

**Fire Service Training Bureau  
Division of State Fire Marshal  
Iowa Department of Public Safety**

**Status Report – FY 01 to FY 06**

**History of Fire Service Training in Iowa**

In 1923, a group of firefighters came to Iowa State College (now Iowa State University) and asked for educational assistance to improve their firefighting and fire prevention skills. In 1925, the College's response was the First Annual Iowa State Fire School. That event marked the beginning of state-level fire service education and training in the United States.

This first fire school, titled "First Short Course for Firemen" (1925) provided four days of training. Topics included fire prevention, firefighting, and first aid. The program was developed by the fire service, under the supervision of the Engineering Extension Department of Iowa State College.

Over the years, Fire Service Extension changed to the Fire Service Institute, a component of Iowa State University Extension. The annual fire schools continued to grow. The Institute offered many basic and advanced fire service training programs.

In 2000, at the request of several state fire service associations, legislation was drafted to remove the Institute from Iowa State University, and relocate it within the Department of Public Safety. The Governor signed house File 2492 during the legislative session, and the transfer of responsibilities occurred July 1, 2000. The Institute was dissolved, and the Fire Service Training Bureau was created within the Division of State Fire Marshal.

While the responsibility and budget was transferred immediately to the Division of State Fire Marshal, the physical location of the Bureau continues in the Fire Service Education building on the Iowa State University campus. The Bureau maintains a training center at this location, which includes a skills building, flammable gas props, confined space rescue props, and other skill development props.

**Mission**

The mission of the Fire Service Training Bureau is to provide quality training and education for Iowa's fire and emergency services.

The Bureau strives to meet this mission through seven core functions. These functions include:

- Promoting safety in all aspects of fire and emergency services training
- Offering training ranging from basic skills to more advanced, specialized topics

- Offering professional certifications through a program accredited by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC)
- Serving as the point of contact for federal fire programs
- In a leadership role, developing and utilizing new techniques and technologies
- Distributing training materials through the Iowa Fire Serviced Bookstore
- Providing research, technical assistance, and support

**Funding**

The Fire Service Training Bureau receives its allocation from the State’s General Fund. The funding allocated provides salary and benefits for 10 FTE’s. Expenses of the State Fire Service and Emergency Response Council are also covered from this fund. The following chart reflects funding of the Bureau since FY 01:

FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06	FY 07
\$606,460	\$599,110	\$583,779	\$613,021	\$631,021	\$675,820	\$704,110

The Bureau maintains an “earned income” account. Income is generated through course and certification fee’s, and reimbursements (for teaching programs offered at no cost to Iowa’s fire service) from various funds and partnerships. These funds and partnerships include the following:

- Volunteer Firefighter Training Fund
- Paul Ryan Memorial Training Fund
- Firefighter Preparedness Fund
- National Fire Academy Training Grant
- Federal funding from Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management (to train responders in the National Incident Management System, Incident Command System, and Terrorism Awareness)
- Training funds from Iowa Central Community College’s Homeland Security Training Center

The earned income account provides for the following expenses:

- Operating Costs, including utilities and maintenance of FSTB building
- Vehicle Rentals
- Phone Charges
- Office Expenses
- Three “Part-Time” employees (two in program areas, and one ISU student)
- Salary and travel expenses for 265 Field Instructors (part-time, if-and-when needed), scattered throughout Iowa (teaching classes based on assignments)

## Partnerships

The Bureau partners with a number of public and private organizations and agencies. These partnerships have enabled the Bureau to increase its capabilities, and to provide training needed to meet the needs of Iowa's fire service. These organizations and agencies include:

- 15 Community College Districts
- Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division
- Iowa Department of Public Health, including the Bureau of EMS
- Iowa Department of Public Safety, including the State Patrol
- Iowa Department of Natural Resources
- National Fire Academy, and US Fire Administration
- Iowa Central Homeland Security Training Center, Iowa Central Community College
- National Education Center for Agricultural Safety, Northeast Iowa Community College
- Customized Firefighter Training, Inc.
- Professional Rescue Innovations, Inc.
- Iowa Propane Gas Association
- Iowa Pipeline Association
- Many of Iowa's fire departments (through our "in-house" training program)

## Training Activities

The Bureau conducts a variety of training, ranging from basic level firefighter training, to more advanced, specialized training (such as fire officer and fire instructor training, confined space entry and rescue training, etc.). Approximately 85-90% of this training is conducted at the local level, using the Bureau's field instructors. Most of the Bureau's course offerings are based on requests from individual fire departments. The Bureau also offers training in an "open enrollment" mode (to facilitate individual training needs).

