VFD

P.O. BOX 13096

Sissonville, WV 25360

Total Amount Enclosed

Tuition: \$ _____

Textbook(s): \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO SUPPLY THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT FOR THEIR CLASSES:

- 1403 LIVE BURN INSTRUCTOR - FULL PPE, SCBA, SPARE BOTTLE
- CRISIS INFORMED PPER PARACOUNSELING - LAPTOP COMPUTER
- EMT - HYBRID BOOT CAMP - LAPTOP COMPUTER
- EVOC - APPRATUS FROM YOUR DEPARTMENT IS PREFERED ON SUNDAY
- FARM RESCUE AND EXTRICATION - FULL PPE AND EYE PROECTION
- FIRE FIGHTER 1 - FULL PPE, SCBA AND SPARE BOTTLE
- FIRE FIGHTER 2 - FULL PPE, SCBA AND SPARE BOTTLE
- FIRE OFFICER 1 & 2 - LAPTOP COMPUTER
- FORCIBLE ENTRY - FULL PPE AND EYE PROECTION
- GROUND LADDERS AND VENTILATION - FULL PPE AND SCBA
- HAZMAT: AIR MONITORING AND SAMPLING - FULL PPE AND SCBA
- HEV (HYBRID ELECTRIC VEHICLE) OPERATIONAL RESPONSE - FULL PPE AND EYE PROTECTION
- INSTRUCTOR 1 & 2 - LAPTOP COMPUTER
- INSTRUCTOR 3 - LAPTOP COMPUTER
- RIT TECHNICIAN - FULL PPE, SCBA AND SPARE BOTTLE
- ROPE RESCUE - HELMET, GLOVES, BOOTS, RESCUE HARNESS, APPROPRIATE OUTDOOR CLOTHING
- PASTORAL CRISIS INTERVENTION - LAPTOP COMPUTER OR TABLET
- SMALL AIRCRAFT CRASH RESCUE - FULL PPE, GLOVES, AND EYE PROTECTION
- STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE FOR THE FIRST DUE COMPANY - FULL PPE, GLOVES, AND EYE PROTECTION
- THERMAL IMAGING CAMERAS AWARENESS - TIC FROM YOUR DEPARTMENT IS RECOMMENDED
- VEHICLE AND MACHINERY EXTRICATION - FULL PPE AND EYE PROTECTION
- WILDERNESS SEARCH AND RESCUE - INSTRUCTOR WILL CONTACT YOU WITH LIST PRIOR TO CLASS

Fire School Contact Information

	Call or Text	Available
Eddie Elmore	(304) 552-4493	10:00am - 9:00pm
Christian Shamblin	(304) 542-6828	9:00am - 8:00pm
Patrick Coles	(304) 546-0529	9:00am - 8:00pm
Chuck Carney	(304) 541-4845	9:00am - 8:00pm
Brad Carney	(304) 993-6776	9:00am - 9:00pm

FireSchool@station26.org

CHECK-IN TIME BEGINS:

5:00 PM ON FRIDAY
7:00 AM ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

ASSEMBLY BEGINS:

7:45 AM ON SATURDAY

ONLINE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE

<http://www.SissonvilleFireSchool.com>

SOME OF OUR SPONSORS

L&L Auto Sales

Proudly sponsors the
2026 Sissonville Fire & Rescue School



2700 Sissonville Drive
Charleston, WV 25312
(304) 342-9888

Rodney Loftis & Son Contracting

Proudly sponsors the
2026 Sissonville Fire & Rescue School



92 Casdorff Road
Charleston, WV 25312
(304) 342-8200

Sissonville High School

Proudly sponsors the
2026 Sissonville Fire & Rescue School



Robert Smith, Principal
<https://shs.kana.k12.wv.us/>
(304) 348-1954

Backwoods Bar & Grill

Proudly sponsors the
2026 Sissonville Fire & Rescue School



8902 Sissonville Drive
Sissonville, WV 25320
(304) 988-2298

Weekend Two - Friday Courses

(March 13, 2026)

Course 400

Jr.
Approved

ART OF READING SMOKE

4 HOURS

Instructors: Jason McCutcheon

Tuition: \$40.00

Prerequisite: None

FRI 6PM

Often, smoke from a building is the only clue available to predict fire behavior and the likelihood of a flashover or rapid fire spread. First-arriving officers, Incident Commanders, and Safety Officers must know how to rapidly read smoke. This class explains the reading-smoke process and gives participants practice using actual fire-ground video.

SAT N/A

SUN N/A

2ND WEEKEND

Jr.
Approved

Course 401

ENCAPSULATE THE WORLD - F-500 ENCAPSULATOR AGENT

4 HOURS

Instructor: Victor Williams

Tuition: \$40.00

Prerequisite: None

FRI 6PM

This comprehensive, science-driven course that explores the revolutionary capabilities of F-500 Encapsulator Agent in modern fire suppression. Designed for fire service and industrial response professionals, this course explains how F-500 rapidly absorbs 6-10 times more heat than plain water without creating super-heated steam, delivers permanent burnback resistance, and operates at the molecular level to attack all four components of the fire tetrahedron simultaneously. Participants will learn how encapsulation forms microscopic "chemical cocoons" that render fuels, vapors, and hazardous gases non-flammable, dramatically reducing toxic smoke and improving scene safety. The program covers effective application across all fire classes—including Class A, B, C, D, and lithium-ion battery fires—while highlighting fluorine-free environmental benefits, reduced water usage, and versatile deployment in municipal, industrial, and emerging hazard environments such as EV incidents and recycling facilities.

