



## National Fire Academy

**W0321 – Incident Command for High-Rise Operations**

**Version: 4th Edition, 2nd Printing, April 2014**

**Quarter:**

**ACE Credit: In the lower division baccalaureate/associate degree category, one semester hour in fire tactics and strategy.**

**IACET Continuing Education Units: 1.4**

**Length of Course: 2 Days (11 hr., 55 min. contact hours)**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Curriculum: Incident Management**

**Training Specialist: Richard Sexton**

**Instructor:**

**Instructor email/phone:**

**Classroom: J-**

**Meeting Time: 8 AM – 5 PM**

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### Course Description (Catalog)

W0321 – “Incident Command for High-Rise Operations.” This two-day course is designed to assist emergency response officers who have responsibility for managing highrise incidents. This includes organizing resources, developing strategies, and managing tactical operations to protect life and to minimize damage during an incident. Students attending should have a working knowledge of basic Incident Command System organization; working knowledge of strategy and tactics for structural firefighting; knowledge of building construction; and understanding of the type of building systems existing in highrise buildings.

## **Student Qualifications (Primary and Secondary Audience)**

This course is intended for fire service officers who have responsibility for managing high-rise incidents.

Students attending this course must have

- A working knowledge of basic Incident Command System (ICS) organization (or have taken the National Fire Academy's (NFA) two-day "Incident Command System" course, Web courses Q0462 (ICS 100) and Q0463 (ICS 200), or equivalents).
- A working knowledge of strategy and tactics for structural firefighting (or have taken the NFA's "Command and Control of Incident Operations" (CCIO) course or its equivalent).
- Knowledge of building construction.

## **Course Scope (Goal)**

To assist emergency response officers in organizing high-rise incidents by organizing resources, developing strategies, and managing tactical operations and interagency coordination, to protect life and minimize damage at high-rise incidents.

## **Course Objectives (Course Learning Outcomes – TLOs)**

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to accomplish the following:

- Identify basic principles of the "Incident Command for High-Rise Operations" (ICHO) course.
- Identify the various high-rise construction systems, fire behavior problems, and their impact on strategy, tactics and life safety.
- Identify the various fire behavior problems, high-rise building systems and their impact on strategy, tactics and life safety.
- Identify strategic and tactical operations and resource needs for high-rise firefighting.
- Identify roles and responsibilities for Command and Control procedures for major high-rise operations and hazards.

## **Course Delivery Method**

The National Fire Academy (NFA) offers specialized training courses and advanced management programs of national impact in an academic classroom environment [on campus at the National Emergency Training Center \(NETC\) in Emmitsburg, Maryland](#). This classroom course is designed for the national level fire service officer from State and local fire service organizations. During this 2-day delivery, students will reside in dormitories provided on campus with classes conducted in classrooms designed for critical student/instructor interaction. All course materials are designed for interactive classroom environments, in either paper notebook or electronic formats.

## **Course Schedule**

The purpose of the course schedule is to give you, at a glance, the required preparation, activities, and evaluation components of your course.

- Unit 1: Introduction
- Unit 2: High-Rise Construction
- Unit 3: High-Rise Building Systems
- Unit 4: Strategy and Tactics
- Unit 5: Basic Organizational Approach

## **Course Resources (Instructional Materials)**

In order to be fully prepared, obtain a copy of the required textbooks and other instructional materials prior to the first day of class.

### **Required Readings**

The student must complete required readings during the course to be able to thoughtfully participate in discussions and activities.

None.

### **Suggested Reading/Resources**

Suggested readings and resources are not evaluated, but may enhance the student's understanding, serve as additional sources for citation and promote discussion of course material.

None.

### **Required Resources (Course Textbook)**

Student Manual.

### **Supplemental Resources (Supplemental Course Textbook)**

None.

## **Grading Methodology (Evaluation Procedures)**

Student performance will be evaluated through two means:

1. Student feedback (to be accomplished on a daily basis through instructor/student interaction during lecture and activities).
2. Administration of a pass/fail examination.

The required performance to successfully complete the course is attained by completing the class with a letter grade of a “C” or higher.

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Point Range</b>
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
F	69 or lower

### **Required Reading Assignments**

Student completion of reading assignments will be done via evaluation of their class participation and will not be a separately graded activity.

### **Suggested Readings**

Suggested readings are not evaluated, but may enhance the student’s understanding and promote discussion of course material.

### **Course Outline**

#### **Unit 1: Introduction**

#### **Objectives**

#### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to identify basic principles of the “Incident Command for High-Rise Operations” (ICHO) course.

#### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will:

1. Explain the course goal.
2. Explain the general characteristics of the instructional units of this course.

3. Explain basic concepts of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the National Response Framework (NRF).
4. Explain how their performance will be evaluated.
5. Describe administrative issues relevant to the classroom.