Activity	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06
Classes Provided	600	715	771	847	974	1,090
Number of Students	10,259	12,935	12,537	13,825	17,521	19,640
Certification Test Sites	75	133	151	163	184	199
Number of Exams	969	2,099	2,356	2,195	2,526	3,535
Total Programs	675	848	922	1,010	1,158	1,289
Total Participants	11,228	15,034	14,893	16,020	20,047	23,175

Training in the "direct delivery" mode is facilitated through our Field Programs staff. In addition to these training opportunities, the Bureau provides open enrollment training for specialized subject related courses, and through the following events:

- Winter and Summer Fire School (summer fire school is the second longest continuous running fire school in the nation)
- Hazardous Materials Symposium
- Volunteer Fire Chiefs Workshop
- Fire Service Instructors Conference
- Fire Arson Investigators School
- Live Fire Skills Weekends
- Firefighter Recruit Academy

The Bureau also cooperates with the National Fire Academy (U.S. Fire Administration) to bring National Fire Academy courses to Iowa. The Bureau receives support for nine (9) direct deliveries of short courses (2 days in length) each year.

To support training in the field, the Bureau uses a variety of “mobile training units”. These MTU’s include:

- Interior Fire Attack Simulator (live fire trainer)
- Advanced Breathing Apparatus Trainer (smoke trailer)
- LP Gas “bob-tail” Simulator
- LP Gas “tank” Simulator
- Vehicle Extrication Trainer (with two sets of hydraulic rescue tools, other hand tools)
- Confined Space Entry and Rescue Simulator

In addition to the training conducted by the Bureau in “direct delivery” or “open enrollment” modes, the Bureau supports fire departments through an “in-house” training program. Fire Departments with “certified fire instructors” may borrow training materials from the Bureau. Once the training is completed, the Bureau enters the student records (based on submission by the fire department) for the training, and issues course completion certificates. The following courses are part of the “in-house” training program:

- Essentials of Firefighter I and II
- Driver/Operator for Pumping Apparatus and Aerial Apparatus
- Incident Command System (ICS)
- Fire Officer I and II
- Line of Duty Death and Injury: WHY?
- Advanced Breathing Apparatus (with ABAT Simulator)
- Rapid Intervention Teams (RIT)
- Propane Emergencies (classroom portion only – hands on requires our training prop)
- Ammonia Emergency Response
- Confined Space Awareness and Entry
- National Fire Academy: Leadership I, II, and III
- National Fire Academy: Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations

- National Fire Academy: Preparation for Initial Company Operations
- National Fire Academy: Incident Safety Officer
- National Fire Academy: Health and Safety Officer
- National Incident Management System: An Introduction (NIMS IS-700)

The Bureau's support of the "in-house" training program has increased since its introduction during FY 02. Starting with just 57 "in-house" course offerings, the Bureau is now supporting over 100 "in-house" courses annually. The Bureau tries to add courses to this list annually.

The Bureau also partners with the fifteen (15) Community College districts in the delivery of basic firefighting training. Prior to FY 02, the Community Colleges were teaching the old 24-hour "Attack Firefighter" training program. In FY 02 and FY 03, the Bureau provided the Community Colleges with the Essentials of Firefighter I (EFF-I) program (FY 02) and the Essentials of Firefighter II (EFF-II) program (FY 03). The Bureau provided all the necessary teaching materials (instructor guides, transparencies and videos, and student materials) for the Colleges to conduct this training. The Bureau also shared its Field Instructor list (to ensure the Colleges had access to certified instructors). Initially, the Colleges split 45 EFF-I among the 15 districts. Since then, the Colleges may teach as many EFF-I and EFF-II programs as they request (based on demand). Currently the Colleges have planned to teach 50 (plus) EFF-I and 30 (plus) EFF-II programs in FY 07. Many of the Community Colleges also offer regional fire schools, which are supported with training programs from the Bureau.

