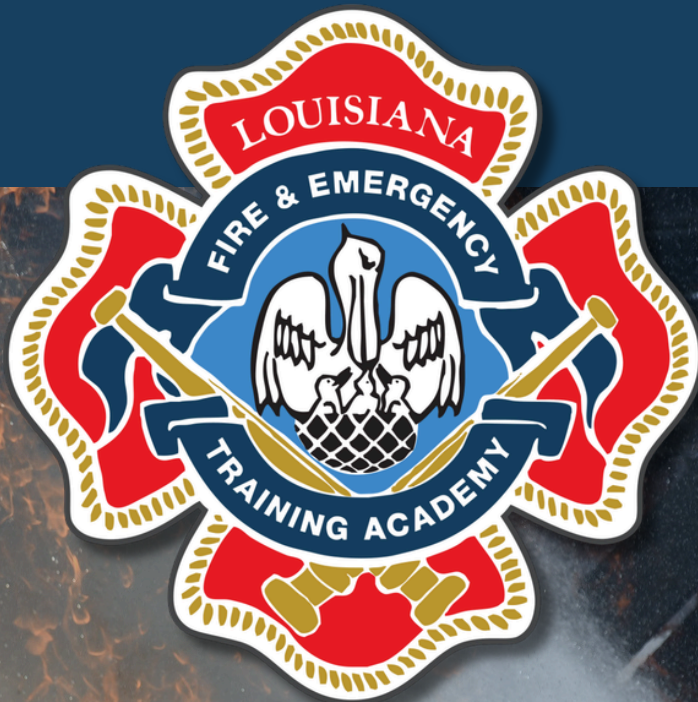


Louisiana Fire & Emergency Training Academy

FETA
FLASHPOINT

The Academy Brief



JUNE 2026





Superintendent Says...

As our warm Louisiana weather begins bringing everyone back outdoors, the fire service also shifts focus to heat-related incidents, injuries, and dangers that come with the summer months. From making sure the cooler on the apparatus is stocked with ice to responding to water emergencies and heat-related calls, preparation is critical this time of year.

Hydration, hydration, hydration! As firefighters, we must protect ourselves, our fellow firefighters, and our families by ensuring we stay properly hydrated and keep electrolyte drinks readily available. Heat-related injuries can develop quickly, especially in young children, so make sure your families are prepared as well.

Remember to wear sunscreen whether you are at the ballpark, the swimming pool, or out on the water. Protect your head and exposed skin when working outdoors for extended periods of time, and remember that sunscreen must be reapplied throughout the day.

Outdoor cooking requires constant attention. Take time to teach children about the three-foot "Safety Circle" around grills and cooking areas and remind them never to enter that space without an adult present. Ensure all cooking equipment is clean and operating properly, and always check propane equipment for leaks prior to lighting.

As firefighters, we already face enough hazards on the fireground. When the high temperatures and humidity of a Louisiana summer are added to those dangers, the risk of heat-related injuries increases dramatically. Take care of yourself and your partner. Rehab after every bottle, monitor one another for signs of heat exhaustion or heat stroke, and never hesitate to speak up when something does not feel right.

As we do every month, I would also like to remind everyone about Operation Save-A-Life. This State Fire Marshal program continues to play a vital role in preventing fire fatalities across our state. I encourage each of you to contact the State Fire Marshal's Office and become a champion in your community by promoting and installing free smoke detectors.

Stay safe, stay hydrated, and continue taking care of one another. The difference you make can save a life.

Chief Tracey Normand

FETA Superintendent

Vision

We will meet the needs of our customers and create a destination fire academy. To do this, we will create sought after and memorable student experiences with knowledgeable and professional instructors that deliver curriculum that is current and relevant – supplemented with props on and off campus that are modern, clean, functional and safe. Committed to excellence, we will embrace new technology and techniques to adapt to the changing needs of our customers. We will be known as a premier training agency across the country.



Chiefs' Corner...



