

	Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy	
	Course Syllabus	PWFR 1-1

Title: Introduction to Public Works as a First Responder	Program Duration: 4 Hours
Type: Campus	Program Director: Jill Ramaker

Title

*Introduction to Public Works as a First Responder: An Overview of Emergency Management and the Incident Command System in Public Works Emergencies**

Course Description

This four (4) hour classroom-based course reviews the role of the Public Works employee as a first responder, along with the importance of the Incident Command System to manage crisis events at the local, state and national levels. This foundational course will provide the student with a basic understanding of the materials required to successfully complete the following Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) independent study programs (to be completed on their own following the course):

- IS-100.C: Introduction to the Incident Command System
- IS-200.C: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response
- ICS-700.B: An Introduction to the National Incident Management System

*This course is required for those seeking a *NIPSTA Level One Certificate of Completion* even if they have previously completed the training listed above as it provides direct context of this information to the Public Works profession.

Prerequisites

Level One is intended for those Public Works professionals who serve in an elemental, field-based capacity or are new to the profession.

Contact Information for Program Director

Jill Ramaker, Executive Director, NIPSTA
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 Program Director’s Email: jramaker@nipsta.org
 Program Director’s Phone Number: 847-990-8090 x 112

Attendance

In order to receive a Certificate of Course Completion, NIPSTA requires students to be present for all lectures, demonstrations and evolutions.

Safety

NIPSTA Instructors will ensure that hazards have been identified and addressed prior to the start of each program. Course safety guidelines are discussed prior to operations. Unsafe actions or behaviors will not be tolerated and will be grounds for student dismissal.

Academic Integrity

NIPSTA aspires to the highest possible standards of academic honesty and integrity in all programs as key tenants of the NIPSTA experience. NIPSTA Instructors set forth clear ethical expectations, promote consistency of standards, and expect reporting of dishonest and unsafe behaviors. While education through participation is the central goal for every NIPSTA program, it is only possible when honesty and integrity are part of the overall mission.

Performance Testing & Evaluation

Successful completion of this program does not require performance testing or student evaluation.

ADA Compliance

Students with a documented disabilities, as that term is used in the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), may qualify for reasonable accommodations as defined in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Additional information is available at www.nipsta.org.

Textbook

No textbook is required for this class.

**Supplemental learning materials may be provided to students by the Course Director on or prior to the first day of the program.*

Pre-course Assignments

This course does not require any pre-course assignments.

Time Management & Performance

Time and task management are key attributes of a successful Public Works professional. Students are expected to arrive on time and remain attentive and present for the entire program.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Explain the principles and basic structure of the Incident Command System (“ICS”), particularly as it relates to Public Works emergencies.
- Describe basic activities and methods for managing community resources during a public works emergency.
- Describe the National Incident Management System (“NIMS”), including the delegation of authority, management by objectives, and preparedness plans and objectives.

Four (4) Hour Course Content

Course content is broken into subject area modules or “Mods”. NIPSTA’s *Introduction to Public Works as a First Responder: An Overview of Emergency Management and the Incident Command System in Public Works Emergencies* program is comprised of the following eleven (11) Mods:

- Mod 1:** Course Welcome; Instructor/Student Introductions
- Mod 2:** The Role of Public Works as a First Responder
- Mod 3:** Overview of the Incident Command System
- Mod 4:** How the Incident Command System (ICS) Applies to Public Works Emergencies
- Mod 5:** Overview of the National Incident Management System
- Mod 6:** Overview of Emergency Operations Centers
- Mod 7:** Methods of Emergency Communication
- Mod 8:** Examples of Using the ICS for Local Public Works Emergencies
- Mod 9:** Completing FEMA Independent Study Programs; How to Register and Complete
- Mod 10:** Next Steps in NIPSTA PWFR Program
- Mod 11:** Course Review and Conclusion

Learning Outcomes & Evaluation

Following the conclusion of these modules, students will be familiar with a portion of the requisite knowledge and skills needed to perform as a Basic Public Works First Responder.

COURSE SCHEDULE

DAY 1

Morning (4 hours)

- Mod 1:** Course Welcome; Instructor/Student Introductions
- Mod 2:** The Role of Public Works as a First Responder
- Mod 3:** Overview of the Incident Command System
- Mod 4:** How the Incident Command System (ICS) Applies to Public Works Emergencies
- Mod 5:** Overview of the National Incident Management System
- Mod 6:** Overview of Emergency Operations Centers
- Mod 7:** Methods of Emergency Communication
- Mod 8:** Examples of Using the ICS for Local Public Works Emergencies
- Mod 9:** Completing FEMA Independent Study Programs; How to Register and Complete
- Mod 10:** Next Steps in NIPSTA PWFR Program
- Mod 11:** Course Review and Conclusion

Reference List

American Public Works Association. (2018, May 7). *American Public Works Association announces rollout of national public works first responder symbol* [Press release]. <https://www.apwa.net/firstresponder>.

Lappin, J. P. (2015). *The homeland security enterprise and public work: Improving the relationship* [Unpublished mater's thesis]. Naval Postgraduate School.

U. S. Department of Homeland Security. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). (2018). *FEMA independent study: IS-100.C: introduction to the incident command system*. Emmitsburg, MD,: Federal Emergency Management Agency.

U. S. Department of Homeland Security. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). (2019). *FEMA independent study: IS-200.C: basic incident command system for initial response*. Emmitsburg, MD,: Federal Emergency Management Agency.

U. S. Department of Homeland Security. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). (2018). *FEMA independent study: ICS-700.B: an introduction to the national incident management system*. Emmitsburg, MD,: Federal Emergency Management Agency.

White House, *Presidential Policy Directive 8: National Preparedness*, Washington, DC, March 30, 2011. http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/laws/gc_1215444247124.shtm.