The Bureau continues to provide technical assistance and support to Iowa's fire departments. The Bureau provides annual assistance with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's "Assistance to Firefighters Grant" program (the Bureau conducts workshops on the ICN prior to the opening of the on-line application period, and reviews grant narratives upon request).

### **Accredited Certification**

To support the Bureau's training programs, the Bureau offers professional certifications, based on nationally recognized "professional qualifications" standards. Certifications are based on written and practical examinations. The Bureau is accredited by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) to issue the following certification levels:

- Firefighter I and II
- Driver/Operator: Pumping Apparatus
- Driver/Operator: Aerial Apparatus
- Hazardous Materials: Awareness and Operations levels
- Fire Officer I and II
- Fire Instructor I and II
- Fire Inspector I

## Major Accomplishments

Since 2001, the Fire Service Training Bureau has worked closely with the state fire associations, and the fire service, to improve how it provides services. The following highlights the Bureau's efforts:

### New Training Courses (including new courses, or revisions to existing courses)

- Essentials of Firefighter II (EFF-II)
- Driver/Operator: Pumping Apparatus
- Driver/Operator: Aerial Apparatus
- Emergency Vehicle Driver Training Program (from Volunteer Fire Insurance Services – VFIS)
- Vehicle Extrication
- Vehicle Firefighting
- Fire Officer I
- Fire Officer II
- Instructor I (revision)
- Instructor II
- Conducting Live Fire Training Evolutions – Complying with NFPA 1403 (standard to conducting live fire training evolutions)
- Rapid Intervention Teams – RIT
- Propane Emergencies (revision)
- Pipeline Emergencies
- Incident Command System - ICS (new and revised courses, to meet NIMS requirements for ICS 100, ICS 200)
- National Incident Management System – NIMS
- Interior Fire Attack simulator (revised existing course into two separate activities, which includes “ground entry” and “ladder entry”)
- Fire Inspector I (funded through an Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program – Fire Prevention and Safety Grant)
- National Fire Academy courses (now available upon request in Iowa)
  - Leadership I, II, and III
  - Incident Safety Officer – ISO
  - Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations – STICO
  - Preparing for Initial Company Operations – PICO
  - NIMS-Incident Command System for the Fire Service – ICS for FS
  - Training Operations in Small Departments – TOSD
  - Emergency Response to Terrorism: Strategic Considerations for Command Officers – ERT:SCCO
- Introduction to Firefighting (24 hour course) – distributed to all Iowa fire departments in March/April 2006

### New Certification Levels (effective April 2005)

- Five new levels accredited by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress – IFSAC (added to Iowa's professional certification system). These

levels are: Driver/Operator: Aerial Apparatus, Fire Officer II, Fire Inspector I, Hazardous Materials: Awareness Level, and Hazardous Materials: Operations Level.

- Six levels re-accredited by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress – IFSAC. These levels are: Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Driver/Operator: Pumping Apparatus, Fire Officer I, Fire Instructor I, and Fire Instructor II.

#### New Training Programs, Conferences, etc. (including enhancements of existing programs)

- Live Fire Skills training (conducted over weekends, enabling firefighters to practice live fire skills found in NFPA 1001 standard)
- Iowa Fire Service Instructors Conference, cooperatively with the Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors (after not being conducted for several years)
- Volunteer Fire Chiefs Workshop, cooperatively with the Iowa Fire Chiefs Association
- Fire Arson Investigators School, with the Division of State Fire Marshal (enhancement)

#### New Mobile Training Units and Training Props

- Vehicle Extrication MTU (with two complete sets of hydraulic rescue tools, and miscellaneous hand tools, cribbing, etc. necessary to conduct vehicle extrication training)
- Propane Emergencies MTU (mobile “bobtail” prop, with funding and assistance from the Iowa Propane Gas Association)
- Pipeline Prop (fixed prop at FSTB training grounds, with funding and assistance from the Iowa Pipeline Association)
- Updated the Advanced Breathing Apparatus MTU (winter 2006)
- Enhancements to “skills building” (at FSTB training grounds) to incorporate trapped firefighters training issues

