

Louisiana Fire & Emergency Training Academy

FETA FLASHPOINT

The Academy Brief



SEPTEMBER 2026





From the Firehouse...



The Weight of the Helmet: Ethical Command in the Fire Service

A fire service helmet is more than a marker of rank. It represents responsibility, not only for tactics, safety, and strategy but also for integrity. The longer someone serves, the more clearly they should understand that command is not simply about being the person who makes decisions. It is about becoming the moral compass when choices are difficult, politics interfere, and doing the right thing feels lonely or unpopular.

A title may give an officer authority, but it cannot give them trust. Trust is earned through thousands of quiet decisions. Decisions like listening before reacting, supporting firefighters when they are right, addressing honest mistakes fairly, taking part in training, and admitting when you are wrong. Crews do not simply follow the person with the most impressive helmet shield. They follow the leader they believe will remain consistent when pressure rises.

That trust can also be lost quickly. One ego-driven decision, one unfair promotion, or one moment when a leader protects personal standing instead of the crew can begin eroding years of influence. The temptation to take ethical shortcuts is especially dangerous because those decisions rarely appear dramatic. Ignoring a training deficiency, avoiding a hard conversation, or bending a standard “just this once” may feel practical in the moment. Over time, however, individual decisions become patterns, and leadership patterns become organizational culture. Shortcuts are leadership debt. They may feel painless today, but someone eventually pays the cost.

Ethical command on the fireground begins long before the alarm sounds. It begins during training, in how standards are enforced, how seriously preparation is taken, and whether officers work alongside their crews or observe from a distance. The fireground does not hide weak leadership habits; it exposes them. Accountability is also essential, but it should never become a spectacle. Public humiliation, sarcasm, and embarrassment are not leadership tools. Effective correction is direct, private, and purposeful. The goal is not to win the room or prove authority. The goal is to prepare the firefighter to perform better the next time.

Through these everyday decisions, leaders develop ethical reflexes; automatic responses grounded in fairness, humility, ownership, and composure. Those reflexes steady a leader when conditions become chaotic, political pressure increases, or the crew is watching to see whether the standard will hold. Ultimately, fire service leaders must choose between popularity and legacy. Popularity comes from avoiding conflict and saying what people want to hear. Legacy is built slowly through consistency, difficult decisions, and standards maintained when no one is watching.

The helmet is not a trophy. It is a burden earned through trust.

At the end of a career, the most important questions will not concern the number of calls answered, awards received, or titles held. They will be simpler with questions: Did your presence raise the standard? Did you develop people who now develop others? Did you carry the helmet with honor when no one was looking?

If the answer is yes, then you did more than lead.

You left a legacy.

*Dr. Ken Fowler
Assistant Director, University of Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute*



Chiefs' Corner...



Two Names, One Purpose

A turnout coat serves as the first line of defense against fire-related hazards for firefighters as they perform life-saving tasks. In addition to protecting firefighters, the back of the coat is a symbol of their identity, displaying the firefighter's department name as well as the family name.

The department name represents the organization and the team that stands together in service. Firefighting is built on trust, discipline and teamwork. No firefighter works alone, and every member relies on one another in dangerous situations. Seeing the department's name reminds both the public and fellow firefighters that everyone is part of something larger than themselves. It reflects a shared mission to protect lives, preserve property and serve the community with honor.

Equally important is the firefighter's family name. That name represents generations of sacrifice, hard work and personal values. Whether a firefighter comes from a long line of first responders or is the first in the family to serve, their surname symbolizes the people who helped shape their character. It reminds them that every decision they make reflects not only on themselves but also on those who raised, supported and believed in them.

For families, seeing their name displayed on a firefighter's coat is a source of pride. It acknowledges the often-unseen sacrifices made by spouses, parents, children and loved ones who endure missed holidays, interrupted family gatherings, sleepless nights and the uncertainty that comes with the profession. While firefighters answer the call, their families answer it in a different way, through unwavering support and understanding.

The combination of the department name and family name creates a powerful reminder of balance. Firefighters serve their communities with courage, but they also return home to the people who matter most. Both identities deserve recognition. One reflects the commitment to public service, while the other reflects the foundation that makes that service possible.