SAT N/A

SUN N/A

2ND WEEKEND

Jr.
Approved

Course 402

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION: BUILDING AND SUSTAINING THE FIRE SERVICE

4 HOURS

Instructor: Zach Bess

Tuition: \$40.00

Prerequisite: None

FRI 6PM

Fire departments across the country - career, volunteer, and combination - are facing the same challenge: how to attract new members while keeping the good ones we already have. Recruitment brings people through the door, but retention determines whether experience and culture survive. This class explores the real-world factors that influence why firefighters join, why they stay, and why they leave. Students will examine common recruitment barriers, generational differences in today's fire service, and the critical role leadership and department culture play in long-term retention. The focus is on practical, proven strategies that can be applied at any department, regardless of size or staffing model. Through discussion, case studies, and experience-based examples, students will leave with realistic ideas they can take back to their own de-

SAT N/A

SUN N/A

2ND WEEKEND

Jr.
Approved

Course 403

THE 1ST TEN MINUTES

4 HOURS

Instructor: Jeff White

Tuition: \$40.00

Prerequisite: None

FRI 6PM

Every Firefighter knows the first ten minutes of a call are critical. In this class, we will look at multiple aspects to assist departments in making the best of this time. Beginning with department structure we will work our way through running the call. We will discuss relevant NFPA standards, training and membership challenges, managing hose lines, forcible entry, reading smoke, scene size-up, and scene management.

SAT N/A

SUN N/A

2ND WEEKEND

Jr.
Approved

Course 404

THERMAL IMAGING CAMERAS AWARENESS

4 HOURS

Instructor: Thomas Robinson

Tuition: \$40.00

Prerequisite: None

FRI 6PM

This class will give the students an overview of thermal imaging cameras, their use in structural firefighting and many other uses in the field. You are encouraged to bring your Fire Departments Thermal Imaging Camera for practice; however, it is not required.

SAT N/A

SUN N/A

2ND WEEKEND

Weekend Two - Saturday Courses

Course 500

Jr.
Approved

DIVE SCENE OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

8 HOURS

Instructors: Thomas Robinson and Louie Robinson Tuition: \$60.00 Prerequisite: None

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN N/A
2ND WEEKEND

Prepares first-arriving officers and non-diving personnel to effectively command and coordinate water rescue and recovery incidents from the shore-line, while also providing valuable insight for departments considering the development of a dive team. The course explores the mechanisms of drowning and realistic survival rates to support sound, time-critical decision-making, and emphasizes thorough scene size-up, witness interviews, and the construction of accurate incident timelines. Students will learn how to identify likely search locations, evaluate and select appropriate search techniques, and determine the resources needed based on environmental conditions and operational objectives. Additional topics include bank-side command responsibilities, interagency coordination, and the professional management of family members and media, giving participants a well-rounded understanding of both operational command and the planning considerations necessary to safely and effectively manage dive incidents.

Course 501

Jr.
Approved

EMERGENCY INCIDENT REHABILITATION

8 HOURS

Instructors: Drew Foutty Tuition: \$60.00 Prerequisites: None

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN N/A
2ND WEEKEND

Stress-related problems account for the leading cause of injuries and deaths to firefighters and EMT's. After completing this course, the firefighter and EMT should have a greater awareness of how these risks can be reduced through the implementation of proper firefighter rehabilitation procedures. These should be used both at actual incidents and during prolonged practical training exercises. The firefighter and EMT will also understand basic strategies for implementing and improving emergency incident rehabilitation operations.

Course 502

Jr.
Approved

FIREFIGHTER MAYDAY: RESPONSE AND COMMAND TECHNIQUES

8 HOURS

Instructor: Robert Avsec Tuition \$60.00 Prerequisite: Fire Fighter 1 (recommended)

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN N/A
2ND WEEKEND

A firefighter Mayday is the critical moment where the incident can go one of two ways – rescue or tragedy. One key to avoiding tragic outcomes is Mayday training, particularly for newer members with less muscle memory aligned with real-world fireground emergencies. But even seasoned firefighters can find themselves paralyzed with panic, unsure how to proceed. The second key is for incident commanders to become skilled and practiced in how to exercise the “Three C’s of Command”—Communication, Control, and Coordination—for the Mayday.

Course 503

Jr.
Approved

INSTRUCTOR 3 (HYBRID)

Instructor: Mike Freeman Tuition, Textbook, Online Access: \$350.00 Prerequisite: Instructor 2

32 HOURS
FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN N/A
2ND WEEKEND

This course is based on NFPA 1041: Standard for Fire and Emergency Services Instructor. It is intended for the Instructor who is ready to assume a leadership role by moving into the upper management level of his/her department and wants to develop the knowledge and ability to develop comprehensive training curricula and programs for use by single or multiple organizations; conduct organizational needs analysis; and develop training goals and implementation strategies. The course is blended learning, with only one class meeting. Access to a computer with internet is mandatory to complete the course.