Louisiana USAR: Prepared for Emergencies at Home and Beyond

Louisiana Urban Search and Rescue (LA USAR) is a statewide emergency response system built on dedication, teamwork, professionalism, and a commitment to protecting the citizens of Louisiana during their most difficult moments. The system consists of four regional task forces strategically positioned across the state:

- Task Force 1 (TF-1) – New Orleans
- Task Force 2 (TF-2) – Baton Rouge
- Task Force 3 (TF-3) – Shreveport
- Task Force 4 (TF-4) – Ouachita/Monroe

The foundation of the Louisiana USAR is the Louisiana fire service. The men and women who make up these task forces come from fire departments and emergency service agencies across the state. Firefighters, paramedics, rescue specialists, communications personnel, and emergency management professionals work together to provide highly specialized rescue capabilities during disasters and large-scale emergencies. While these members serve their local communities every day, they also dedicate significant time to additional training and statewide response operations as part of the Louisiana USAR system.

The Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office plays a major role in supporting and coordinating the statewide USAR program. The Fire Marshal's Office assists with funding support, equipment acquisition, training opportunities, and operational readiness while also serving as a key liaison between Louisiana USAR and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP). This partnership helps ensure the task forces remain prepared, equipped, and capable of responding rapidly to emergencies across the state.

Louisiana USAR teams are trained in multiple technical rescue disciplines, including structural collapse rescue, rope rescue, trench rescue, confined space rescue, swift water rescue, and disaster response operations. Due to Louisiana's continued threat of hurricanes, flooding, tornadoes, and industrial emergencies, the teams must maintain a constant state of readiness.

A critical component of Louisiana USAR operations is the Incident Management Team (IMT). The IMT provides command, coordination, and support during major incidents and disaster deployments. Team members manage areas such as operations, planning, logistics, communications, safety, and resource tracking to ensure incidents are handled efficiently and effectively under a unified command structure.

One of the greatest strengths of the Louisiana USAR is the teamwork and interoperability shared among the four task forces. Members regularly train together and build strong working relationships that allow them to operate seamlessly during large-scale emergencies and disaster responses.

The men and women of Louisiana Urban Search and Rescue represent the very best of the Louisiana fire service. Their professionalism, commitment, and willingness to respond whenever needed continue to strengthen emergency response capabilities throughout the State of Louisiana.

*Chief Michael Kimble
City of Baton Rouge Fire Department*

In the Can...

Baton Rouge Campus



First Responder Inspector - May 4 - 8

- *This course prepares candidates for First Responder Inspector, Fire Inspector, and Fire Plans Examiner roles by developing communication, public relations, report writing, record keeping, complaint management, and basic math skills.*
- *Eight students representing six departments.*



Apparatus Driver/Operator - Pumper - May 4 - 15

- *This course meets current NFPA 1002 and NFPA 1500 standards and teaches firefighters the skills needed to safely operate and maintain fire apparatus. Topics include driver training, pumping systems, hydraulics, water supply, fire streams, and apparatus safety. Students who complete the course may take the Louisiana Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator - Pumper certification exam.*
- *Three students representing two departments.*

Pine Country Campus



Incident Safety Officer - May 18 - 22

- *This course prepares emergency responders to serve as Incident Safety Officers within the Incident Management System, focusing on fire suppression, EMS, hazardous materials, technical rescue, risk management, fireground safety, building construction, and incident action plan development.*
- *Seven students representing five departments.*

Instructor Insight

- **Name:** Joey Cacioppo
- **Time with FETA:** Since 2016
- **Department:** FETA Adjunct Instructor