Ultimately, the names displayed on a firefighter's coat tell a story. They speak of courage, dedication, teamwork and love. They remind communities that behind every firefighter is a family making sacrifices and a department working together toward a common purpose. Together, both symbolize the values that define the fire service: honor, service, loyalty and commitment. Wearing both names is more than a tradition; it is a tribute to where firefighters come from, who they serve with and who they serve every single day.

*Chief Chad Sonnier
Louisiana State Fire Marshal*



Superintendent Says...

Invest in Yourself. Invest in Your Career. Take Advantage of FETA.

The fire service in Louisiana has never been more demanding. Every day, firefighters respond to increasingly complex emergencies while facing new challenges in building construction, hazardous materials, vehicle technology, extreme weather, medical emergencies, and an ever-changing operational environment. With those challenges comes a responsibility. We must continually train, learn, and prepare.

That is why the Louisiana Fire & Emergency Training Academy (FETA) is such an important resource for the Louisiana fire service. It is also why DPS Principal Assistant, Chief Bryan J Adams, State Fire Marshal Chad Sonnier, and the FETA Board of Commissioners have approved waiving all firefighting class and certification fees effective Aug. 6. Our leaders understand the funding challenges many departments must

deal with daily, and they also understand the importance of protecting our firefighters by giving them the ability to receive the knowledge, skills, and education to stay safe and return home.

FETA provides firefighters and fire officers from across our state the opportunity to sharpen their skills, expand their knowledge, and prepare for the situations they may face when the alarm sounds. FETA is more than classrooms, training props, and certification opportunities. It is an investment in firefighter safety, operational readiness, and the future of our profession.

When we arrive at an emergency, there is no time to learn how to do the job. Training must happen before the emergency. The skills we practice repeatedly become the skills we can rely on under stress, whether advancing a hose line, conducting a search, operating on the fireground, responding to a hazardous materials incident, performing technical rescue, or managing an incident as an officer.

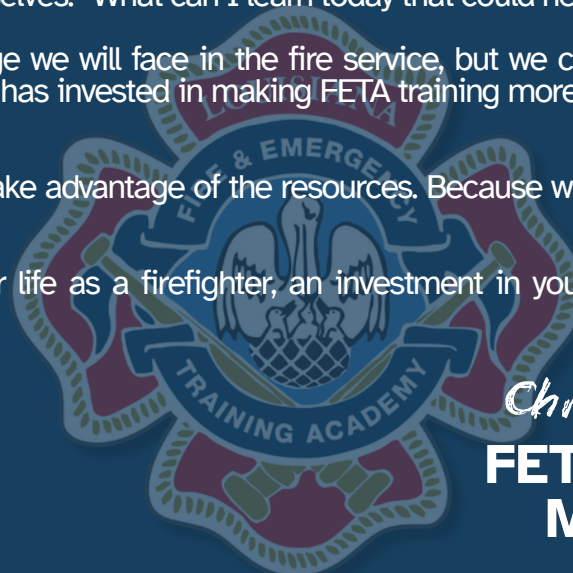
FETA provides an environment where firefighters can learn, ask questions, make mistakes, and improve before those mistakes have life-or-death consequences on an emergency scene. Firefighting continues to evolve, and every firefighter, regardless of rank or experience, should remain a student of the profession. Experienced firefighters can refresh their knowledge, newer firefighters can build a strong foundation, and officers can develop the leadership and decision-making skills necessary to manage increasingly complex incidents.

Every firefighter should ask themselves: "What can I learn today that could help me save a life tomorrow?"

We cannot control every challenge we will face in the fire service, but we can control how prepared we are to meet those challenges. The state has invested in making FETA training more accessible. Now, it is up to each of us to take advantage of it.

Take advantage of the training. Take advantage of the resources. Because when the tones drop, training is what comes with us.

Training is an investment in your life as a firefighter, an investment in your family, and an investment in the citizens we serve and protect.



Chief Charles Hudson
**FETA Superintendent
Municipal Program**



Superintendent Says...

You are not seeing double, and this isn't déjà vu either.

Chief Bryan Adams has appointed me as the Industrial Superintendent for the Louisiana Fire & Emergency Training Academy (FETA), and I am truly thankful and honored to have the opportunity to serve in this role.