*** THIS COURSE IS IFSAC ELIGIBLE ***

Course 504

Jr.
Approved

MANAGING THE FLOOD RESPONSE

Instructor: David Gray Tuition: \$60.00 Prerequisite: Water Rescue Awareness & ICS Training

8 HOURS
FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN N/A
2ND WEEKEND

This one-day course will cover topics specific to responding to flood type emergencies from a command or emergency management perspective. Topics will include assessing risk for flooding, response preparation, assigning incident priorities, managing resources, incident escalation, operational considerations, incident de-escalation, and demobilization. Table top exercises will help instill learning points. The course is designed for anyone who may serve in a command function on a flood event.

Weekend Two - Two / Three Day Courses

Course 550



1403 LIVE BURN INSTRUCTOR

Instructor: Jason Fleak

Tuition: \$150.00

Prerequisite: Fire Fighter 2

16 HOURS

FRI N/A

SAT 8AM

SUN 8AM

2ND WEEKEND

NFPA 1403, Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions, involves specific requirements for pre-requisite training, evolution planning, development, implementation, supervision, and management oversight, monitoring, and records management of the live fire training evolutions in acquired structures, training center burn buildings, and a variety of exterior fire evolutions. This course will provide students with an introduction to the necessary knowledge, skills, and tools to properly prepare and conduct live fire training evolutions. The course includes an in-depth review of the 1403 Standard, addressing evolutions in acquired structures, gas fire training buildings/props, and exterior props. *** THERE WILL BE AN ADDITIONAL FEE TO BE PAID TO THE BURN FACILITY FOR THE LIVE BURN PORTION OF THIS COURSE. IT IS NOT INCLUDED IN YOUR TUITION.

Course 551



CRISIS INFORMED PEER PARACOUNSELING: INTERVENTION ENHANCEMENT TO THE CISM CONTINUUM

Instructor: Amber Elmore Tuition, Textbook, Supplies: \$150.00

Prerequisites: Assisting Individuals in Crisis and Group Crisis Intervention

14 HOURS

FRI N/A

SAT 8AM

SUN 8AM

2ND WEEKEND

Today we see an unprecedented mix of unique stressors & disasters with limited psychological resources. The Critical Incident Stress Management continuum offers high risk populations seeking a strategic crisis response; one that holistically builds the resilience of those in need. Crisis Informed Peer Para-Counseling (CIPPC) expands the support tools of peer counselors to collectively cope with trauma and disasters. CIPPC will become the 1:1 follow up service to them CISM. The unprecedented mix of unique stressors & disasters with limited psychological resources means at risk populations are seeking a strategic crisis response; one that holistically builds the resilience of those in need and expands the support tools of peer counselors to collectively cope with trauma.

Course 552



EMT REFRESHER

Instructors: Jason Rucker Tuition: \$125.00 Prerequisite: Previous or Current EMT Certification

24 HOURS

FRI 6PM

SAT 8AM

SUN 8AM

2ND WEEKEND

This 24-hour course meets the established standard requirements to be met by all applicants seeking to become recertified and authorized to practice Emergency Medical Services at the Emergency Medical Technician Level in West Virginia. All West Virginia certified EMTs are required to meet recertification course standards. Providers must successfully complete all skills assessments outlined for the EMT level in the WVDEMS Education Approval Policy.

Course 553



EVOC - Emergency Vehicle Operations Course

Instructor: Steve Cavender Tuition and Textbook: \$150.00 Prerequisite: Valid Drivers License

16 HOURS

FRI N/A

SAT 8AM

SUN 8AM

2ND WEEKEND

This course is a combination classroom and practical skills training about emergency vehicle operations. Safety, legal aspects, inspection, and driver responsibilities are covered. Both written and practical examinations are administered. This class meets WV State Fire Commission and State EMS initial driver training requirements and recommendations. It is recommended that you bring apparatus from your own department to drive.

Course 554



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENT COMMAND

Instructor: Dan Taaffe Tuition and Textbook: \$180.00 Prerequisite: HazMat Operations

16 HOURS

FRI N/A

SAT 8AM

SUN 8AM

2ND WEEKEND

This course is designed to prepare fire service and emergency management leaders to effectively command and control hazardous materials and WMD incidents in accordance with nationally recognized standards. Emphasizing strategic decision-making rather than hands-on operations, the course covers incident size-up, risk assessment, isolation and protective action decisions, integration of technical specialists, resource management, responder safety, and coordination with local, state, and federal agencies. Students will develop the ability to establish and manage an incident command system for complex hazmat events while protecting responders, the public, and the environment. This course meets or exceeds the requirements of NFPA 1072, Chapter 8 (Incident Commander) and 29 CFR 1910.120(q)(6)(v) for Incident Command-level personnel.