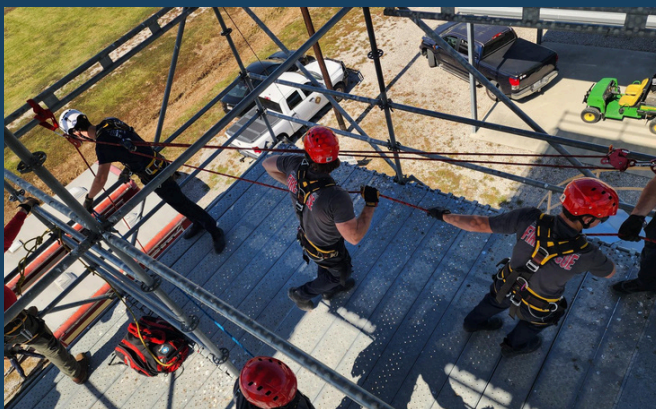
Joey Cacioppo: All Charged Up to Teach

From delivery driver and electrician to respected fire service leader, Joey Cacioppo has built a career rooted in hard work and mentorship. Originally from Chalmette, Cacioppo discovered his passion for firefighting in the early 2000s while attending the academy and beginning his career with the Hammond Fire Department before joining the Covington Fire Department. “I had a passion for wanting to be a firefighter,” he said. “And it happened.”

During his 25 years with Covington, Cacioppo rose through the ranks to captain and Fire Prevention Officer before retiring in June 2025. Known for his leadership style, he said, “I loved being a captain and leading my crews. We became very close. I looked at myself as one of the firefighters and not as an officer. I was a mentor.”

Since 2016, he has also served as an adjunct instructor with the Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Academy (FETA), teaching a variety of courses, including specialty classes on electric vehicles, lithium-ion battery fires, and thermal runaway. As electric vehicles and battery-powered devices become more common, the courses help firefighters understand the unique hazards these fires present, including rapid heat escalation, reignition risks, and the challenges of suppression.

Even in retirement, Cacioppo remains dedicated to training the next generation of firefighters. “We have a top-notch super high-quality staff of instructors here at FETA,” he said. “You want fire training? Come to the fire training academy.”



FEATURED COURSE

- **Course Title:** Rope Rescue Awareness
- **Course Details:** The Rope Rescue Awareness Course provides personnel with the knowledge to identify rope rescue hazards, establish scene isolation, and coordinate required support resources. Instruction covers high and low-angle search principles, ground support functions, triage considerations, and assisting technician-level teams with mechanical advantage systems.
- **Course Date:** August 12, 2026 | FETA Pine Country

On Deck...

JULY

Instructor I

July 13 | FETA Baton Rouge

Fire Investigator

July 13 | FETA Pine Country

Fire Officer I

July 27 | FETA Pine Country

Open Testing

June 10 & 24

AUGUST

Recruit Academy

August 3 | FETA Baton Rouge

Instructor II

August 3 | FETA Baton Rouge

Rope Rescue Awareness

August 12 | FETA Pine Country

Fire Officer II

August 17 | FETA Pine Country

Rope Rescue Operations

August 24 | FETA Pine Country

Open Testing

July 8 & 22

Open Certification Testing

The Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Academy (FETA) has launched after-hours Open Certification Testing to expand access for fire service personnel. Sessions are offered at both FETA campuses and four regional sites on the second and fourth Wednesdays each month from 5–7 p.m. and 7–9 p.m. The initiative addresses scheduling challenges for working professionals, increases testing capacity, and helps reduce statewide backlogs and wait times while maintaining high certification standards.

FETA — Baton Rouge

6868 Nicholson Drive
Baton Rouge, La. 70820

FETA — Pine Country

214 Dutch Harbor
Minden, La. 71055

Alexandria Fire Department

1000 Bolton Avenue
Alexandria, La. 71301

Jefferson Parish Fire Training Center

3221 River Road
Westwego, La. 70094

Ouachita Fire Department

1000 New Natchitoches Road
West Monroe, La. 71292

SMH Wellness Pavilion, 2nd Floor

501 Robert Boulevard
Slidell, La. 70458

“We are committed to expanding access to certification while maintaining the high standards expected of our fire service professionals,” said DPS Principal Assistant, Chief Bryan J Adams. “By offering after-hours testing and increasing availability, we are reducing delays and better serving personnel statewide.”

“These improvements ensure a more streamlined and accessible certification system without compromising quality,” said FETA Superintendent, Chief Tracey Normand. “Providing additional evening opportunities allows us to eliminate backlogs and deliver a more efficient and reliable pathway to certification.”

