

Program of Instruction

Course Syllabus

Course Title: Aerial Apparatus Driver/Operator

Course Duration: 24 hours

Program: Driver/Operator

Course Prerequisites: None

Required for National Certification (IFSAC and Pro Board):

- NFPA Firefighter Skills Attestation met by one of the following:
 - NFPA Firefighter 1 Certification
 - NFPA Firefighter 2 Certification
 - NFPA Airport Firefighter Certification
 - NFPA Advanced Exterior Industrial Fire Brigade Certification
 - Illinois Firefighter II or Basic Operations Firefighter Certification

- NFPA Driving Skills Attestation met by one of the following:
 - Valid CDL class A or class B state issued driver's license
 - Valid Military driver's license for the vehicle being operated
 - VFIS Emergency Vehicle Driver Training Certification

Course Description: This 24-hour class is designed to provide Firefighters with a basic understanding of the design, maintenance, operation, and deployment of aerial apparatus. Students will be introduced to the various types of aerial apparatus and aerial devices that are used in the fire service, the inspection and maintenance of aerial apparatus, safe procedures for stabilization, aerial device operation, and the tactical deployment of aerial devices. Students will participate in drills that require positioning, stabilizing, and operating aerial apparatus and aerial devices. Students will be required to operate aerial apparatus during a final practical.

Course Requirements and/or Recommendations: These can be divided into three categories: those completed prior to arriving in class (Pre-Course Work), those completed during class, such as homework assignments and quizzes (Course Work), and requirements completed after class but prior to receiving a certificate of completion. (Post-Course Work)

Summary of Directions

Pre-Course Work: None

Course Work: Attend and participate in lectures and practical exercises.

Post-Course Work: None

Course Policies:

Attendance Policy: IFSI requires students to attend (100%) or make up all course content that leads to certification. Students are expected to attend on time and to remain in class for the duration of the course. Students **MUST COMPLETE** all portions of a certification course, both classroom and practical, to be eligible to receive their certification.

If a student misses any portion of class with an accumulated absence of 20% or less of scheduled class time, it will be the student's responsibility to arrange the make-up of the missed course content with the instructor(s) or program manager. The student must make up the specific course content that s/he missed, not just the hours. Make-ups are limited to 20% of scheduled class time. Make-ups must be documented on the class roster. If a student's absence is greater than 20% refer to "True Emergences" section of the IFSI Examination Policy.

Safety Policy: Students shall understand and follow all instructions pertaining to operational safety, as stated by instructors, or as written in course materials. Instructors and students shall be always mindful of safety. Conduct judged to be unsafe shall be grounds for dismissal from the course.

Academic Integrity Policy: IFSI has the responsibility for maintaining academic integrity to protect the quality of the education provided through its courses, and to protect those who depend upon our integrity. It is the responsibility of the student to refrain from infractions of academic integrity, from conduct that may lead to suspicion of such infractions, and from conduct that aids others in such infractions. Any violation of the code of conduct is grounds for immediate dismissal from the course.

Grading Policy: Decisions regarding certificates of course completion shall be made solely by the lead instructor of the course. All grading of exams shall be conducted by the Curriculum/Testing Office. All grading of practical exercises shall be based upon the standards set by the regulatory agency referenced in the course material and IFSI.

Retesting: If a student fails to pass an exam, retesting takes place on set dates at regional sites across the state. More information is provided in the course completion e-mail and on the IFSI website.

American Disabilities Act: As guaranteed in the Vocational Rehabilitation Act and in the American Disabilities Act, if any student needs special accommodations, they are to notify their instructor and provide documentation as soon as possible so arrangements can be made to provide for the student's needs. If arrangements cannot be made at the class site, the student will test at an alternative time and place where the special accommodations can be made.

Evaluation Strategy: Students will be evaluated with performance evaluation checklists.

Course Content:

Module: 0

Title: Prerequisite Requirement Fulfillment

Terminal Learning Objective:

At the conclusion of this module, the student will demonstrate the ability to perform the prerequisite job performance requirements.