Before serving with the City of Gonzales Fire Department (GFD), I served as the Industrial Fire and Emergency Response Manager at what was then LSU FETI. After retiring from GFD, my goal was to return to the Industrial Division of what is now FETA and continue serving this great state fire training facility. Chief Adams has given me that opportunity, and I am excited to be back.

The Industrial Division of FETA is responsible for providing the highest level of professional, high-quality training to our industrial partners not only throughout Louisiana but across the United States. We provide training in firefighting, technical rescue, EMS, hazardous materials, industrial pump operations and incident command, just to name a few.

Our role extends beyond training. The Industrial Division also designs, builds and maintains the specialized firefighting props used to provide realistic, hands-on training. These include multistory LPG industrial units, dual-fuel, multidimensional industrial process-unit props and large pit fires designed to meet the increasing demand for realistic industrial fire apparatus scenarios.

Our industrial staff stands ready to meet the ever-changing needs of our industrial partners. I look forward to being part of this great team, continuing the work of providing exceptional training and helping prepare industrial emergency responders for the challenges they may face.

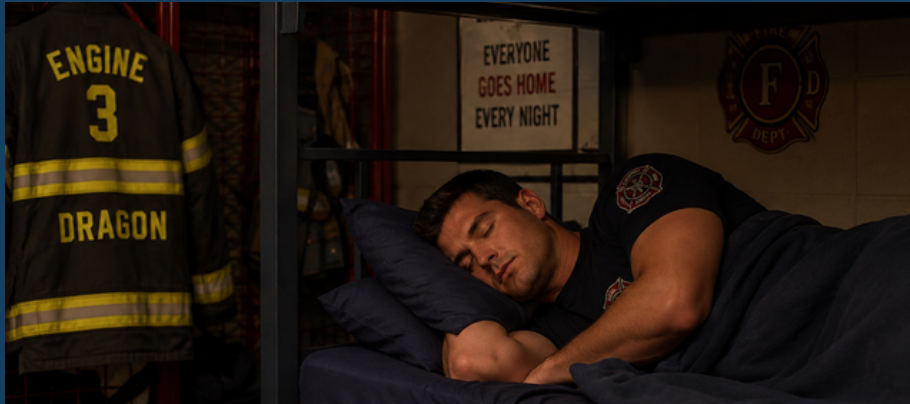
Chief Tracey Normand
**FETA Superintendent
Industrial Program**

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 who 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.

Fit for Duty

With Capt. Mike Dragon/FETA Instructor



The Dangers of Sleep Deprivation for Firefighters

Sleep deprivation is one of the most overlooked hazards facing firefighters. Firefighters often work extended shifts, respond to emergencies throughout the night, and may have their sleep interrupted repeatedly by alarms. Over time, inadequate or poor-quality sleep can significantly affect physical performance, mental health, decision-making, and overall safety.

One of the most immediate dangers of sleep deprivation is impaired cognitive function. Lack of sleep can reduce attention, concentration, reaction time, memory, and problem-solving ability. For firefighters, these impairments can have serious consequences. Emergency scenes require firefighters to rapidly assess changing conditions, recognize hazards, communicate effectively, and make critical decisions under pressure. A fatigued firefighter may be slower to identify a dangerous situation or make an appropriate decision.

Sleep deprivation also negatively affects physical performance. Fatigue can reduce strength, endurance, coordination, and reaction time. Firefighters already work in physically demanding environments while wearing heavy protective equipment and operating in extreme heat and smoke. When the body is fatigued, the ability to perform these tasks safely and efficiently can be compromised. Fatigue may also increase the likelihood of slips, falls, strains, and other injuries.

Another major concern is driving safety. Firefighters frequently operate emergency vehicles or drive home after long shifts. Severe sleep deprivation can significantly impair driving performance and judgment. Microsleeps, brief and uncontrollable periods of sleep, can occur without warning and are especially dangerous while operating a vehicle.

Chronic sleep deprivation can also affect long-term health. Consistently inadequate sleep is associated with increased risks of cardiovascular problems, metabolic disorders, weakened immune function, mood disturbances, and impaired recovery. For firefighters, proper recovery is essential because the body must repair itself after repeated physical and psychological stress.

Sleep deprivation can also affect emotional well-being. Fatigue may increase irritability, stress, anxiety, and difficulty managing emotions. Poor sleep can negatively affect relationships, communication with coworkers, and the ability to cope with stressful calls.