2026 Training Opportunities

Recruit Academy

August 3 | FETA — Baton Rouge

Instructor I

July 13 | FETA — Baton Rouge

Instructor II

August 3 | FETA — Baton Rouge

Instructor III

September 14 | FETA — Baton Rouge

Live Fire Instructor

December 7 | FETA — Pine Country

Live Fire Instructor-in-Charge

December 9 | FETA — Pine Country

Fire Officer I

July 27 | FETA — Pine Country

Fire Officer II

August 17 | FETA — Pine Country

Fire Officer III

September 21 | FETA — Pine Country

Fire Officer IV

October 19 | FETA — Pine Country

Incident Safety Officer

June 22 | FETA — Baton Rouge

Fire Investigator

July 13 | FETA — Pine Country

Driver/Operator - Pumper

June 15 | FETA — Pine Country

Driver/Operator - Mobile Water Supply

June 24 | FETA — Pine Country

Rope Rescue Awareness

August 12 | FETA — Pine Country

Rope Rescue Operations

August 24 | FETA — Pine Country

Rope Rescue Technician

September 8 | FETA — Pine Country

Heavy Vehicle Rescue Awareness

October 28 | FETA — Pine Country

Heavy Vehicle Rescue Operations

November 17 | FETA — Pine Country

Heavy Vehicle Rescue Technician

December 1 | FETA — Pine Country

Common Passenger Vehicle Awareness

September 16 | FETA — Pine Country

Common Passenger Vehicle Operations

September 28 | FETA — Pine Country

Common Passenger Vehicle Technician

October 13 | FETA — Pine Country

Open Testing

July 8 & 22 | August 12 & 26

*See previous page for sites.

Register Now in ACADIS

Learn Fire Service Best Practices with the National Fire Academy (NFA)

Take advantage of NFA's training opportunities to enhance your knowledge and skills in the Fire Service. These courses bring nationally recognized instruction right here to Louisiana.

To secure these valuable training sessions, **we must have at least 20 students registered no later than 45 days prior to the course start date.** This is a requirement set by NFA to avoid course cancellations. It allows NFA time to book travel for its instructors.

Register early to ensure the course can proceed as planned.

Please note: Registration will remain open until the first day of class—but don't wait! Early registration helps us keep these opportunities available to everyone in the Louisiana fire service community.



**National
Fire
Academy**
Courses



NFA TRAINING

F0610 - Wildland Urban Interface Firefighting for the Structural Company Officer

July 9-10, 2026

Breaux Bridge, LA @ St. Martin Parish Fire Training Center

00457 - Decision-Making for Initial Company Operations

Bridge City, LA @ Jefferson Parish Training Center

July 21-22, 2026

00760 - New Fire Chief: Challenging Issues

Bridge City, LA @ Jefferson Parish Training Center

September 2-3, 2026

F0770 Fire Investigation : First Responders

Sept. 16-17, 2026

West Monroe, LA @ Ouachita Parish FD

00770 - Fire Investigation: First Responders

Bridge City, LA @ Jefferson Parish Training Center

October 14-15, 2026

Register Now in ACADIS

Incident Management Training

We are proud to bring you these Incident Management Team and Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Specialty Equivalent courses to help keep you current with training that supports your professional deployments and emergency response operations. Through hands-on and scenario-based instruction, participants build the skills, knowledge, and confidence needed to perform effectively in complex, high-pressure incidents while strengthening decision-making, communication, coordination, and overall team readiness.

Task Force Lead

June 15–17, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. daily
Monroe City Fire Department

Plans Manager

July 7–9, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. daily
Jefferson Parish Fire Training Center

Logistics Specialist

July 13–15, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. daily
Shreveport Fire Department Training Academy

For more information or to request courses, contact Assistant Chief Rusty Edwards at Rusty.Edwards@la.gov.

Register at stems.gohsep.la.gov

0-305: Introduction to All-Hazards Incident Management

October 19–23, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. daily
St. Tammany Fire District 1 Training Academy
Prerequisites: FEMA NIMS IS 100, IS-200, IS-300, IS-700, and IS-800



Recruit Round Up

FETA Recruit Academies 190 & 191

On May 1, 2026, Academy 190 proudly graduated from the Fire and Emergency Training Academy (FETA). After 18 weeks of intensive instruction, these dedicated recruits have earned the title of professional firefighters, ready to protect, serve, and save lives.