#### Technical Assistance and Support

- Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program “workshops”
- Increased number of field instructors (from less than 100 to over 260)
- Developed “in-house” training program (those departments with certified instructors could borrow training materials from FSTB. Department completes and submits appropriate paperwork, FSTB transcripts course and issues certificates)
- Started offering various “open enrollment” classes (in addition to the existing conferences and special events already offered)
- Administer the “Firefighting Equipment Revolving Loan” program (to provide zero-interest loan program)
- Assist the Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Forestry Division with Dry Hydrant Grant Program (federally funded 50/50 matching grant program to fund the installation of “dry hydrants” in rural areas of Iowa)

- Enhanced existing partnership with Community Colleges (all 15 districts) to enable colleges to teach Essentials of Firefighter I and II (FSTB also shares field instructor list to assist colleges)
- Increased support of regional fire schools
- Support of state fire service associations
  - Iowa Firemen’s Association (IFA)
    - IFA website support
    - Maintain IFA “display” unit (for their booth at various events)
    - Provide towing for IFA trailer during annual convention
    - IFA Brochure design and development
    - Audio/Visual support at meetings and convention
  - Iowa Fire Chiefs Association (IFCA)
    - Support of “Chiefs Reference Manual”
    - Maintain IFCA “display” unit (for their booth at various events)
    - Audio/Visual support at meetings and conferences
  - Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors (IaSFSI)
    - IaSFSI website support
    - Re-designed IaSFSI logo
    - Maintain IaSFSI “display” unit (for their booth at various events)
  - Iowa Association of Professional Fire Chiefs (IAPFC)
    - Re-designed IAPFC logo
    - Provides IAPFC with meeting space and logistical support twice a year (for their conferences)
- Annual Calendar of Events (FSTB conferences and “open enrollment” programs)
- Provide technical assistance to Iowa’s fire service (answers to questions, guidance, contacts, speakers for county association meetings, informational sessions, grant narrative reviews, etc.)
- Established or strengthened relationships with: Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division, Iowa Department of Public Health (Bureau of EMS)



**A Plan for the Development of:**  
**A Comprehensive State Fire Service  
Training Facility;**  
  
**and**  
  
**Regional Fire Service Training Centers  
and Mobile Fire Service Training Units**



**Developed by the Fire Service Training Bureau,  
in cooperation with the  
State Fire Service and Emergency Response Council**

**January 2004**

**A Plan for the Development of:**

**A Comprehensive State Fire Service Training Facility; and  
Regional Fire Service Training Centers and Mobile Fire  
Service Training Units**



*Executive Summary*

Iowa's fire services are seeking funding to develop a comprehensive state fire service training facility, and a combination of regional fire service training centers and mobile fire service training units. The need for these training facilities, centers, and mobile training units is driven by the need to comply with various state and federal safety standards, a desire to improve customer service, the necessity to serve an increasing number of firefighter's and fire departments, and the importance of high quality fire services to economic development. The purpose of these facilities, centers, and mobile training units will be for the safe and effective training of firefighters.

The proposed comprehensive fire service training facility, the regional fire service training centers, and the mobile fire service training units are a cooperative effort between the Fire Service Training Bureau (Division of State Fire Marshal), the 15 Community College districts, and local fire departments, with the endorsement of the State Fire Service and Emergency Response Council. In addition to these facilities and centers, partnerships will be developed with existing local fire service training centers. Although the project will need to be phased in over several years, the planning must be started now.

Iowa's fire service is approximately 20,000 strong. The volunteer fire service accounts for approximately 90%. There is an increased demand for emergency response services, including fire suppression and rescue activities, emergency medical services, hazardous materials response, and response to terrorist incidents.

This project will help to address the alarming number of line of duty firefighter deaths and injuries, as well as the continuing high rate of civilian fire and trauma deaths in Iowa. It does so in a cooperative approach between the Fire Service Training Bureau and the Community Colleges of Iowa, along with the efforts of the Iowa fire service. This project builds on the programs already delivered by the Fire Service Training Bureau and the Community Colleges.