These effects of sleep deprivation can also contribute to the conditions that lead to line-of-duty deaths (LODDs) and firefighter injuries. When a firefighter is fatigued, their ability to recognize hazards, process information, communicate, react quickly, and make sound decisions can all be compromised. In an environment where seconds and decisions can determine outcomes, fatigue can become an operational safety issue.

Addressing sleep should therefore be considered an important part of firefighter wellness and operational readiness. Firefighters should prioritize consistent sleep when possible, maintain healthy sleep environments, manage caffeine use appropriately, and recognize the warning signs of excessive fatigue. Departments can also help by educating personnel about sleep, fatigue, recovery, and safe practices following extended periods of wakefulness.

Sleep is not a luxury for firefighters. It is a critical component of safety, performance, recovery, and longevity. A well-rested firefighter is better prepared to think clearly, perform physically, respond effectively, and return home safely.

Louisiana Is Becoming a Destination for Fire Service Training

Kyle Shuford
Special Events Director
Louisiana Firefighters Foundation



There is a lot happening in the Louisiana fire service right now, and we have an opportunity to build something special.

For years, we have sent firefighters across the country to attend conferences and train with some of the best instructors in the fire service. There is tremendous value in doing that, and there always will be. But we also know what it costs. Registration, airfare, hotels, meals, overtime and backfill can turn a training trip into a major expense.

For smaller departments, volunteer departments and those working with limited training budgets, sometimes it simply is not possible.

So why not bring that level of training here?

That has been one of the goals behind the continued growth of the Louisiana Instructor & Firefighter Training (LIFT) Conference. Our partnership with the Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Academy has allowed us to continue moving in that direction.

From March 1-4, 2027, firefighters from Louisiana and across the country will come to Baton Rouge for LIFT 2027. Classroom sessions will be held at L'Auberge Casino & Hotel Baton Rouge, with most of the LIFT Hands-On Training, or H.O.T. Drills, taking place at FETA's Baton Rouge campus.

Then, when LIFT wraps up Thursday, the week is not over.

The FETA Equipment Expo will follow on March 5 and 6, giving us six consecutive days in Baton Rouge focused on training, equipment, education and the fire service.

That is something worth getting excited about.

A Strong Lineup for 2027

One thing we have tried to do with LIFT from the beginning is build a conference where there is something for everybody.

The 2027 schedule does exactly that.

Our classroom lineup includes instructors such as Michael Dugan, Frank Viscuso, Mike Gagliano, Mark vonAppen, Scott Thompson, Clay Magee, Joey Pordash, Eric Budd, Ryan McCormick, Michael Snodgrass, Linda Crane, Christopher Scott and many others.

The subjects cover the fire service from one end to the other.

Michael Dugan will present This House Rocks and The Way Home. Frank Viscuso brings Flash Point: Forging a Winning Team Culture and Step Up and Lead. Candace Ashby, Benjamin Martin and Mark vonAppen will team up to present 3XL Leadership. Mike Gagliano will present Fireground FUBAR: The Stuff That Messes You Up, while Scott Thompson will teach The Functional Fire Company.

There will also be classes covering forcible entry, ground ladders, thermal imaging, fireground tactics, company operations, hazardous materials, firefighter wellness, leadership, training, modern vehicle emergencies and more.

We intentionally built the schedule that way.

The firefighter sitting in class may have five years on the job or 25 years. They may work for a large career department, a small combination department or a volunteer department. What matters is that they leave Baton Rouge with something useful they can bring back to their crew.

That is what good training is supposed to do.

Then We Get Our Hands Dirty

As good as the classroom lineup is, I am especially excited about the H.O.T. program.

Most of the LIFT 2027 H.O.T. Drills will be conducted on the FETA Baton Rouge campus, giving students the opportunity to train at a facility that continues to grow and improve.

Jimmy Davis will lead ADULTS Only: Flowing Big Water, while Heath Meredith will teach The Real Pump to Nozzle Engine Ops Course. Kevin McCart will present Education is KEY: From Source to Seat. We will finish Thursday morning with Brandon Helms teaching Hose Draggers: Engine Company Hands-On Training and Jonathan Kasouf presenting Truck Company Mindset: The Primary Search.

