



2026 SPRING SEMESTER

OCEAN COUNTY TRAINING CENTER

OCEAN COUNTY FIRE ACADEMY



FIRE TRAINING CATALOG



I HAVE NO AMBITION IN THIS WORLD BUT ONE,
AND THAT IS TO BE A FIREMAN.
THE POSITION MAY, IN THE EYES OF SOME,
APPEAR TO BE A LOWLY ONE;
BUT WE WHO KNOW THE WORK
WHICH THE FIREMAN HAS TO DO
BELIEVE THAT HIS IS A NOBLE CALLING.
OUR PROUDEST MOMENT IS TO
SAVE LIVES.

CHIEF EDWARD F. CROKER
FDNY CIRCA 1910

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Ocean County Training Center is to reach training and service levels previously thought impossible. Through the use of the most advanced equipment, training props and instructors; we strive to have the most knowledgeable, elite, and professional Firefighters and EMS personnel pass through these doors.

REGISTRATION

Registration is now open! Classes are limited and are on a first come first serve basis. Registration forms can be found on our website or QR Code. Ocean County students are given priority.

Register online:

<https://oceancounty.seamlessdocs.com/f/FireCoursesReg>



CONTACT US

- ✉️ OCFireAcademy@co.ocean.nj.us
- 📞 609-242-8450 / FAX: 609-242-8423
- 🌐 www.co.ocean.nj.us/OC/TrainingCenter
- 📍 200 Volunteer Way, Waretown, NJ 08758
- 🌐 facebook.com/OCTrainingCenter



Letter From the Director

As we begin another year of great fire service training, the instructors and I are happy to present the course catalog for the upcoming semester. We aim to offer realistic and relevant training to Ocean County firefighters. We hope our courses meet your training needs. If you need a class that we are not presently offering, contact me, and we will try to make it happen.

2025 was an exciting year at the Fire Academy as we put our new Flashover Simulator, SUV Car Fire Prop and Class A burn building in service. These new training props were long-awaited additions to the Academy and supplement our existing Class B burn building, smoke house and drill tower.

As always, I want to remind Departments that the Training Center drill grounds remain available for Ocean County Fire Departments to use for company drills at no cost. We ask that a minimum of two weeks' notice be provided so that we can have the appropriate training staff available. We will try our best to accommodate all requests.

If you have any suggestions for future training programs, please contact us here at the Academy so we can try to make them a reality.

Lastly, I would like to thank the Training Center's administrative staff for their work behind the scenes that make this Academy run, and our dedicated instructors whose unmatched talents make the Fire Academy a great place to train and learn.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roger Hull".

Roger Hull
Deputy Fire Marshal/Fire Training Coordinator
E-Mail: rhull@co.ocean.nj.us

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Gabriel".

Brian Gabriel, Director
Ocean County Training Center
E-Mail: bgabriel@co.ocean.nj.us

NJDFS Rapid Intervention Crew (R.I.C.) Member Challenge Exam

In addition to offering the NJDFS Rapid Intervention Crew Member course this semester, we are pleased to announce that we will be offering the NJDFS R.I.C. Member Challenge Exam for firefighters who meet the eligibility requirements. To be eligible to sit for the test, you must have already taken a RIT / FAST / RIC AWARENESS and OPERATIONS class at a recognized Academy. This challenge exam will allow all that pass with a score of 70 or above, the ability to apply for the R.I.C. MEMBER certification from the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety (NJDFS). This is the first step in the new curriculum from the Division of Fire Safety with regards to their R.I.C. Program. After you successfully pass this challenge test and receive your "Rapid Intervention- Member" certification, you will then be able to apply for Rapid Intervention-Leader, if you possess the required additional qualifications for that title. You will also be able to apply for Rapid Intervention- Instructor credentialing, if you meet those requirements. The Current NJDFS Credentialing Criteria are listed at the bottom of this page.

The NJDFS has selected Jones and Bartlett's "Fire Service Rapid Intervention Crews - Principles and Practice" as a study guide. (OCFA does not provide the study guide). It is available at most online retailers, such as Amazon.

