



Pennsylvania State Fire Academy

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Minimum Standard for Accreditation (MSA)

Date: August 2004

Revision: January 2009

Course Title: National Incident Management System (NIMS),
An Introduction IS-700.A

SFA Course Code: IS-700.A

DOH CEU No: 001301 **DOH CEUs Assigned:** 3.0 Other

Course Length: 8.0 hours **Lecture/Lab Breakdown:** 8.0 / 0

Prerequisites: None

Referenced Text(s): The text to be used for this course is the *IS-700.A National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction* Student Manual, January 2009 and *National Incident Management System*, December 2008, FEMA P-501.

Course Goal: This course introduces the student to the National Incident Management System (NIMS); the need for NIMS, what NIMS is, NIMS compliance, and it provides a basic overview of the role and functions of the National Integration Center (NIC).

Course Description: On February 28, 2003, President Bush issued Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5 (HSPD-5) which directed the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (NIMS). This 8-hour course will explain what NIMS is and will answer the following questions.

- What is that National Incident Management System?
- What are the Concepts and Principles of NIMS?
- What are the Components of NIMS?
- What is the purpose of the NIMS components?
- What are the NIMS requirements?
- What does our Fire Department need do so we comply?
- What is the National Integration Center (NIC) and what is its purpose?

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

Student Equipment & Supplies: Students will need the National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction IS-700.A Student Manual, January 2009 and National Incident Management System, December 2008, FEMA P-501, and a notebook and pen or pencil.

Equipment/Audiovisual/Facility/Supply Requirements: Computer, LCD projector, screen, speaker system, and CD with PowerPoint presentation.

Special Notes & Conditions: You may need to complete two (2) test answer sheets depending if you are seeking a certificate from FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI). The two (2) answer sheets include one for the Educational Training Agency (ETA), this one is required, and one for EMI, this is optional.

1. The ETA test answer sheet (required) is to be scored by the instructor and Pass/Fail marked on the class roster sheet. The class roster sheet will be returned to the ETA for certificate issue.
2. **Should a student wish to submit for the EMI Federal certificate, an EMI test answer sheet should be provided. The EMI test answer sheet is NOT to be collected by the instructor; rather it shall be the sole responsibility of the student to submit their answer sheet to EMI.**

Course Outline

Time	Topic
30 min	Unit 1: Introductions, Course Registration, Course Overview, and Course Requirements
75 min.	Unit 2: Understanding NIMS
75 min.	Unit 3: NIMS Preparedness
75 min.	Unit 4: NIMS Communications and Information Management
75 min.	Unit 5: NIMS Resource Management
75 min.	Unit 6: NIMS Command and Management
75 min.	Unit 7: Additional Resources and Course Summary
8 hours	Total Time

Competency Evaluation Mechanism: Competency will be determined by the student's active participation in discussions, small group exercises, and successful completion (**75% or better score**) of the 25 question course test.

Course Objectives: By the end of the course, the student will be able to, with a minimum of 75% accuracy:

1. Describe the intent of NIMS.
2. Describe the key concepts and principles underlying NIMS.
3. Describe the importance of preparedness.
4. Identify the NIMS mechanisms and tools used to help enhance preparedness.
5. Describe the importance of communications and information management.
6. Describe the purpose of communications and information management standards, procedures, and protocols.
7. Define the concepts of common operating picture and interoperability.
8. Describe the importance of resource management.
9. Define the concepts and principles of effective resource management.
10. Identify the steps for managing incident resources.
11. Define the concepts and principles related to the following Command and Management elements: Incident Command System, Multi-agency Coordination System, and Public Information.
12. Describe the role of the National Integration Center (NIC).
13. Identify the role of supporting technologies in NIMS implementation.

Questions/Comments: Please contact the Curriculum Specialist