Josh Percy will also lead Heavy Extrication Essentials, which will be held off campus at Varnado & Sons. That location gives students an environment better suited for the heavy vehicle extrication work they will be performing.

These are not classes where firefighters stand around and watch an instructor work.

The whole point is to put your gear on, grab the tools, stretch the line, make the search, solve the problem and learn something while doing it.

That is where having the right facilities and partners makes such a difference.

FETA Continues to Grow

Anyone who has spent time at the Baton Rouge campus recently can see what is happening there.

FETA continues to invest in the facilities and props Louisiana firefighters need to train realistically and safely. LIFT will take advantage of several areas of the Baton Rouge campus, including existing live-fire and training facilities, while incorporating some of the Academy's newest capabilities into the conference.

One of the most significant recent additions is the Lonestar Tactical Training Building, a new four-story live-fire training structure constructed from 13 interconnected steel containers.

The facility expands FETA's training capabilities and is designed to support realistic live-fire, search, rescue and technical rescue training.

Facilities like this matter.

We can bring some of the best instructors in the country to Louisiana, but we also have to give them somewhere to teach. A capable training facility allows an instructor to do more than tell firefighters how something should be done. It allows them to put firefighters into realistic situations where they can apply what they have learned.

There is no replacement for that.

You can learn a lot sitting in a classroom. Eventually, though, you have to put your gloves on and go to work.

Stick Around After LIFT

When LIFT ends Thursday, do not be in too big of a hurry to head home.

The FETA Equipment Expo will be held March 5 and 6, 2027.

The Expo will give firefighters, officers, chiefs and department decision-makers an opportunity to see apparatus, equipment, tools, technology and products from across the fire service industry.

There is tremendous value in putting firefighters and manufacturers in the same place.

Most of us have probably purchased something that looked great in a catalog or sounded great during a sales pitch, only to discover that it did not work quite as well once it was put on the apparatus.

There is something to be said for getting your hands on a piece of equipment before your department spends money on it.

Ask questions. Compare products. Talk to the people who manufacture and support the equipment. Find out what other departments are using and what is working for them.

When we are spending department or taxpayer dollars, we owe it to our people and our communities to make informed decisions.

When you combine the Equipment Expo with the four days of LIFT immediately before it, we have an opportunity to create something more than another conference or trade show. It becomes six consecutive days built around improving the Louisiana fire service.

This Is Bigger Than One Conference

When I look at what is happening with LIFT, FETA and the Louisiana fire service, I think the bigger story is what we have the opportunity to build right here at home.

FETA has made its vision clear: create a destination fire academy.

I think Louisiana can do that.

We have outstanding firefighters. We have experienced instructors. We have departments willing to share knowledge and resources. We have an Academy that continues to invest in its facilities. We have businesses and industry partners willing to support hands-on training. And we have organizations throughout the state willing to work together.

That last part matters.

No single department, organization, conference or training academy can do everything on its own. But when we bring those resources together, we can provide opportunities that would be difficult for any one of us to accomplish individually.

We do not need to recreate somebody else's conference or copy what another state is doing. We need to build ours.

The goal should be for firefighters from Louisiana to receive outstanding training without always having to get on an airplane to find it. At the same time, we want firefighters from Texas, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida and eventually across the country looking at Louisiana and saying, "We need to get down there and train."

That does not happen overnight.

You build it one class, one instructor, one training prop, one partnership and one firefighter at a time.

LIFT 2027 is another step in that direction.

Check it out and register for LIFT 2027.

Join us March 1-4 for LIFT 2027, and stay with us March 5 and 6 for the FETA Equipment Expo.

Come learn something. Come put in some work. Meet firefighters from departments you may never have crossed paths with otherwise. Take something useful back to your crew.

And while you are here, take a look around at what is being built.

Louisiana is becoming a destination for fire service training.

In the Can...