Pre-requisites: NJDFS Firefighter 1; RIT/FAST/ RIC Awareness; and RIT/ FAST/ RIC Operations

Note (FAQs): The goal of the new R.I.C. training program from the NJDFS is to standardize R.I.C. training throughout the State. This "State" certification is voluntary at this time and **DOES NOT** void your current, "local" certifications. As with most challenge exams from the NJDFS, this may only be available for a limited time so you may want to consider taking the challenge exam while you can.

Priority will be given to current members of an Ocean County R.I.T. Team

For more information or questions, contact Deputy Fire Marshal/ Fire Training Coordinator Roger Hull at rhull@co.ocean.nj.us or 609-242-8450

TEST DATES: 1/31/2026; 2/11/2026; 3/11/2026; and 6/13/2026

NJ Division of Fire Safety's Current Criteria:

Rapid Intervention—Member: Credentialing Criteria: Be at least 18 years of age; Possess a NJ Firefighter I certification issued by the NJ Division of Fire Safety; Successfully complete the NJ adopted Rapid Intervention Crew educational program, and pass the State exams that evaluate the Job Performance Requirements (JPR's) and components of requisite knowledge and skills contained in the most current edition of the NFPA 1407 standard, specific to the designated title JPR's.

Rapid Intervention—Leader: Credentialing Criteria: Be at least 18 years of age; Possess NJ Firefighter I, Rapid Intervention Member and NJ Fire Officer 1 certifications issued by the NJ Division of Fire Safety.

Rapid Intervention—Instructor: Credentialing Criteria: Be at least 18 years of age; Possess the NJ Firefighter II, NJ Fire Instructor 2, NJ Drill Ground Instructor and Rapid Intervention Member. Successfully complete the NJ adopted Rapid Intervention Instructor educational program and pass the State exams that evaluate the Job Performance Requirements (JPR's) and components of the requisite knowledge and skills contained in the most current edition of the NFPA 1407 standard, specific to the designated title JPR's.

OCEAN COUNTY FIRE ACADEMY

WINTER/SPRING 2026

Evening(s) – 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm ---Day(s) – 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

JANUARY CLASSES	
NJDFS R.I.C. Member Challenge Exam	1/31/2026
FEBRUARY CLASSES	
NJDFS R.I.C. Member Challenge Exam	2/11/2026
Technology & Apps for Fire Instructor and Company Training Officer	2/17/2026
NJDFS ICS 300	2/19, 2/21, 2/26, & 2/28/2026
Animal Emergencies	2/23/2026
MARCH CLASSES	
Firefighter Down	3/4/2026
Fire Behavior and Flashover Recognition	3/7/2026
NJDFS R.I.C. Member Challenge Exam	3/11/2026
Response to Common Emergencies	3/18 and 3/21/2026
Basic Pump Operator's Course (MUST ATTEND ALL DAYS)	3/25, 3/28, 4/1, 4/4, 4/8, and 4/11/2026
NJDFS Fire Police	3/25, 3/27, and 3/28/2026
Working with Administrators & Elected Officials	3/30/2026
APRIL CLASSES	
NJDFS Fire Service Rapid Intervention Crew	4/13, 4/15, 4/18, 4/20, 4/22, 4/25, 4/27, 4/29, and 5/2/2026 (Exam)
Life Before the Lines – Victim Centered Fireground Search & Rescue	4/14, 4/16, and 4/18/2026
Stop the Bleed for First Responders	4/23/2026
MAY CLASSES	
Introduction to Fire Service Law	5/4/2026
Basic Pump Operator's Course (MUST ATTEND ALL DAYS)	5/6, 5/9, 5/13, 5/16, 5/20, and 5/23/2026
For the Love of the Engine – the Artery of the Fire Incident	5/9/2026
JUNE CLASSES	
School Bus Extrication	6/3 and 6/6/2026
Electrical Emergencies	6/4/2026
Candidate Physical Agility Test (CPAT) Prep Course (Prospective OCFA Fire 1 Recruits ONLY)	6/7/2026
NJDFS R.I.C. Member Challenge Exam	6/13/2026
Fireground Survival	6/18 and 6/20/2026
NJDFS Haz Mat Incident Commander (MUST ATTEND ALL DAYS)	6/22, 6/24, 6/27, 6/29, 7/1, 7/6 and 7/11/2026

Course Descriptions

ANIMAL EMERGENCIES

Give it enough time and we will all run a call where an animal will be involved. Whether it be a structure fire, MVA, a unique rescue situation, or yes, even a cat in a tree, we need to be prepared to care for our fuzzy and/or 4 legged friends. This course will outline common and uncommon emergencies that may involve an animal. This course is open to EMS personnel.