FETA is now preparing to welcome Recruit Academy 191, which is scheduled to begin in August. The upcoming class will embark on a rigorous training program designed to develop the skills, discipline, and teamwork required of today's fire service professionals. Recruits will receive hands-on instruction in fire suppression, emergency medical response, rescue operations, hazardous materials awareness, physical fitness, and leadership development. Guided by experienced instructors and mentors, Academy 191 will continue FETA's tradition of excellence by preparing the next generation of firefighters to serve their communities with courage, professionalism, and dedication.



Next Academy...

- Class 191
- Aug. — Nov. 2026
- Register in ACADIS

On-Site Training Offerings

FETA on the Geaux

Firefighter Training Classes

- First 5 Minutes
- Scene Size-Up, Strategies and Tactics
- Smoke Reading
- Fire Ground Simulations
- Basic Fire Ground Search and Rescue
- Thermal Imaging
- Rapid Intervention Team Concepts
- Firefighter Survival Training
- Mayday
- Flashover
- Car Fire
- Modern Fire Attack: Incumbent Firefighters
- Live Fire Training Evolutions
- Multi-Story Attack
- Forcible Entry Practical
- When Hydraulics Go Down (Vehicle Extrication)
- Introduction to Elevator Technology
- New Vehicle Design Awareness
- Max Fire Box
- Flammable Liquids and Gases (FLAG)
- Firefighter Safety and Photovoltaic Systems
- Grain Bin Awareness
- Traffic Incident Management: Responder Safety on the Roadway
- SCBA Refresher

Driver/Operator Classes

- Water and Water Supply
- The Fire Pump
- Mathematics of the Driver/Operator
- Performing Check-Out and Maintenance
- Driving
- Emergency Vehicle Driving
- Fire Ground Operations
- Drafting and Water Shuttle Operations
- Relay Pump Operations
- Foam
- Aerial Device Operations
- Fire Service Communications



Fundamentals of Firefighter Skills, 5th Edition

- The Fire Service
- Evolution of the Fire Service
- Firefighter Health and Safety
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Firefighter Rehabilitation
- Fire Service Communication
- Firefighter Tools and Equipment
- Ropes and Knots
- Fire Behavior
- Building Construction
- Portable Fire Extinguishers
- Ladders
- Forcible Entry
- Search and Rescue
- Ventilation
- Water Supply Systems
- Fire Hoses, Appliances, and Nozzles
- Supply Line and Attack Line Evolutions
- Fire Suppression
- Advanced Fire Suppression
- Firefighter Survival
- Salvage and Overhaul
- Wildland and Ground Fires
- Vehicle Rescue Extrication
- Assisting Special Rescue Teams
- Fire Detection, Suppression, and Smoke Control Systems
- Fire and Life Safety Initiatives
- Fire Origin and Cause
- Establishing and Transferring Command

STAY CONNECTED

FETA Baton Rouge
6868 Nicholson Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70820

(225) 372-6944

FETA Pine Country
214 Dutch Harbor
Minden, LA 71055

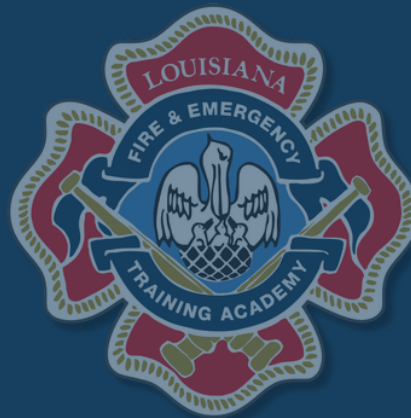
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Mission

The mission of the Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Academy is to train, certify, and support emergency responders to safely perform basic and advanced skills through the delivery of high-quality, relevant, and accredited training curriculum developed to meet the needs of the ever-changing Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical industries.

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Course Evaluation



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