Baton Rouge Campus



Fire Instructor II - August 3-7

- *This course prepares instructors to develop lesson plans, manage course resources, understand budgeting of the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ), modify instruction to meet student needs, evaluate student and course effectiveness, and supervise and mentor other instructors.*
- *24 students representing 12 departments*

Pine Country Campus



Rope Rescue Awareness - August 11

- *The Rope Rescue Awareness course teaches students to identify scene hazards, organize support resources and initiate isolation procedures. Students will learn rope rescue search techniques for high- and low-angle incidents, ground support operations, triage, and how to assist technical rescue teams with mechanical advantage systems.*
- *24 students representing 17 departments.*



Fire Officer II - August 17-21

- *This Fire Officer II course meets NFPA 1021 standards and provides training in company operations and fire department administration, including human resources, budgeting, inspections, and emergency service delivery. Prerequisites include Fire Officer I and Fire Instructor I certification and a passing skills assessment.*
- *19 students representing 10 departments.*

Instructor Insight

- **Name:** Blance Bankston
- **Time with FETA:** Since 2008
- **Department:** EMS



Blance Bankston: Teaching Skills That Save Lives

For Blance Bankston, EMS is more than a career. It is an opportunity to help others save lives.

As FETA's Emergency Medical Services Chief since 2020, Bankston oversees the academy's EMS program and teaches Paramedic, Advanced EMT, EMT, First Responder and CPR courses. His introduction to EMS came as an LSU student trainer with the university's athletic department, leading to a career that began in 1987 with Acadian Ambulance.

During his career, Bankston served as an Acadian field supervisor and education coordinator before joining East Baton Rouge EMS, where he became an EMS unit commander and frontline supervisor. He also taught at the Fire and Emergency Training Institute, now FETA.

"I love teaching EMS at FETA," Bankston said. "I'm not just teaching firefighters. I also teach teachers, State Troopers, FBI, U.S. Marshals and even DEA agents."

For Bankston, every student represents an opportunity to extend the reach of lifesaving care. "Because I am teaching you how to help somebody, I am helping lots of people each day who need lifesaving care," he said. "It is rewarding when a few of your paramedic students are named Paramedic of the Year."

The EMS program's role extends beyond the classroom, providing medical support for FETA's Recruit Academy and industrial and municipal fire training. "If someone has a medical emergency, we are there to provide emergency medical care on the spot."

After nearly four decades in EMS, Bankston continues to make an impact by preparing others to answer the call when lives are on the line.



FEATURED COURSE

- **Course Title:** Common Vehicle Rescue Technician
- **Course Details:** The Common Vehicle Rescue Technician course develops skills for managing complex vehicle rescue incidents, including stabilization, hazard assessment, access, disentanglement, technical extrication, patient removal, and safe incident termination.
- **Course Date:** October 13, 2026 | FETA Pine Country

2026 Training Opportunities

Recruit Academy

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 III

September 21 | FETA - Pine Country

Fire Officer IV

October 19 | FETA - Pine Country

First Responder Inspector Testing

October 5-9 | 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 Vehicle Rescue Awareness

September 16 | FETA - Pine Country

Common Vehicle Rescue Operations

September 28 | FETA - Pine Country

Common Vehicle Rescue Technician

October 13 | FETA - Pine Country

Open Testing

September 9 & 23 | October 14 & 28

*See previous page for sites.

On Deck...

October

Common Vehicle Rescue Technician

October 13 | FETA - Pine Country

Fire Officer IV

October 19 | FETA - Pine Country

Heavy Vehicle Rescue Awareness

October 28 | FETA - Pine Country

Open Testing

October 14 & 28

*See location list below

November

Heavy Vehicle Rescue Operations

November 17 | FETA - Pine Country

Open Testing

November 18

*See location list below

Register Now in ACADIS

Incident Management Training

We are proud to offer these Incident Management Team and Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Specialty Equivalent courses to help keep you current with the training that supports 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.

Plans Manager

November 2-4 | 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. daily
Monroe Fire Department

Task Force Leader

November 17-19 | 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. daily
Shreveport Fire Department Training Academy

Logistics Specialist

December 1-3 | 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. daily
Jefferson Parish Fire Training Center

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

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. Testing is available at both FETA campuses and four regional sites on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, with sessions offered from 5-7 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. The initiative increases testing capacity, reduces wait times, and helps address statewide certification backlogs. Register today in ACADIS.