Pre-requisites: Firefighter 1

BASIC PUMP OPERATIONS

“This program gives firefighters the basics needed to properly operate a pump and a fire department engine. The program is based on the IFSTA Pumping Apparatus Driver/Operator Handbook. Students will leave the program with the knowledge of how water is supplied and distributed on the fire ground. The class is both lecture and hands-on in nature. All students will be required to pass a written exam at the completion of this program. STUDENTS MUST ATTEND ALL SESSIONS” **Students may be required to bring apparatus to hands-on days.

Pre-requisites: Firefighter 1

CANDIDATE PHYSICAL AGILITY TEST - PREP COURSE

Commencing in 2025, recruits for the basic firefighter 1 & 2 course will be required to complete a Candidate Physical Abilities Test (CPAT) before acceptance into the program. This test will consist of a sequence of events and tasks performed in a continuous manner to evaluate a candidate’s ability to perform essential tasks at a fire scene. It will be a timed, pass/fail test based on successful completion of rigorous tasks while wearing a weighted vest. This prep course will allow prospective recruits to prepare for entrance testing by receiving a practice test of what will be expected of them. Participants will get a “dry run” in an effort to set them up for success on test day.

Pre-requisites: Ocean County Fire Academy potential recruits only

ELECTRICAL EMERGENCIES

This class is designed to help provide Fire Officers & Firefighters with some practical knowledge and awareness of Electrical Hazards on the fire ground scene. The class will explain and identify the equipment that make up our electrical distribution systems. Discussions about safe working distances and ladder placement will be prominent as well as examples of risk benefit analysis. Information on how and what to report when calling the power company will also be covered.

Pre-requisites: Firefighter 1

Course Descriptions

FIRE BEHAVIOR AND FLASHOVER RECOGNITION

Has it been a while since you've cracked open your science text? Haven't had any lengthy discussions on fire science in the firehouse lately? Well, then this is the perfect class for you to sharpen your skills and understanding of the dynamics of fire!

Having a firm understanding of the enemy is key in any battle. Firefighting is no exception. This understanding includes standard terminology such as combustion, oxidation, conduction, and convection, but also newer research in the areas of flow paths, ventilation-limited fires, heat release rates, and gravity currents. This class will cover all of these topics and more in order to refresh old ideas, present new ones, and expand upon both while observing a live fire.

The course is designed to complement the Art of Reading Smoke. Participants do not need to sign up for both courses, but it is recommended.

Pre-requisites: Firefighter 1.

FIREFIGHTER DOWN!

A revision of Firefighter CPR, this course will outline the causes of firefighter related cardiac events and how to quickly begin CPR on a downed firefighter in full turnout gear with SCBA. Rapid removal of PPE is imperative in order to transfer care of the firefighter to EMS. In addition, this course will present suggested practices during and after a firefighter down situation. With a national average of approximately 100 firefighters who die in the line of duty annually, many of them from cardiac events, early CPR and properly established practices are our best hope to save a life!

Pre-requisites: Firefighter 1

FIREGROUND SURVIVAL

Our F.A.S.T. Team program is designed to teach you how to rescue other firefighters. This class was developed to teach you how to recognize problems that can get you into trouble, and then rescue yourself in the event you should get into trouble. All too often we read about firefighters being injured or killed at what seems to be routine calls. This class will give firefighters some skills that may be needed to rapidly exit a room or building when things begin to go wrong. Items covered are: Why we get into trouble on the fire ground, Building Construction, Aerial and ground ladders usage and placement, Entanglement emergencies, Mayday, Wall breaches, Ladder and rope bails, Firefighter disorientation, History and cause of firefighter deaths, Personal ropes. The class is divided into two evening lectures that will prepare you for the eight-hour hands-on portion of the program. The hands-on portion is fast paced and strenuous. Firefighter safety will be kept at the forefront during the entire program.