[HTTP://WWW.SISSONVILLEFIRESCHOOL.COM](http://www.sissonvillefireschool.com)

Weekend Two - Two / Three Day Courses (cont.)

Course 555



20 HOURS

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN 8AM
2ND WEEKEND

ROPE RESCUE TECHNICIAN

Instructor: Mike Gray, Tracy Gray, Jason Sears **Tuition & Textbook:** \$240.00 **Prerequisite:** Rope Ops

This program is designed to educate students on how to perform emergency rope rescue at the technician level. The curriculum is designed reference the NFPA 1006 and 1670 standards. During this class students will learn and be required to demonstrate proficiency in technician level skills including: rope use and knots, anchors, rope systems, and performing rescue operations using low angle, steep angle, high angle, and highline operations.

***** THIS COURSE IS IFSAC ELIGIBLE *****

Course 556



16 HOURS

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN 8AM
2ND WEEKEND

SMALL AIRCRAFT CRASH RESCUE

Instructors: Jeff Elswick **Tuition:** \$150.00 **Prerequisite:** None

This course combines classroom instruction with hands-on training focused on small aircraft emergencies. This course is very beneficial to department's that may be asked to respond to an aircraft incident at a small airstrip or medium sized airport. Day one includes lectures on aircraft rescue fundamentals and general aviation hazards—common scenarios for structural firefighters. On day two, students will work with an actual small aircraft to practice victim removal, aircraft stabilization, and emergency shutdown procedures.

Course 557



16 HOURS

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN 8AM
2ND WEEKEND

STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE FOR THE FIRST DUE COMPANY

Instructors: R.C. Fellows **Tuition:** \$250.00 **Prerequisite:** None

This course will emphasize operations in light weight building construction collapse emergencies by introducing the student to Building Construction, Size-up, Collapse Patterns, Lifting and Moving heavy objects with hand tools, Emergency Building shoring and stabilization, and Breaching and Breaking lightweight construction materials to gain access to the trapped and injured.

Course 558



20 HOURS

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN 8AM
2ND WEEKEND

VEHICLE RESCUE TECHNICIAN - HEAVY

Instructors: Ritchie Gobble, Corey Carr, Jonathan Mitchell **Tuition & Textbook:** \$235.00

Prerequisites: Vehicle Rescue Operations - Heavy

This course is an advanced, hands-on course designed for responders who may operate at complex heavy vehicle incidents involving commercial trucks, buses, and other large or specialty vehicles. The program focuses on advanced size-up, hazard recognition, stabilization, access and disentanglement techniques, patient packaging, and coordination within the incident command system while operating around unique challenges such as high-energy components, air brake systems, alternative fuels, and unstable loads. Training emphasizes rescuer safety, scene control, and effective use of heavy rescue tools and equipment in real-world scenarios. This course is conducted in accordance with applicable National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards, ensuring participants meet nationally recognized professional qualifications for heavy vehicle rescue operations.

***** THIS COURSE IS IFSAC ELIGIBLE *****

Course 559



24 HOURS

FRI N/A
SAT 8AM
SUN TBD
2ND WEEKEND

WILDERNESS SEARCH AND RESCUE TECHNICIAN

Instructor: Roger Brafford **Tuition:** \$150.00

Prerequisites: Wilderness SAR Awareness AND either EMR or EMT or Wilderness First Aid

At the completion of this training, the student should be capable of safely performing, supporting, coordinating, and managing a search and rescue in any wilderness environment in which the rescuer might be required to operate. Class will participate in practical evolutions in the wilderness setting. Students will build a 24-hour shelter, start a fire, and complete a night time search and rescue. This class will be staying throughout the night in the woods on Saturday night and students will need to be prepared for the weather and elements. Class start time on Saturday morning is estimated and will be relayed to pre-registered students ahead of time.



Instructors



Adkins, Zach - Zach brings over 12 years of fire service experience with specialized expertise in hazardous materials response and safety. He is an OSHA-authorized instructor, and NFPA 1041 Instructor II, having trained more than 400 students in firefighting, hazardous materials and workplace safety. Chief Adkins also designed and built Mason County's first live fire training facility and leads Valley Fire & Rescue's Drone Task Force, the first of its kind in the county. His passion for hands-on, practical instruction helps prepare responders with the skills they need to operate safely and effectively in high-risk environments.



Avsec, Robert - Robert is a Retired Battalion Chief serving with the Chesterfield (Va.) Fire & EMS Department for 26 years. He was an instructor for fire, EMS, and hazardous materials courses at the local, state, and federal levels. He earned his bachelor of science degree from the University of Cincinnati and his master of science degree in executive fire service leadership from Grand Canyon University. He is a 2001 graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program. He has continued to be a life-long learner working in both the private and public sectors to further develop his "management sciences mechanic" credentials.



Bess, Zach - Zach has been a member of the Sissonville VFD since 2018, where he has served in multiple roles including Secretary of the Board of Directors and Public Information Officer. He also spent several years with the Pinch Volunteer Fire Department. He is a full-time telecommunicator with Metro 911 in Kanawha County and has previously worked in communications for the Kanawha County Ambulance Authority and the Kanawha County Sheriff's Office. His experience across fire service, EMS, law enforcement, and emergency communications gives him a unique, well-rounded perspective. He is passionate about the future of the fire service, with a focus on recruiting and retaining members.