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

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

F0770 Fire Investigation : First Responders

Sept. 16-17, 2026

West Monroe, LA @ Ouachita Parish Fire Department

00770 - Fire Investigation: First Responders

October 14-15, 2026

Bridge City, LA @ Jefferson Parish Fire Training Center

F0633 - Youth Firesetting Intervention Specialist

October 21-22, 2026

Pineville, LA @ Ruby-Kolin Fire Department, Station #2

F0457 - Decision-Making for Initial Company Operations

January 12-13, 2027

Ruston, LA @ Ruston Fire Department, Central Station

F0458 - Preparation for Initial Company Operations

February 25-26, 2027

Chauvin, LA @ Little Caillou Fire Department, Station #2

F0457 - Decision-Making for Initial Company Operations

April 27-28, 2027

Broussard, LA @ Broussard Fire Department, Training Classroom

F0455 - Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations

May 18-19, 2027

Sulphur, LA @ Carlyss Fire Department, Station 1

Register Now in ACADIS

IAMI Marine Investigation Training

IAMI

2ND ANNUAL HANDS-ON MARINE FIRE INVESTIGATION TRAINING SEMINAR

LOUISIANA FIRE & EMERGENCY TRAINING ACADEMY

BATON ROUGE, LA - OCTOBER 12-16, 2026

OVERVIEW

The International Association of Marine Investigators & the Louisiana Office of the State Fire Marshal are proud to offer a Marine Fire Investigation Training Seminar. Attendees will conduct hands-on investigations of both recreational & commercial vessels, witness a live burn & attend 36 hours of tested training, ranging from basic fire science & scene safety to in-depth investigations.

REGISTRATION AND FACTS

- Registration is \$695 for IAMI members and \$850 for non-members and is capped at 70 attendees
- Focus will be on NFPA 921 & 1033
- Ideal for insurance, first responders, & marine experts
- CMI & CMFI Testing will be held on 10/16
- Insurance and Fire Investigators CE credits available
- For sponsorship opportunities, please email iami@iamimarine.org



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR
TO REGISTER, PLEASE VISIT
IAMIMARINE.ORG/EVENTS



Recruit Round Up

Academy 191: Building the Next Generation of Louisiana Firefighters

Louisiana Fire & Emergency Training Academy's Recruit Academy 191 has completed its first month of an 18-week journey, with 31 recruits from 12 Louisiana fire departments working toward careers dedicated to protecting their communities.

The recruits have already reached an important milestone, with all of them successfully completing their Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) testing and earning certification. That training provides a critical foundation for firefighters who will routinely respond to medical emergencies in addition to fires and other calls.

Their training has also moved quickly into hands-on firefighter skills. Recruits have worked through the maze, developed teamwork and communication skills, learned the proper use of fire extinguishers and progressed into Hazardous Materials (Hazmat) training.

Each skill represents another step toward preparing these recruits for the realities of the fire service.

The training at FETA is designed to challenge recruits while providing the knowledge, practical experience and discipline they will need to safely serve their departments. What they learn at the academy will ultimately be carried back to fire stations across Louisiana, strengthening the departments they represent and the communities they protect.

For these recruits, the academy is about more than earning a certification or completing a training program. It is about preparing for the responsibility that comes with answering the call when someone needs help.

With approximately 14 weeks remaining, Academy 191 still has plenty of work ahead. More training, testing and hands-on experiences will challenge the recruits as they continue developing into firefighters.

One month is behind them. The foundation has been laid. Now the real work continues.

Academy 191 is preparing not just 31 firefighters, but the next generation of Louisiana's fire service.



New FETA Training Tower Takes Shape with Realistic Training Props

Work is continuing on the Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Academy's (FETA) new four-story live-fire training tower, with the facility now taking another important step toward becoming a premier training resource for firefighters.

Following the tower's arrival at FETA's Baton Rouge campus in June, installation is underway on a series of specialized training props throughout the structure. These props will create realistic environments that firefighters encounter in residential fire emergencies, including a living room and kitchen.

The addition of these scenarios will allow firefighters to train in environments that closely replicate the conditions they may face during an actual structure fire. The hands-on training will challenge firefighters to apply their skills in fire attack, search and rescue, ventilation, hose line operations and other critical areas while operating in a controlled training environment.

The new tower was funded through a \$500,000 Federal Assistance to Firefighters Grant and includes 13 interconnected steel containers designed to support live-fire, search, rescue and other specialized training.

Once the installation of the training props is complete, FETA will begin putting the new tower to work, providing expanded opportunities for municipal, industrial, recruit and technical rescue training. The facility will not only benefit Louisiana firefighters. FETA looks forward to welcoming firefighters from across the state and, ultimately, from across the country to experience the realistic training opportunities the new tower will provide.