Pre-requisites: Firefighter 1

Course Descriptions

FOR THE LOVE OF THE ENGINE-THE ARTERY of the FIRE INCIDENT

Hands-on, Saturday-only course designed to hammer the fundamentals of engine company operations. This class focuses on hose advancement (1.75, 2 in, 2.5 in hose lines), nozzle techniques, efficient hose deployment/advancement, flow-and-move concepts, stair management (up, down, and standpipe operations), friction point mitigation, and low-staffing engine tactics. Students will complete multiple hands-on repetitions of each technique and scenario, reinforcing muscle memory and decision-making to put water where it needs to be—fast and effectively.

Pre-requisites: Firefighter 1

INTRODUCTION TO FIRE SERVICE LAW

This is not a class where we will be practicing law without a license! What we will do is look at examples of legal issues, departmental operations and organization to help stave off legal issues, and knowing when you need to speak with your local solicitor or to engage one of your own. We will discuss standards, recommended practices, regulations, and legal terms. This is a new class where we will use examples and text from Curt Varone's Legal Considerations for Fire and Emergency Services, 4th edition and other sources. Hopefully this class will make us a little more secure in our work and help us to protect our personal and department assets. If you've read about some of the recent findings against fire chiefs and officers, you might want to attend this new class.

Pre-requisites: Firefighter 1

LIFE BEFORE THE LINES

VICTIM CENTERED FIREGROUND SEARCH & RESCUE

This course trains crews to move fast and save lives. Students will master time-saving search and rescue tactics aimed at getting to and removing your victim as fast as possible for their benefit, including rapid masking, VES, oriented and split searches, victim drags and removals on ground and elevated levels, ladders, and Water Can/compartmentalization. Realistic live-fire scenarios reinforce crew coordination, quick decision-making, and tactical efficiency, ensuring victims are found and removed quickly—because every second counts.

Pre-requisites: Firefighter 1

Course Descriptions

NJDFS - FIRE POLICE

This course will provide the basic knowledge & skill for all newly assigned Fire Police Officers, as well as those experienced firefighters involved with traffic and crowd control at an incident scene. This program meets the New Jersey Statute 15:8-4 concerning the training of Fire Police Officers. Topics covered are: history, demeanor, personal protective gear, Red & Blue light laws, scene size-up, workplace safety. The class includes indoor classroom instruction blocks and an outdoor-practical evaluation. In accordance with NJ Highway Incident Traffic Guidelines for the First Responder, each student is required to bring a Class II safety vest to the outdoor practical class.

Pre-requisites: IS 100, IS 700, IS 800, ICS 200, Hazmat Awareness and NJTIM

.

NJDFS - FIRE SERVICE RAPID INTERVENTION CREW (RIC) MEMBER

The successful rescue of a lost, trapped or missing firefighter requires a significant amount of skill, preparation, and effort. Searching and removing one of our own at an emergency scene will challenge even the most seasoned, well-trained firefighters. This course is designed to meet the requirements of the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety Rapid Intervention Training Regulations and will cover the R.I.C. team concept, duties and responsibilities, problems on the fireground that require the R.I.C. team activation, methods of firefighting self-rescue, R.I.C. equipment and tool cache, basic rescue rope operations and knots, calling a “MAYDAY” and giving a status report.. Other topics to be included are Responsibilities of the R.I.C. Officer and Fireground size-up considerations. This course will involve mostly hands-on instruction that will require the students to provide full P.P.E. and S.C.B.A. This course will be utilizing the Jones and Bartlett “Fire Service Rapid Intervention Crews” Enhanced edition handbook along with Navigate 2 online. Students will be required to pass a written exam with a score of 70 or above.

This course will involve VERY STRENUOUS ACTIVITY. All students will be required to complete all modules of RIC training for completion of course materials. There will be NO exceptions.

Pre-requisites: Certified NJ Firefighter 1, Minimum three (3) years of firefighting experience. **Does not include time prior to being certified**

Course Descriptions

NJDFS - HAZ MAT INCIDENT COMMANDER

This course meets the training requirements in OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120 and NFPA 472 for incident commanders at a hazardous materials incident. Through the application of the incident command system, this course will provide emergency responders with operations and management responsibilities the tools to effectively manage emergency incidents.

Pre-requisites: Firefighter 1 and HazMat Operations

NJDFS - ICS-300

Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents for Operational First Responders. This course provides training on and resources for personnel who require advanced application of the Incident Command System. The target audience for this course includes individuals who are expected to perform in a supervisory or tactical level management role at an incident or event. This includes individuals who may serve as Division / Group Supervisors, Branch Directors, Resource Team or Task Force Leaders, Unit Leaders, or multi-agency coordination system/emergency operations center (EOC) staff.

