



R0137

Dear National Fire Academy Student:

Congratulations on your acceptance into the U.S. Fire Administration's (USFA's)/National Fire Academy's (NFA's) "Water-based Fire Protection System Plans Review" (WBFPSPR) course.

A significant portion of the course will be devoted to math and related hydraulic calculation activities. These assignments and activities require your active participation.

You are asked to bring the following items with you for use in the course:

1. A calculator with four basic functions (+ - * /).
2. An architect scale ruler.
3. A laptop and/or tablet with WiFi capability to access online codes.

You must also complete "Testing and Evaluation of Water Supplies for Fire Protection" (Q0218) and "Hydraulic Calculations for Water-based Fire Protection System Plans Review" (Q0137) through NFA Online at <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/courses/online.html>. Please complete these courses before you arrive so you will be prepared for classroom activities.

You will find your pre-course reading assignment at https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/pcm/precourse_reading_r0137.pdf. Please read prior to your arrival to class.

This class is a six day class which starts on Sunday at 8 a.m. Subsequent classes will meet daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. with evening classes possible.

The course materials for this course are now available in a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) format which will function on any electronic device. If you own an electronic device (laptop computer, tablet, etc.) and are familiar with its document reader functions, we are asking you to download the Student Manual (SM) **before you travel to Emmitsburg** and bring the preloaded device with you. Please see the page following this letter for complete instructions on successfully downloading your course materials. Please note: If you plan to bring/use an iPad, you may experience issues saving/storing/printing course assignments since there is no USB/thumb drive capacity for these devices.

The NFA classroom environment is computer based. Increased numbers of students and instructors are bringing laptop computers or other electronic devices to campus; you are responsible for the security and maintenance of your equipment. The NFA cannot provide computer software, hardware (which includes disks, printers, scanners, monitors, etc.), or technical support for your device. For your convenience, we do provide surge protector power strips at each classroom table.

Should you need to access the Student Computer Lab, it is located in Building D and is available for all students to use. The lab is open daily with a technician available Monday through Thursday from 1700 to 2100 (5 p.m. to 9 p.m.) and on Saturdays from 0800 to 1200 (8 a.m. to noon). The lab uses Windows 7 and Office 2013 as the software standard.

If you need additional information related to your course's content or requirements, please contact Mr. Keith Heckler, Fire Protection: Technical Curriculum Training Specialist, at (301) 447-7256, or by email at keith.heckler@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tonya L. Hoover". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "T".

Tonya L. Hoover, Superintendent
National Fire Academy
U.S. Fire Administration

Enclosure

National Fire Academy Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Course Materials/Download Instructions

If you own an electronic device (laptop computer, tablet, etc.) and are familiar with its document reader functions, we are asking you to download the Student Manual (SM) before you travel to class and bring the preloaded device with you.

The **first step** is to download ADOBE Reader to your device. This will enable you to read and manipulate the course materials. ADOBE Reader can be used to comment and highlight text in Portable Document Format (PDF) documents. It is an excellent tool for note-taking purposes.

For Laptops and Computers

ADOBE Reader can be downloaded from www.adobe.com/downloads/. It is a free download. Please note that depending on your settings, you may have to temporarily disable your antivirus software.

For Tablets and Other Similar Hand-Held Devices

ADOBE Reader can be downloaded onto devices such as iPads, android tablets, and other hand-held devices. ADOBE Reader for these types of devices can be found in the device's Application Store using the search function and typing in "ADOBE Reader." Follow the instructions given. **It is a free application.** Note: In order to have the editing capabilities/toolbar, the document needs to be "opened with ADOBE Reader." There should be a function on your device to do this.

After you have successfully downloaded the ADOBE Reader, please use the following Web link to download your R0137, "Water-based Fire Protection System Plans Review" (WBFPSPR) SM. (You may copy/paste this link into your Web browser.)

https://nfa.usfa.fema.gov/ax/sm/sm_r0137.pdf

Note: Please make sure you download the ADOBE Reader first. To open the SM, you will need to open the ADOBE Reader and then open the SM through the ADOBE Reader in order for the note-taking tools to work properly.

If you need assistance, please contact nfaonlinetier2@fema.dhs.gov.