Module: 1

Title: Aerial Apparatus Construction

Terminal Learning Objective:

At the conclusion of this module, the student will describe the types and construction of aerial apparatus.

Module: 2

Title: Aerial Apparatus Inspection and Maintenance

Terminal Learning Objective:

At the conclusion of this module, the student will demonstrate the inspection of an aerial apparatus.

Module: 3

Title: Aerial Apparatus Stabilization

Terminal Learning Objective:

At the conclusion of this module, the student will demonstrate stabilizing an aerial apparatus.

Module: 4

Title: Tactical Positioning

Terminal Learning Objective:

At the conclusion of this module, the student will demonstrate positioning an aerial apparatus to complete a given assignment.

Module: 5

Title: Aerial Device Positioning

Terminal Learning Objective:

At the conclusion of this module, the student will demonstrate positioning an aerial device to complete a given assignment.

Module: 6

Title: Aerial Operations

Terminal Learning Objective:

At the conclusion of this module, the student will demonstrate operating an aerial apparatus to complete a given assignment.

Reference List: (listed in alphabetical order)

IFSTA, Pumping and Aerial Apparatus Driver/Operator Handbook, 4th Edition 2024

Jones and Bartlett Learning, Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator, 4th Edition 2025

Mittendorf, John, Truck Company Operations, 2nd Ed. (2011), Pennwell Corporation

Norman, John, Fire Officer's Handbook of Tactics, 4th Ed. (2012), Pennwell Corporation

NFPA 1010, Standard on Professional Qualifications for Firefighters, Edition 2024

NFPA 1900, Standard for Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Vehicles, Automotive Fire Apparatus, Wildland Fire Apparatus, and Automotive Ambulances, 2024 Edition

NFPA 1910, Standard for the Inspection, Maintenance, Refurbishment, Testing, and Retirement of In-Service Emergency Vehicles and Marine Firefighting Vessels, 2024 Edition

Tower Ladder Operations Program, Chicago Fire Department, Chicago, Illinois, April 2014

Course Schedule

DAY ONE

<u>Event</u>	<u>Duration</u>
Module 1 - Aerial Apparatus Construction	1 hour
Drill 1.1 - Aerial Apparatus Walk Through	½ hour
Module 2 - Aerial Apparatus Inspection and Maintenance	½ hour
Drill 2.1 - Aerial Apparatus Inspection	1 hour
Module 3 - Aerial Apparatus Stabilization	½ hour
Lunch	
Drill 3.1 - Aerial Apparatus Stabilization	1 hour
Module 4 - Tactical Positioning	½ hour
Drill 4.1 – Apparatus Positioning Tabletop Exercise	½ hour
Drill 4.2 – Aerial Apparatus Walk Around	½ hour
Drill 4.3 - Aerial Apparatus Positioning	1 hour
Module 5 - Aerial Device Positioning	½ hour
Drill 5.1 – Aerial Device Positioning Tabletop Exercise	½ hour

DAY TWO

<u>Event</u>	<u>Duration</u>
Module 6 - Aerial Operations	½ hour
Drill 5.2 – Aerial Device Operations	2 hours
Drill 6.1 - Aerial Device Emergency Operations	1 hour
Drill 6.2 - Elevated Master Stream Ops	1 hour
Lunch	
Drill 6.3 – Response Area Tour	1 hour
Additional Practice	2 ½ hours

DAY THREE

<u>Event</u>	<u>Duration</u>
Final Evaluations	8 hours

OPTIONAL FIRST DAY (If required to fulfill prerequisites)

<u>Event</u>	<u>Duration</u>
Module 0 – Prerequisite Requirement Fulfillment	½ hour
Drill 0.2.1 – Public Roadway Driving	2 hours
Drill 0.2.2 – Alley Dock	½ hour
Drill 0.2.3 – Serpentine	½ hour
Drill 0.2.4 – Confined Space Turnaround	½ hour
Drill 0.2.5 – Diminishing Clearance	½ hour
Lunch	
Final Evaluations	3 1/2 hours