Dear National Fire Academy Student:

By now you should have received an email notification from the National Emergency Training Center (NETC) Admissions Office. This notification indicates your acceptance into the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), National Fire Academy (NFA) “Fire Investigation: Essentials” (FI:E) course.

Congratulations on your acceptance into the USFA’s/NFA’s FI:E course.

This course will require using the online learning system Desire to Learn (D2L). Approximately two to three weeks before the start of your course, you will receive a separate email with instructions about how to access D2L.

Please note that the following are required:

1. A Wi-Fi-enabled laptop or tablet with a current internet browser is needed for exams, homework assignments, discussion forums and to receive communications. You are responsible for the security and technical support of your equipment.


Learning objectives and grading methodology are in the syllabus. Students are evaluated on both written and presentation assignments, along with two examinations. Completion of work assignments, homework, outside-class reading assignments, and studying after hours are necessary.

Attendees participate in multiple fire scene examinations and should bring work shoes and work clothes. Personal protective equipment is required; NFA provides: Tyvek, N95 masks, hard hats, safety glasses and gloves. Students should check the weather forecast prior to their arrival and bring cold weather or rain gear if appropriate, as practical exercises continue during inclement weather. Cameras will be available for each group. The investigation and reconstruction activities can be physically demanding.

If you need additional information related to your course’s content or requirements, please contact Mr. Lester Rich, MIFireE, Training Specialist, at 301-447-1209, or by email at lester.rich@fema.dhs.gov. Good luck, and I hope to see you on campus.

Sincerely,

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