Bottoms, Eddie - Chief Bottoms is the Fire Chief of the Walkertown Fire Department in North Carolina and a retired Battalion Chief from the Winston Salem Fire Department. He began his fire service career in 1986 as a volunteer at the Mineral Springs Fire Department. He is a career learner earning an AAS in Fire Protection and a BS and MS in Criminal Justice.



Brafford, Roger - Roger has a love for rescues, technical rescues, and helping others. He has been in the fire service for nearly 30 years and enjoys teaching a variety of courses in the fire service. He thinks outside the box and loves a good challenge. He will challenge you to better yourself through various techniques in both Wilderness Rescue classes during this fire school. Roger serves at the Deputy Chief of his local fire department and teaches for various agencies.



Burger, Jason - Jason joined the fire service in 2000 as a volunteer at Culloden Fire Department, where he still currently serves as Deputy Chief. He has held many different positions while there, including Chief. In 2005, he began his career at Dunbar Fire Department, where he currently serves as Assistant Chief/Shift Commander. Jason is an Instructor with WV Public Service Training.



Carney, Lance - Lance began his fire service career in 1999 and currently serves as Chief of the Saint Albans Fire Department. He has worked many years with both the Sissonville Volunteer Fire Department and the Tyler Mountain Volunteer Fire Department, and has been a West Virginia Public Service Training and WVU Instructor since the early 2000's. He began his career with the City of Saint Albans in 2001, and has held every Fire Department rank since becoming Chief in 2015. He also served as SAFD Training Officer for more than a decade.

Instructors



Carr, Corey - Corey began his Fire Service Career in 2007 at the Tornado Volunteer Fire Department and currently is a volunteer at Pinch Volunteer Fire Department, where he holds the rank of Assistant Chief. Corey is employed at the City of Charleston Fire Department as a Firefighter. Corey is a West Virginia Public Service Training Instructor and an instructor for Take the Door Training based out of New York. Corey remains active in education in the Fire Service.



Cavender, Steve - Steve has many years' experience in the fire and rescue service and is a WVPST Instructor. Steve has been teaching vehicle, machinery, farm and heavy rescue for more than 25 years. In addition to teaching first responders he conducts farm safety and farm accident procedures training to agriculture organizations and groups. Steve has been a member of the Point Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department for more than 30 years and currently serves as Assistant Chief.



Cox, Chad - Chad had dedicated more than 35 years to Emergency Services in West Virginia including EMS, Firefighting, Medical Command, Flight Paramedic, and more. He has a passion for sharing knowledge with others that drives his commitment to teaching and his passion for helping others is evident in his presentations. He feels that learning from other public servants and keeping up his skills is the best part of presenting. Chad has experienced the honor of presenting multiple topics at regional and state conferences over the years and looks forward to seeing you in the near future.



Daley, Mike - Mike has been in the Fire, EMS, Law Enforcement, and Safety fields for nearly 50 years. He is a retired Fire Chief of the Eastwood Volunteer Fire Department in Wood County. He is currently employed by the West Virginia Division of High ways having worked in 28 federally declared disasters. He is on the committee for Emergency Operations and Critical Infrastructure and is a nationwide representative for the WV DOH. He is a supervising instructor for the Mountain State Education Cooperative serving for 46 years.



Elmore, Amber - Amber began her Fire Service career in 2004 with the Sissonville Volunteer Fire Department where she now serves the role of Chaplain. She is a certified Fire Instructor 2, ICISF Instructor, NWCG (National Wildfire Co-ordinating Group) Instructor, FEMA PIO Instructor, and a certified Wildland Public Information Officer. She has a Master of Divinity from Fuller Theological Seminary and a Master of Marketing and Communications from West Virginia University. Amber is also an adjunct professor at West Virginia State University and serves her in professional career as a as a Hospital Chaplain.



Elswick, Jeff - Jeff is a 30+ year Veteran of the fire service. He started his career with Glasgow Volunteer Fire Department and is now currently the Deputy Fire Chief for the McLaughlin ANGB FD and a Firefighter for the Montgomery Volunteer Fire Department.



Energy Security Agency . - Energy Security Agency provides a well rounded but focused set of services to private and public sector industries who have various levels of interactions with lithium-ion batteries and stored energy technologies. ESA provides real-time guidance for responders operating at emergency incidents, battery burn testing & gas analysis, multi industry training, consulting for manufacturers, Risk Analysis for hybrid and electric vehicles post incident and emergency response planning for industry.

Instructors



Evans, Jonathan - Jonathan became an EMT in 1998 while earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology at Marshall University where he worked on an ambulance operated by the university. He later earned his degree in Paramedic Sciences from West Virginia State University. He has been employed by the Kanawha County Ambulance Authority since 2003. He is certified as both a Critical Care Paramedic and a Community Paramedic. His current position is Squad Training Officer where he works as part of a team to provide classes to both EMS providers and the general public.