As the final pieces come together, excitement continues to build at FETA.

The tower is taking shape, the training scenarios are coming to life, and soon firefighters will be putting it all to the test.



APPROACHING ALZHEIMER'S

First Responder Training

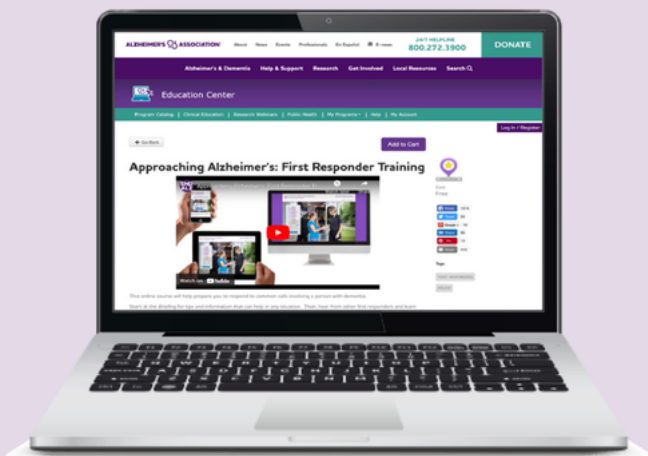
MAKE YOUR FIRST RESPONSE THE RIGHT RESPONSE.

As a first responder, it's critical to understand how to best approach situations involving someone living with dementia. The Alzheimer's Association® ***Approaching Alzheimer's: First Responder Training*** is a free online course to prepare you to respond to common calls involving a person with dementia. Developed with input from first responders, the training offers:



- » Access to the Association's 24/7 Helpline: 800.272.3900, making it convenient for all shifts and new hires.
- » Learning through a self-paced, online curriculum.
- » Videos and interactive activities.
- » Compatibility with any device, including laptop, tablet or mobile device.

Visit alz.org/firstresponders to take this free online training.



Sign up at alz.org/firstresponders

- » Hear from other first responders and learn how to respond to typical calls.
- » Quiz yourself to test your knowledge of the new tips.
- » Explore all of the topics in greater detail.
- » Complete all six topics to earn a certificate or simply review those most relevant to your role.

On-Site Training Offerings

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

FETA on the Geaux



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

Tracey Normand
Superintendent
Industrial Program
Tracey.Normand@la.gov

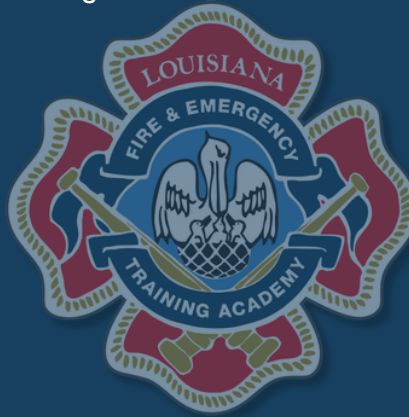
Charles Hudson
Superintendent
Municipal Program
Charles.Hudson2@la.gov

Dustin Kleinpeter
Deputy Superintendent
Dustin.Kleinpeter@la.gov

TK Devall
Southern Regional Manager
Timothy.Devall@la.gov

Blance Bankston
Medical Training
Blance.Bankston@la.gov

Certification Office
FetaCert@la.gov



Katie Elliott
Administrator
Katie.Elliott@la.gov

Johnny Ogden
Deputy Superintendent
Johnny.Ogden@la.gov

Thomas Stone
Industrial Business
Thomas.Stone@la.gov

Thomas Townsend
Rescue Training
Thomas.Townsend@la.gov

Industrial Training Support
FETA_Industrial_Fire@la.gov

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.

This public document is published at a total cost of \$2.16. One hundred (100) copies of this public document were published in this first printing at a cost of \$216.86. The total cost of all printings of this document, including reprints is \$216.86. This document was published by OTS Production Support Services, PO Box 94095, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9095 for the Office of State Fire Marshal, 8181 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA to educate the fire service and the public about training opportunities at the Louisiana Fire & Emergency Training Academy. This material was printed in accordance with standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43.31.



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Course Evaluation



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