Information Bulletin

The information provided below provides options for Boards of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES) and school districts to conduct basic fire training and validates that training has been recognized by the Office of Fire Prevention and Control. Option 1 would have the BOCES/school function **within** the guidelines of the State Fire Training Program, while Option 2 would allow for training to be recognized **outside** of the State Fire Training Program. As a result, and regardless of which option was employed, the student's successful completion of the training would allow the Office of Fire Prevention and Control to establish a training record for the student. That training record could then be accessed by the student and produced for a fire department as evidence of the successful completion of the Basic Exterior Fire Operations course material.

This guidance is currently being used in limited districts across the state as a pilot project. It is being distributed for additional awareness and to provide the framework for others to consider. To date, and because it is a pilot offering, the program is limited to basic exterior fire operations curriculum as entry level training. Limiting the program to exterior operations eliminates more complicated course work that requires significantly more equipment and eliminates any of the complication associated with providing instruction involving an Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH) atmospheres.

For more information, or to discuss the details of the program, you can contact the Office of Fire Prevention and Control's **Fire Training and Education Branch** at 518-474-6746 and ask to speak to someone about the BOCES/High School pilot program.

Guidance for providing fire training within the NYS Fire Training Program

- Students must be members of a fire department (career, volunteer, combination) to assure they have the appropriate insurance coverage. VFBL, 207-A
- Students must be 16 years old or older to participate in the program.
- There should be a formal agreement between the school district and fire departments outlining roles and responsibilities for administering the program.
- Instructors should be affiliated with a fire department and that fire department must be authorized by OFPC to conduct State Fire Training Course(s) offered for this pilot program.
- Instructor compensation will be the responsibility of the school district.
- The training program must have appropriate equipment and training ground environment for training.
- PPE for students must be provided.
- OFPC's - Basic Exterior Fire Operations course material will be used.
- OFPC may audit the training at any time.
- At the conclusion of the training and successful completion of the BEFO course, each student will receive a certificate of completion and a student ID will be established in the DHSES Learning Management System.

Guidance for providing fire training outside of the NYS Fire Training Program

- Students enrolled in the program would be operating under the liability insurance of the school district.
- Students must be 16 years old or older to participate in the program.
- There should be a formal agreement between the school district and fire departments outlining roles and responsibilities for administering the program
- Instructors should be competent and have full command of the material
- Instructor compensation will be the responsibility of the school district.
- Equipment and training environment will be provided through an agreement with the school district and fire departments
- PPE will be provided to each student
- The curriculum will be established by identifying the (JPR's) Job Performance Requirements of NPFA 1001 that make up the components of OFPC's Basic Exterior Fire Operations course.
- The program will submit the curriculum to OFPC for review and approval to obtain equivalency with the Basic Exterior Fire Operations course.
- Once the course is reviewed and equivalency has been granted students that have successfully completed the course will have training record established in DHSES' Learning Management System