Fellows, R.C. - R.C. is the Fire Chief of the O.R. and W. Fire District in Ohio. He previously served as Lieutenant and Training Coordinator for the Pleasant Valley Joint Fire District in Plain City, Ohio. He is a member of the Jefferson County Technical Rescue Team and Ohio Task Force I. R.C. is also a Fire instructor for the Ohio Fire Academy and for Belmont College.



Fleak, Jason - Jason is a 20+ year veteran of the fire service. He is employed by the City of Parkersburg Fire Department and is the department Training Officer. He is a West Virginia Public Service Training instructor.



Fleming, George - George is a highly skilled U.S. Army combat veteran who has dedicated his career to serving his country and ensuring the safety and security of others. He has served as an armor crewman, MACP/CQC instructor and urban warfare instructor. He has displayed a strong commitment to ensuring the well-being of individuals and protecting valuable assets, serving as Safety and Security positions at many high profile employers in the private sector. Currently holds the position of Operations Specialist for the West Virginia Military Authority.



Fouty, Drew - Drew is a Firefighter / EMT and has served with Sissonville Fire Department since 2011. He is a Fire Instructor II, West Virginia Public Service Training Instructor, and American Heart Association BLS Instructor. For 19 years, he has worked as an investigator specializing in product liability, motor vehicle accident investigation, and workplace/ industrial accident investigations. He also has experience as a Firefighter / EMS Specialist in the frack fields.



Freeman, Michael - No bio provided at time of printing.



Gobble, Ritchie - Ritchie is currently a Lieutenant for the South Charleston Fire Department in South Charleston, West Virginia. He started his career as a junior fireman in Ripley, West Virginia. He is currently a certified instructor for the state of West Virginia and Spec Rescue International. Ritchie has numerous years of teaching and conducting aggressive truck company operations along the East Coast. He continues to remain a student of the craft.

Instructors



Gray, David - Dave began his fire service career in 1986. He has been instrumental in the startup of hazmat and rescue teams. Additionally, he has served as an assistant emergency services director and a president of a Local Emergency Planning Council (LEPC). Serving in emergency services, Dave has experience in commanding large scale incidents, managing federal response to natural disasters, planning for events such as the Greenbrier Classic and Presidential Details. Currently, he serves in a volunteer capacity for the Sissonville Fire Department as a firefighter.



Gray, Mike - Mike has more than 40 years in the fire service and has been the Fire Chief of Ansted Volunteer Fire Department in Fayette County, West Virginia for the past 10 years. He is also the team leader for the Fayette County Vert Rescue team where he has served for 34 years.



Gray, Tracey - Tracey is a member of the Ansted Volunteer Fire Department where she has served for the last 13 years. She is 30-year CCT Paramedic and for the last 13 years has been a lead rescuer for the Fayette County Vertical Rescue team.



Gregg, Matt - Matthew is the Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for Mason County, WV, and the Deputy Fire Chief of the New Haven Volunteer Fire Department. With more than 25 years of experience in the fire service, EMS, and emergency management, he has led responses to structure fires, hazardous materials incidents, severe weather disasters, and radiological emergencies. A Fire Officer II, Firefighter II, and Hazardous Materials Technician, he also serves as a federal and state instructor in emergency management, hazmat, and radiological response.



Grimm, Luke - Luke is a Lieutenant and EMT for the Sissonville Volunteer Fire Department. He is also a Firefighter / EMT for the City of Charleston Fire Department. Luke is an instructor for West Virginia Public Service Training.



Hess, Tony - Tony began his fire service career more than 20 years ago. He has worked for the City of South Charleston Fire Department for more than 16 years currently serving as a Captain and the Department's Training Officer. Tony is also a member of the Malden Volunteer Fire Department serving as a Captain. He is a West Virginia Public Service Training instructor and is a member of West Virginia Task Force I.



Holmes, Scott - Scott is a 25+ year veteran of the Fire and EMS service. Scott began his fire service career at the Sissonville Volunteer Fire Department where he currently serves as Firefighter / EMT. He works as a career Captain / EMT at the City of Charleston Fire Department. Scott is an instructor for West Virginia Public Service Training and West Virginia University Fire Service Extension.

Instructors



McCutcheon, Jason - Jason is a 30 year veteran of the fire service. He currently serves as Lieutenant / EMT / Safety at the City of Charleston Fire Department and a Firefighter / EMT / Treasurer at the Sissonville Volunteer Fire Department. Jason is an Instructor 2 with West Virginia Public Service Training and holds degrees from West Virginia State University and West Virginia University Institute of Technology.



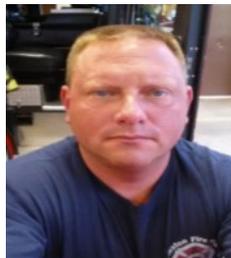
Mitchell, Jonathan - Jonathan is a Lieutenant with the Charleston Fire Department in Charleston, West Virginia, and an active member of the Ripley Fire Department, where he began his journey as a junior firefighter, and currently serves as Chief. Jonathan has over 13 years of experience in the fire and EMS service. Additionally, he serves as an instructor with West Virginia Public Service Training. He is passionate for sharing knowledge and experience, contributing to the development of firefighters across the state in various disciplines within the fire service.