**A Plan for the Development of:  
A Comprehensive State Fire Service Training Facility; and  
Regional Fire Service Training Centers and Mobile Fire  
Service Training Units**

**Fire Service Training in Iowa**

Organized fire service training in Iowa has its origins in 1923 as an effort by officials of the Iowa State College (now Iowa State University) and the progressive fire chiefs of the state to provide basic fire training. The development of the first state fire school in 1925 illustrates these efforts. This fire school now is the second longest continuous running fire school in the nation. For many years, fire training was a component of Iowa State University Extension. In July of 2000, the Fire Service Institute was re-designated as the Fire Service Training Bureau. Administrative control is now in the Division of State Fire Marshal, Iowa Department of Public Safety.

**The Problem**

The demand for high-quality fire service training has increased and continues to do so throughout Iowa. This demand is driven by several factors:

1. Improved access to training is a top priority for the Iowa fire services. Regional fire service training centers and mobile fire service training units remain a major strategy to addressing training problems, as expressed by the State Fire Service and Emergency Response Council.
2. A serious desire on the part of the Iowa fire service to deliver high-quality fire and rescue services that communities need for good public safety and economic development. The quality of these services relate not only to the quality of life in a community, but also to insurance rates and the protection of valuable economic assets.
3. Changing state and federal fire service standards require significant time-consuming training and certification in fire and rescue skills. Delivery of that training in a safe and effective way is problematic.
4. The number of firefighters in Iowa continues to grow. With a national turnover rate of approximately 25%, the need for basic training is continuous.
5. Equipment, procedures, and tactical approaches are constantly being updated. Awareness of these changes relates directly to the ability of our fire service to maintain competency and support the economic growth of both urban and rural Iowa.
6. Recruiting and retaining volunteer firefighters is a difficult problem. Training must be efficient in terms of both the limited hours available for volunteers to train and the necessity to deliver safe and comprehensive training.

7. The Fire Service Training Bureau is currently leasing an office/classroom building, along with training grounds, from Iowa State University. This lease expires on June 30, 2005. See Appendix C for details.

## **Obstacles**

For many years, basic fire suppression skills have been taught in a given community or a neighboring community. Qualified instructors have traveled to these locations to provide training during evening hours and on weekends. Practical skills were limited to the resources within the community. Live fire training was limited, at best, to acquired structures. With more and stringent regulations, live fire training in acquired structures is getting more difficult. Mobile training units (live fire training simulators) provide for some of this training need. Currently there is limited live fire training capabilities in Iowa.

## **The Proposed Solution**

The establishment of a network of training facilities, and the use of mobile fire service training units, is critical to the process of fire training in Iowa. This network would consist of a comprehensive state fire service training facility (centrally located), regional fire service training centers, mobile fire service training units, and locally controlled fire service training centers. The following is information regarding the proposed training facilities and mobile training units:

1. The comprehensive state fire service training facility would serve as the headquarters for the Fire Service Training Bureau, and provide a comprehensive training program to all fire service and emergency response personnel in Iowa. This facility would provide all existing and planned training, based on the needs and recognized standards of the fire service. Basic training, specialized training, conferences and seminars, and "train-the-trainer" programs would be conducted at this facility. This facility would also be available to host meetings and special events (training programs, seminars and workshops, conferences) conducted by the state fire service associations and others in fire and emergency response.
2. The regional training centers are designed to serve the basic and some advanced skills training needs of the fire service. The training centers would consist of a two training buildings. The first building (burn building) would provide the basic "live fire training" component necessary to develop firefighters prior to real fire situations. The other building (skills building) would provide for basic skills practice provide training to the fire and emergency services. These facilities would support the basic training at a local and regional level, reaching the most fire service personnel at the lowest cost.
3. The regional training centers would be developed at existing Community College owned land. The Community College would be responsible for scheduling. The

Bureau would assist each Community College with establishing consistent rules and maintenance. The Community Colleges would provide the necessary classroom space.

4. The Fire Service Training Bureau, in cooperation with the Community Colleges, would provide the necessary training materials, curriculum, and training aids.
5. Mobile fire service training units would be designed and developed based on fire service training needs. The Fire Service Training Bureau, and its network of field instructors and delivery partners would operate these mobile training units.
6. Partnerships would be explored and developed with locally controlled fire service training centers. These existing training centers could become part of the network of training facilities.

Appendix A provides detailed information concerning the comprehensive state fire service training facility. Appendix B provides detailed information concerning the regional fire service training centers and mobile fire service training units. Appendix C provides a status report of the current Fire Service Training Bureau facilities.