Pre-requisites: Firefighter 1, ICS 200

RESPONSE TO COMMON EMERGENCIES

This program will offer a comprehensive and tactical examination of responses to what are commonly deemed to be routine emergencies. The program will assist new firefighters, and those aspiring to advance in rank, with the handling of common emergencies under several different circumstances. Students should bring turnout gear, SCBA and a spare bottle for the second class.

Pre-requisites: Firefighter 1

SCHOOL BUS EXTRICATION

This program is divided into two sections. Section 1: Lecture, featuring classification of school bus vehicles, tactical and logistical concerns, proper cutting techniques, school bus construction, patient packaging and transportation, personnel requirements for school bus extrications, scene safety, extrication equipment requirements, standard terminology, communication issues and an overview of various cutting areas on a school bus. Section 2: Hands-on session featuring enlarged door openings, proper cribbing techniques, seat removal and patient stabilization, sunroof openings, window removal and glass openings. Each participant will be given the opportunity to perform these techniques using their own organization's tools. **Students may be requested to bring extrication tools/rescue unit.**

Pre-requisites: Firefighter 1, Basic Extrication

Course Descriptions

STOP THE BLEED FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

The #1 cause of death after an injury is bleeding. With an increase of violent situations that are occurring, it is imperative to be trained on how to stop bleeding as rapidly as possible. This course will show actual incidents where the Fire Department was on location and could render aid. The hands-on portion will have students applying tourniquets and packing wounds to help save a life!

No prior first aid experience is necessary. This course is open to EMS and Police personnel.

Pre-requisites: Firefighter 1 or EMT

TECHNOLOGY & APPS FOR THE FIRE INSTRUCTOR AND COMPANY TRAINING OFFICER

Growing weary of simply reading through a PowerPoint and handing out a paper quiz on the material? Looking for a way to liven up drill discussions and trainings? This class is designed to introduce you to a few new tricks to help and develop upon those ideas. It will include instruction in the use of Google Classroom, and several other interactive sites to increase engagement within your classroom or training. Laptops are encouraged, but not required.

Pre-requisites: Fire Instructor or Drill Ground Instructor, or Fire Officer

WORKING WITH ADMINISTRATORS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS

Conflict between Fire/EMS agencies and administrators and elected officials are never good. They create hard feelings, create animosity, impair creativity, and harm those who we are sworn to protect. This session will deal with the roles, responsibilities, and concerns of local government officials, and help Fire/EMS departments to use this knowledge to improve relations, communicate more effectively, and hopefully to benefit the community as a whole. The class is led by Chief Robert Morris who has served in all of these roles, and it is intended to be a session with open discussion and information to take back and use in the individual communities.

Pre-requisites: Firefighter 1, Chief & Officers Preferred



The OCTC FIRE ACADEMY

PO Box 2191 Toms River, NJ 08754-2191

(609)-242-8450 **fax (609)-242-8423** (800)-723-2088

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Please complete the entire form. Incomplete forms will not be accepted.
2. A separate form is required for each course.
3. Students may register for more than one course at a time.
4. The Chief Officer's signature is required for entry into any course.
5. There is no phone registration. Mail your completed form to:

The OCTC
Fire Academy
PO Box 2191
Toms River, NJ 08754-2191

or fax your form to:

(609)-242-8423
Attn: FIRE ACADEMY

**PLEASE
PRINT
CLEARLY**

COURSE REGISTRATION FORM

Last Name	First Name	MI	NJ FF Cert. #	
Street Address		P.O. Box	Apt #	
City and State		Zip code		
Home Phone		Cell/Pager		
Email				
Social Security # (Optional)		M <input type="checkbox"/>	F <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Month	Day	Year
Current Position		EMT <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
Organization		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Current Position		Years of Service		
Course Name				
Course Dates				

I hereby certify that the above named student has the necessary prerequisites to participate in the above course and, where required, is SCBA qualified.

Chief Officer's signature



Register Online:



<https://oceancounty.seamlessdocs.com/f/FireCoursesReg>



Ocean County Fire & EMS Training Center
200 Volunteer Way
Waretown, NJ 08758
609-242-8450