Neil, Kayla - Kayla is a 14-year veteran of the fire service currently serving as Lieutenant at the Gauley River Volunteer Fire Department in Fayette County. She also has 11 years of experience in EMS currently serving as a Flight Paramedic. She is a West Virginia Public Service Training instructor.



Neil, Mat - Mat began his career in 2006 as a Junior Firefighter with the Gauley River Volunteer Fire Department in Fayette County. In 2018, he was hired by the City of South Charleston Fire Department. He serves as a Lieutenant at both departments. Mat is also a National Registry Advanced EMT. He specializes in Wilderness and High Angle Rope Rescue with the Fayette County Vertical Rescue Team for the last eight years. He is a certified instructor with West Virginia Public Service Training.



Niedbalski, Paul - Paul has been the recipient of many prestigious awards during his 30 years in the fire service including a 1997 Firehouse Magazine Heroism Award, 1996 Governor's Medal of Valor, and a 1997 West Virginia State Firefighters Association Award for Bravery. He has delivered programs across the country and is a Firehouse Expo H.O.T. Instructor, a member of West Virginia Regional Response Team, and serves on the West Virginia Technical Rescue Committee. Paul is a Captain with the Charleston Fire Department and is assigned to Rescue 2.



Robinson, Louie - Louie is currently a Clinical Educator / Flight Paramedic at HealthNet Aeromedical Services. He has been an Instructor in Fire, Rescue, and EMS since 1984. Louie began his fire service career at the Ripley Volunteer Fire Department going from Junior firefighter up to Fire Chief, the Charleston Emergency Ambulance Service as a Paramedic / Shift Supervisor, at the City of South Charleston Fire Department as Captain (retired), and at Tri State SAR as a K9 handler / tracker.



Robinson, Thomas - Thomas is currently a Lieutenant / Paramedic for the City of Charleston Fire Department assigned to the truck company. He has been an instructor in Fire, Rescue, and EMS since 2008. Thomas began his fire service career at the Ripley Volunteer Fire Department starting as a Jr. Firefighter in 2000. He worked at Kanawha County Ambulance Authority as a CCT Paramedic, HealthNet Aeromedical Services as a Flight Paramedic, and Tri State SAR as a K9 handler/tracker.

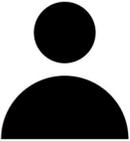
Instructors



Rubin, Dennis - Chief Rubin's fire and rescue experience spans more than 40 years. He has served as a line firefighter/EMT, company officer, staff officer, command officer, and chief of the department in Atlanta, Georgia, Washington, DC and Kansas City, Kansas. He is a Graduate of the NFA Executive Fire Officer Program and the Naval Post Graduate School's Executive Leadership Course in Homeland Security. Rubin is the author of several emergency service textbooks all published by Fire Engineering Books. His teaching credentials are significant including local, state, national, and international venues.



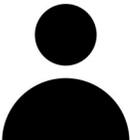
Rucker, Jason - Jason is a West Virginia-licensed Paramedic and retired volunteer firefighter with over 31 years of service in public safety. A West Virginia Department of Education-certified Fire and EMS Instructor, he has extensive experience teaching EMT and continuing education courses. His instruction emphasizes practical skills, critical thinking, and real-world application to improve patient care and field performance.



Taaffe, Dan - No photo or bio available at print time.



Virag, Darin - Darin is a retired Captain from the Charleston Fire Department and has over 25 years of emergency service experience. He is a Supervising Instructor at West Virginia Public Service Training, and has spent the past 18 years teaching and mentoring students. Throughout his career, he has worked on developing training programs at both the state and national levels, and has also been a content and technical consultant for several national publications. Darin is pursuing a Master's Degree in Education. Darin currently teaches the Emergency and Firefighting Management Services Class at Putnam Career and Technical Center in Eleanor, WV.