## **Appendix A: Comprehensive State Fire Service Training Facility**

The following information details the development needs for the comprehensive state fire service training facility:

### **Administrative Office and Classroom Facility:**

- Administrative offices for 12 FTE
- Offices for visiting field instructors (during training events)
- Office space for the state fire service associations
- Support space (kitchen, restrooms, locker and shower, office supply storage, file and copy room, A/V storage, class materials and teaching kit storage, etc.)
- Conference room (also will serve as breakout room for class support)
- Curriculum development “work room”
- 2 classrooms (60 students each, opening to one large room)
- 1 auditorium (50 student tiered fixed seating, for demonstrations and ICN)
- 1 “lab” classroom (to accommodate “dirty” class)
- Library/resource center (with computer support)
- Bookstore (display and sale of IFSTA, FPP, NFPA and Fire Engineering items)
- Shipping and receiving area

### **Apparatus and Inventory Storage Facility:**

- 3 Bay (double depth) facility to hold mobile training units and fire apparatus
- Support space (firefighting equipment storage, workshop and equipment maintenance area, training materials storage, etc.)
- Fire extinguisher “re-fill” and storage area

### **Drill Tower/Burn Building:**

A burn building (four-story tower with two-story residential unit and one story annex, burn rooms, interior and exterior stairways, standpipe connection, etc.) to provide the live fire training as described in NFPA 1001, Chapter 3 (Firefighter Professional Qualifications Standard.)

Skills building (two-story with interior and exterior stairways, ventilation panels, forcible entry skill stations, sprinkler system, etc.) to provide the skills training as described in NFPA 1001, Chapter 3 (Firefighter Professional Qualifications Standard.)

These building will provide the following:

- Accommodate live fire training, training drills, rescue scenarios, rope rescue, aerial apparatus training, etc.
- Advanced officer and incident command capabilities under realistic conditions.

### **Training Grounds:**

- Combined “confined space” and “trench rescue” training prop
- Fire props using natural gas and/or propane (vehicle fire, truck fire, gas meter, flammable liquid “pit”, propane tank, extinguishment, etc.)
- Non-fire props (haz mat spill simulators, railroad track with cars, vehicle extrication pads, etc.)
- Drafting pit
- LNG pit
- Retention pond (for water supply) with hydrant system

### **Site Work:**

- For training grounds

### **Space needs for “Administrative Office and Classroom Facility:**

- Administrators office (1) 200sf
- Staff offices (8) 175sf each
- Field Instructor office (1) 400sf
- Reception/support staff (open space) 500sf
- Classrooms (2) 1800sf each
- Auditorium (1) 2500sf
- A/V support room (1) 150sf
- Curriculum development workroom (1) 300sf
- “Lab” space (1) 2700sf
- Conference room (1) 300sf
- Library (1) 250sf
- Bookstore (1) 250sf
- Support space (kitchen, restrooms, locker/shower, office supply storage, file and copy room, all other storage) 3950sf

## **Appendix B: Regional Fire Service Training Centers and Mobile Fire Service Training Units**

The following information details the development needs for the regional fire service training centers and mobile fire service training units:

### **Burn Building and Skills Building:**

A burn building (two-story with minimum two burn rooms, interior and exterior stairways, standpipe connection, etc.) to provide the live fire training as described in NFPA 1001, Chapter 3 (Firefighter Professional Qualifications Standard.)

Skills building (two-story with interior and exterior stairways, ventilation panels, forcible entry skill stations, sprinkler system, etc.) to provide the skills training as described in NFPA 1001, Chapter 3 (Firefighter Professional Qualifications Standard.)

Both of these buildings would also support the minimum training standard for Iowa fire service personnel, as developed by the State Fire Service and Emergency Response Council.

### **Mobile Fire Service Training Units:**

An “Interior Fire Attack Simulator” (equipped with two-level burn capabilities for interior fire attack) to provide the live fire training as described in NFPA 1001, Chapter 3 (Firefighter Professional Qualifications Standard.)

A “Skills Development Simulator” (equipped with training props for basic fire service skills development) to provide the skills training as described in NFPA 1001, Chapter 2 (Firefighter Professional Qualifications Standard.)

