



FEMA

R0247

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) "Advanced Life Support Response to Hazardous Materials Incidents" (ALSRHMI) course.

Congratulations on your acceptance into the U.S. Fire USFA's/NFA's ALSRHMI course. This fast-paced, highly technical program poses a serious challenge to the student. You are asked to arrive prepared to engage in the course with maximum commitment. There will be many opportunities to explore new relationships with chemistry and toxicology and how they relate to response to hazardous materials incidents.

This course represents a state-of-the-art approach to training, which utilizes computer-based reference materials, scenario-type exercises, and multiple opportunities for the student to apply the information. This type of approach to learning is performance based and designed to equip you with tools and experience to make "risk-based" decisions in your local setting.

Feel free to bring any written materials, i.e., procedures, protocols, to share with other students. We ask that these items be in an electronic format and in Microsoft Office format.

Prior to your arrival, you should complete the "Foundational Concepts of Chemistry" (Q0228) self-study course. This course is available through NFA Online at <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/courses/online.html>.

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. Wayne Yoder, Hazardous Materials Curriculum Training Specialist, at (301) 447-1090, or by email at wayne.yoder@fema.dhs.gov. Good luck, and I hope to see you on campus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eriks J. Gabliks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Eriks" being the most prominent part.

Eriks J. Gabliks, Superintendent
National Fire Academy
U.S. Fire Administration