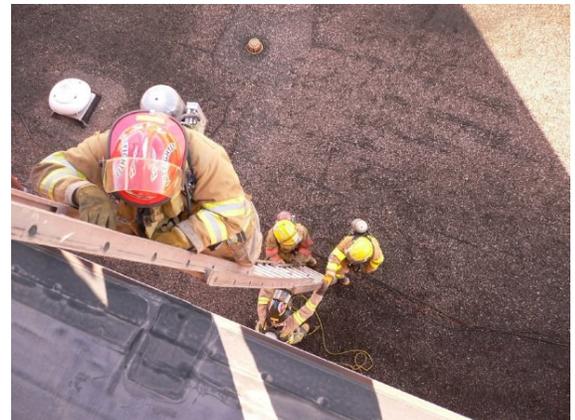
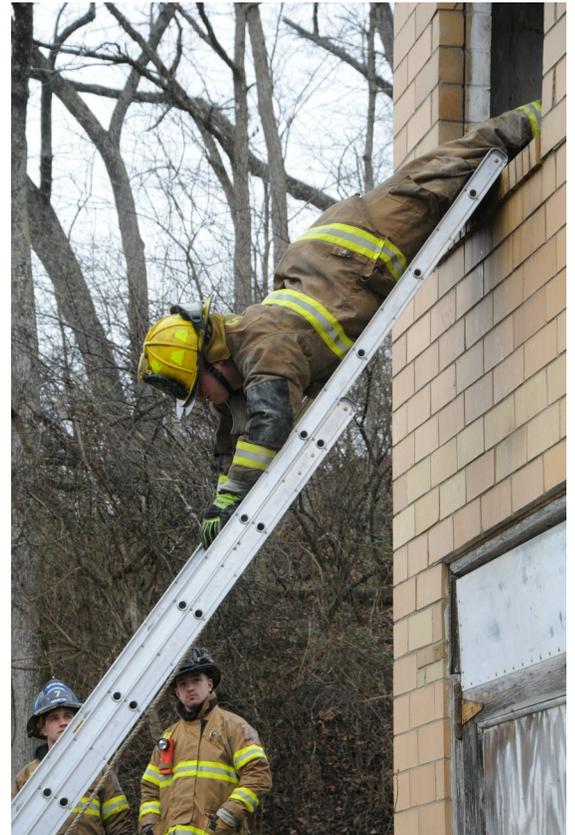
Whitaker, Ron - No photo or bio available at print time.



White, Jeff - With 27 years of emergency services experience, Jeff currently serves as the Director of Safety for HealthNet Aeromedical. Jeff is also an associate member of the Pinch Volunteer Fire Department. His career has involved, career and volunteer fire service in urban and rural environments, as well as a FEMA USAR team member. Aside from his duties at HealthNet, Jeff is an instructor for WVPST, an NAEMT author, a National Fire Academy Instructor, and a technical rescue instructor for Spec Rescue International.



Williams, Victor - With 46 years in the fire service - including time as a fire chief - Vic seen firsthand how the right tools, training, and teamwork can save lives. Today, he serves as an Encapsulation Specialist with Hazard Control Technologies, helping fire departments, industrial teams, and emergency response professionals across NC, SC, VA, and WV implement smarter, safer fire suppression strategies. Whether it's lithium-ion battery hazards, industrial fire risks, or wildfire mitigation, I'm passionate about bringing cutting-edge solutions like F-500 Encapsulator Agent to the front lines.



Lodging

Although we do not recommend any particular hotel, some of the closest ones are listed below. Please check with them for a special Sissonville Fire & Rescue School rate.

Camp Virgil Tate Lodge	Rocky Fork Road (Sissonville)	(304) 984-3311	7 MINUTES FROM CAMPUS
Sleep Inn	I-79 Exit 1 (Mink Shoals)	(304) 345-5111	10 MINUTES FROM CAMPUS
Hampton Inn	I-64 Exit 58-C (Charleston)	(304) 343-9300	12 MINUTES FROM CAMPUS
Embassy Suites	I-64 Exit 58-C (Charleston)	(304) 341-8700	12 MINUTES FROM CAMPUS
Charleston Marriott	I-64 Exit 58-C (Charleston)	(304) 345-6500	12 MINUTES FROM CAMPUS

Directions

From Parkersburg: Take I-77 South to Tupper's Creek Exit III. Make a right at the bottom of ramp onto Call Rd. Go approximately 1.5 miles to stop sign and make a Right turn on Sissonville Dr. (CR-21). Go approximately 1.5 miles to the stop light in front of Sissonville High School and make a left onto Martins Branch Rd. Go 50 yards and make the left hand turn to enter the Sissonville High School parking lot.

From Morgantown: Take I-79 South to I-77/I-79 split. Take I-77 North to Tupper's Creek Exit III. Make a left at the bottom of ramp onto Call Rd. Go approximately 1.5 miles to stop sign and make a Right turn on Sissonville Dr. (CR-21). Go approximately 1.5 miles to the stop light in front of Sissonville High School and make a left onto Martins Branch Rd. Go 50 yards and make the left hand turn to enter the Sissonville High School parking lot.

From Beckley: Take I-77 North through Charleston to Tupper's Creek Exit III. Make a left at the bottom of ramp onto Call Rd. Go approximately 1.5 miles to stop sign and make a Right turn on Sissonville Dr. (CR-21). Go approximately 1.5 miles to the stop light in front of Sissonville High School and make a left onto Martins Branch Rd. Go 50 yards and make the left hand turn to enter the Sissonville High School parking lot.

From Huntington: Take I-64 East to Cross Lanes Exit 47B. Continue on Goff Mountain Rd. through traffic light onto Big Tyler Rd. Go approximately 5 miles to traffic light at Rocky Fork Rd. and make a left. Go approximately 4 miles until a fork in the road at intersection of Kelly's Creek Rd. and Martins Branch Rd. Make a right onto Martins Branch Rd. and go approximately 4 miles and Sissonville High School will be on right just before the traffic light at Sissonville Dr. (CR-21).

Sissonville Fire Department
P.O. Box 13096
Sissonville, WV 25360
<http://www.Station26.org>

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Attn: Training Department

<http://www.SissonvilleFireSchool.com>