## **Unit 2: High-Rise Construction**

### **Objectives**

#### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to identify the various high-rise construction systems, fire behavior problems, and their impact on strategy, tactics and life safety.

#### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will:

1. Define the term “high-rise.”
2. List building construction features.
3. Explain the characteristics of building construction, design features, and fire behavior that affect strategy, tactics and life safety.

## **Unit 3: High-Rise Building Systems**

### **Objectives**

#### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to identify the various fire behavior problems, high-rise building systems and their impact on strategy, tactics and life safety.

#### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will:

1. Explain the characteristics of fire behavior and building systems that affect strategy, tactics and life safety.
2. Identify building systems.

3. Explain fire department ventilation techniques at high-rise incidents.

## **Unit 4: Strategy and Tactics**

### **Objectives**

#### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to identify strategic and tactical operations and resource needs for high-rise firefighting.

#### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will:

1. Identify the high-rise fire standard operating guidelines (SOGs).
2. Describe primary assignments for engine and truck company operations.
3. Identify life safety considerations involving evacuation procedures, rapid intervention, responder rehabilitation, and personnel accountability.

## **Unit 5: Basic Organizational Approach**

### **Objectives**

#### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to identify roles and responsibilities for Command and Control procedures for major high-rise operations and hazards.

#### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will:

1. List time and distance factors.
2. Explain the need for Staging.
3. Explain the necessary logistical functions of Base, Lobby Control, Ground Support, Communications and Systems.
4. Identify first-alarm capabilities and the Incident Command System (ICS) organization.

## **Policies**

### **Class Attendance and Cancellation Policy**

#### **Attendance**

- You are required to attend all sessions of the course. If you do not, you may not receive a certificate.
- If you need to depart the training facility early and miss any portion of the course, you must make the request in writing to the sponsoring agency (e.g., State training director, etc.). The State training director may waive the attendance requirement in order to accommodate you with extraordinary circumstances as long as you complete all course requirements.

#### **Student Substitutions**

Substitutions for NFA courses are made from waiting lists; your fire department can't send someone in your place.

#### **Cancellations or No-Shows**

NFA's mission for delivery of courses is impaired significantly by cancellations and no-shows. It is very difficult and costly to recruit students at the last minute. Currently there is a two-year ban on student attendance for students who are no-shows or cancel within 30 days of the course start date without a valid reason. If you receive such a restriction, your supervisor needs to send a letter to our Admissions Office explaining the cancellation/no-show.

#### **Course Failure**

You can reapply for the failed course or any other NFA course and go through the random selection process. You don't have to successfully complete the failed course before attending another NFA course.

#### **Student Code of Conduct Policy**

Students, instructors and staff are expected to treat each other with respect at all times. Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.

#### **Writing Expectations**

Student writing will conform to the generally accepted academic standards for college papers. Papers will reflect the original work of the student and give appropriate credit through citations for ideas belonging to other authors, publications or organizations. Student written work should be free of grammatical and syntax errors, free of profanity or obscene language or ideas, and reflect critical thinking related to the course subject matter.

## **Citation and Reference Style**

Attention Please: Students will follow the APA, Sixth Edition as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to NFA. Assignments completed in a narrative essay, composition format, abstract, and discussion posts must follow the citation style cited in the APA, Sixth Edition.

## **Late Assignments**

All assignments must be turned in by the established deadline. Late submissions could result in a 10 percent decrease in grade.

## **Disclaimer Statement**

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

## **Grading**

Please review the above grading methodology that explains how grades will be awarded. Students who do not complete the entire course will be awarded an Incomplete (I) grade. In accordance with National Fire Academy academic policies, an Incomplete (I) grade must be removed by the end of the next semester following the course, or it automatically becomes a Failing (F) grade.

If you fail an on-campus course, you will not be issued a stipend for that course. You can reapply for the failed course or any other NFA course and go through the random selection process. You don't have to successfully complete the failed course before attending another NFA course.

[https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/admissions/student\\_policies.html](https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/admissions/student_policies.html)

## **Academic Honesty**

Students are expected to exhibit exemplary ethical behavior and conduct as part of the NFA community and society as a whole. Acts of academic dishonesty including cheating, plagiarism, deliberate falsification, and other unethical behaviors will not be tolerated.

Students are expected to report academic misconduct when they witness a violation. All cases of academic misconduct shall be reported by the instructor to the State training director or host agency and to the NFA Training Specialist.

If a student is found to have engaged in misconduct and the allegations are upheld, the penalties may include, but are not limited to one or a combination of the following:

- expulsion,
- withholding of stipend or forfeiture of stipend paid,
- exclusion from future classes for a specified period; depending on the severity it could range from 1-10 years, and/or
- forfeiture of certificate for course(s) enrolled in at NETC.

Refer to NFA-specific Standard Operating Procedure 700.1 – *Academic Code of Conduct and Ethics* for more information.