A “Hazardous Materials Training Simulator” (equipped with training props associated with hazardous materials incidents) to provide the skills training as described in NFPA 472 (Competencies in Hazardous Materials Response) and OSHA regulations (29CFR1910.120.)



## **Appendix C: Current Fire Service Training Bureau Facilities**

The Fire Service Training Bureau is currently located in the old “fire service extension” building on the Iowa State University campus in Ames. This building is leased to the FSTB, with an expiration date of June 30, 2010.

The leased facility includes an office/classroom building with office space for 12 FTE, along with a classroom (that holds 60 with tables and chairs, 100 theater style) and storage area. The training grounds currently have the following training aids:

- Skills building (to practice basic fire suppression skills)
- Training field with propane fueled training props
- Confined space training prop
- Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) training pit and props
- Extinguisher maintenance and storage building
- Parking areas for students, along with adequate parking for FSTB mobile training units (such as interior fire attack simulator, LP Gas trainer, mobile breathing apparatus trainer, confined space trainer, etc.)

## Report to the Emergency Services Interim Study Committee



Iowa Fire Service Training Bureau

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## FSTB Mission

The Fire Service Training Bureau is Iowa's designated state fire academy. The mission of FSTB is to provide quality training and education for Iowa's fire and emergency services.

Iowa Fire Service Training Bureau

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## Seven Core Functions

- Promoting safety in all aspects of fire and emergency services training
- Offering training ranging from basic skills to more advanced, specialized topics
  - Field programs, conferences, and special programs
  - Support of "in-house" training
  - Partnerships in training

Iowa Fire Service Training Bureau

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## Seven Core Functions

- Offering professional certifications through a program accredited by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC)
  - 11 professional qualification levels
- Serving as the point of contact for federal fire programs
  - National Fire Academy deliveries

Iowa Fire Service Training Bureau

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## Seven Core Functions

- In a leadership role, developing and utilizing new techniques and technologies
- Distributing training materials through the Iowa Fire Service Bookstore
  - IFSTA/Fire Protection Publications, NFPA, Fire Engineering/PennWell, Jones & Bartlett, and Delmar/Thompson Learning

Iowa Fire Service Training Bureau

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## Seven Core Functions

- Provide research, technical assistance, and support
  - Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program
    - Training and Grant Narrative reviews
  - Dry Hydrant Grant Program (with DNR)
  - Firefighting Equipment Revolving Loan Program

Iowa Fire Service Training Bureau

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## FSTB Staffing

FSTB is currently staffed at:

- 10 full-time program and support staff
- 2 part-time program staff
- 1 part-time ISU student
- 265 field instructors (part-time, if-and-when needed)

from Fire Service Training Bureau

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## Training Support

The Bureau supports much of its training with the use of Mobile Training Units:

- Interior Fire Attack Simulator
- Advanced Breathing Apparatus Trailer
- Vehicle Extrication Trailer
- LP Gas Simulator – Bobtail
- LP Gas Simulator – Tank
- Confined Space Entry & Rescue Simulator
- Portable Pump Simulator

from Fire Service Training Bureau

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## FSTB Activity Report

	FY 06	FY 05
Classes Provided	1,090	974
Number of Students	19,840	17,521
Exam Sites	199	187
Number of Exams	3,535	2,526
Total Number of Programs	1,289	1,161
Total Number of Participants	23,175	20,047

from Fire Service Training Bureau

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## Future Needs for Fire Training

- FSTB needs two new positions:
  - Curriculum Developer
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Field Programs Coordinator
- Additional Funding for Regional Emergency Response Training Centers
- Funding for Centralized Fire Service Training Facility (may be combined Public Safety Training Center)

Iowa Fire Service Training Bureau

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## Future Needs for Fire Training

- Funding for additional Mobile Training Units:
  - Mobile Drill Tower
  - Skills Development Trainer
  - Technical Rescue Training Unit
    - Trench Rescue Trainer
    - Grain Bin Rescue Trainer
  - Hazardous Materials Training Unit

Iowa Fire Service Training Bureau

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## Thank You

Thank you for this opportunity to testify before the 2006 Emergency Services Interim Study Committee of the Iowa Legislature.

Supplemental materials were provided.

Iowa Fire Service Training Bureau

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