



## Pennsylvania State Fire Academy

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### Minimum Standard for Accreditation (MSA)

**Date:** April 2006

**Last Revision:** March 12, 2009

**Course Title:** ICS-400: Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff, Complex Incidents and MACS

**SFA Course Code:** ICS-400

**DOH CEU Number:** Pending

**DOH CEUs Assigned:** Pending

**Course Length:** 16 hours

**Lecture/Lab Breakdown:** 7.5/8.5

**Prerequisites:** *ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents*

or

An equivalent 300 level course accredited by the Emergency Management Institute (EMI), National Fire Academy (NFA), National Wildland Coordinating Group (NWCG), US Coast Guard (USCG), or the National Park Service (NPS).

**Target Audience:** Senior personnel who are expected to perform in a management capacity at an incident or event. This includes individuals who may serve as Incident Commander or as members of the Command or General Staff, Area Command, or Multi-Agency Coordination Entity/Emergency Operations Center (EOC) management. This course expands upon information covered in the ICS-100 through ICS-300 courses.

**Referenced Text(s):** The text to be used for this course is *ICS-400: Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff, Complex Incidents and MACS* student manual, version 2.0, DHS/FEMA/USFA/NFA, April 2008.

**Course Goal:** This course provides training on and resources for personnel who require advanced application of the Incident Command System (ICS).

**Course Description:** This course will discuss how major incidents pose special management challenges. It will explore the circumstances in which an Area Command is established and describe the circumstances in which multi-agency coordination systems are established.

**Description of Methodology:** This course will be delivered by the use lecture, facilitated discussion, small group exercises and activities, and facilitated scenario response.

**Student Equipment & Supplies:** Students will need the ICS-400: Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff, Complex Incidents and MACS student manual, notebook, and pen or pencil.

**Equipment/Audiovisual/Facility/Supply Requirements:** Computer, LCD projector, Screen, Easel pads/Chalkboard, CD with Unit 1 thru 6 PowerPoint presentations, blank ICs 213 and 214 forms, exams and answer sheets, and video – “National Response Plan”.

**Special Notes & Conditions:**

1. *The NIMS Integration Center (NIC) and the National Fire Academy (NFA) has set the requirement of a minimum of two (2) instructors to deliver this course.*
2. *Maximum enrollment for this course has been set at 32 students.*

**Course Outline**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Unit</u>
	<b>- Day 1 -</b>
1:00	1 Course Overview
1:00	2 Fundamentals Review for Command and General Staff
:15	Break
2:00	2 Fundamentals Review for Command and General Staff
1:00	Lunch
1:30	3 Major and/or Complex Incident/Event Management
:15	Break
1:00	3 Major and/or Complex Incident/Event Management
	<b>- Day -</b>
2:00	4 Area Command
:15	Break
1:00	4 Area Command
1:00	5 Multi-agency Coordination
:30	Lunch
2:00	5: Multi-agency Coordination
:15	Break
1:00	6: Course Summary
<b>16 hr.</b>	<b>Total Time</b>

**Competency Evaluation Mechanism:** Competency will be determined by the student’s active participation in the small group exercises, activities, scenario play, and a 70% score on the open book final exam..

**Course Objectives:** By the end of the course, the student will be able to;

1. Explain how major incidents pose special management challenges.

**Course Objectives continued:**

2. Describe the circumstances in which an Area Command is established.
3. Describe the circumstances in which multi-agency coordination systems are established.
4. Describe types of agency(ies) policies, guidelines, and agreements that influence management of complex incident or event activities.
5. Describe issues that influence incident complexity and the tools available to analyze complexity.
6. Describe the process for transfer of command.
7. Describe the primary guidelines and responsibilities of the Command and General Staff positions.
8. List the major steps in the planning process.
9. Describe the purposes and responsibilities of Agency Representatives or Technical Specialists, reporting relationships, and how they can be used effectively within the incident organization.
10. Define the advantages of Unified Command and list the kinds of situations that may call for a Unified Command organization.
11. Describe how Unified Command functions on a multi-jurisdiction or multi-agency incident.
12. List the principal factors often found in or related to major and/or complex incidents/events.
13. List the four expansion options for incident/event organization and describe the conditions under which they would be applied.
14. Demonstrate, through an exercise, how to apply the various options related to major or complex incident management.
15. Define Area Command.
16. List the principal advantages of using Area Command.
17. Describe how, when, and where Area Command would be established.
18. Describe the Area Command organization.
19. Identify six primary functional responsibilities of Area Command.
20. Given a scenario, develop an Area Command organization.
21. Describe the kinds of incident/event management problems that can occur due to a lack of multi-agency coordination.
22. Define essential terms related to multi-agency coordination.
23. Identify the major guidelines for establishing and using multi-agency coordination groups and systems.
24. Provide examples of the different levels at which multi-agency coordination is commonly accomplished.
25. Identify the primary components of a multi-agency coordination system.
26. Describe examples of entities that may provide multi-agency coordination.
27. List the responsibilities of multi-agency coordination entities.
28. Identify the principal positions within a multi-agency coordination system.
29. Identify differences between Area Command, Unified Command, and multi-agency coordination entities.

**Questions/Comments: Contact the PA State Fire Academy Curriculum Specialist**