



# National Fire Academy

**W0166 – EMS Functions in ICS**  
**Version: 1st Edition, 8th Printing, April 2024**

**Quarter:**

**ACE Credit: In the lower-division baccalaureate degree category, 1 semester hour in emergency medical management.**

**IACET Continuing Education Units: 1.3**

**Length of Course: 2 Days (14 hr., 10 min. contact hours)**

**Prerequisite: Yes**

**Curriculum: Emergency Medical Services**

**Training Specialist: Michael Stern**

**Instructor:**

**Instructor email/phone:**

**Classroom: J-**

**Meeting Time: 8 AM – 5 PM**

## Table of Contents

Course Description	Course Resources
Primary and Secondary Audience	Evaluation Procedures
Course Scope	Course Outline
Course Objectives	Policies
Course Delivery Method	

## Course Description (Catalog)

W0166 – “EMS Functions in ICS.” In this 2-day course, students will practice use of the Incident Command System (ICS) in coordination with other public safety responders.

As a follow-up to ICS-100 and ICS-200 training, this course will present scenarios requiring responders to structure their EMS resources within the guidance of National Incident Management System ICS as appropriate to the needs of the different incident types.

Through simulation and role-playing, students will demonstrate the implementation of EMS components in an ICS at medium- or large-sized incidents.

### **Student Qualifications (Primary and Secondary Audience)**

The primary audience for this training includes EMS personnel who have duties involving emergency/disaster scene management at small- to medium-sized incidents (e.g., front line supervisors, street supervisors and shift supervisors).

### **Course Scope (Goal)**

The goal of this course is to ensure Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel can make critical decisions effectively during an emergency/disaster by employing the appropriate EMS functions in Incident Command System (ICS) knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs), and decision-making techniques.

The scope of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to manage the medical, EMS, components of a variety of simulated mass casualty incidents (MCIs) using the NIMS ICS.

### **Course Objectives (Course Learning Outcomes – TLOs)**

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to accomplish the following:

- Identify the Incident Command System's (ICS's) features, functions and responsibilities.
- Demonstrate Emergency Medical Services (EMS) resource management and organization within the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Incident Command System (ICS) structure.
- Organize Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions and allocate resources in support of the organization.
- Articulate the identification of and decision-making points relative to on-scene actions.
- Discuss preplanning as implemented and used by Emergency Medical Services (EMS).
- Examine the types and usage of Multipatient Medical Transport (MPMT) vehicles.
- Organize Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions and allocate resources in support of the organization.
- Examine wildland fire incidents for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Incident Command System (ICS) functions.
- Organize Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions and allocate resources in support of the organization.
- Examine mass gathering incidents for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Incident Command System (ICS) functions.
- Organize Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions and allocate resources in support of the organization.

- Examine tactical response incidents for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Incident Command System (ICS) functions.
- Organize Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions and allocate resources in support of the organization.
- Examine hazardous materials incidents for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Incident Command System (ICS) functions.
- Organize Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions and allocate resources in support of the organization.
- Examine incidents in which Emergency Medical Services (EMS) may serve as the Incident Commander (IC).
- Organize Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions and allocate resources in support of the organization.
- Establish the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions during incident wrap-up.

### **Course Delivery Method**

The National Fire Academy (NFA) offers specialized training courses and advanced management programs of national impact in an academic classroom environment [on campus at the National Emergency Training Center \(NETC\) in Emmitsburg, Maryland](#). This classroom course is designed for the national level fire service officer from State and local fire service organizations. During this 2-day delivery, students will reside in dormitories provided on campus with classes conducted in classrooms designed for critical student/instructor interaction. All course materials are designed for interactive classroom environments, in either paper notebook or electronic formats.

## Course Schedule

The purpose of the course schedule is to give you, at a glance, the required preparation, activities, and evaluation components of your course.

<b>DAY 1</b>	<b>DAY 2</b>
Module: Introduction Activity I.1: Icebreaker Module 1: ICS Overview Activity 1.1: Completing Unit Log	Module 7: Special Considerations in Mass Gatherings Scenario D: Mass Gathering — Planned Protest
<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
Module 2: ICS Specific to EMS Overview Activity 2.1: Resource Typing Activity 2.2: EMS Task Force Scenario A: Mass Casualty Incident — Car Accident	Module 8: Special Considerations in Tactical Emergency Medical Support Scenario E: Tactical Law Enforcement — University Active Shooter Module 9: Special Considerations in Hazardous Materials Situations
<i>Lunch Break</i>	<i>Lunch Break</i>
Module 3: On-scene Considerations Module 4: Preplanning Module 5: Multipatient Medical Transport Vehicles Scenario B: Structure Fire	Scenario F: Hazardous Materials Module 10: Special Considerations for EMS as Incident Commander
<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
Module 6: Special Considerations in Wildland Fires Scenario C: Wildland Fire	Scenario G: Evacuations Module 11: Wrapping Up Incidents

## **Course Resources (Instructional Materials)**

In order to be fully prepared, obtain a copy of the required textbooks and other instructional materials prior to the first day of class.

### **Required Readings**

The student must complete required readings during the course to be able to thoughtfully participate in discussions and activities.

None.

### **Suggested Reading/Resources**

Suggested readings and resources are not evaluated, but may enhance the student's understanding, serve as additional sources for citation and promote discussion of course material.

None.

### **Required Resources (Course Textbook)**

Student Manual.

### **Supplemental Resources (Supplemental Course Textbook)**

None.

## **Grading Methodology (Evaluation Procedures)**

The student's final grade for "EMS Functions in ICS" (EMSFICS) will be computed as follows:

Pre-course IS201, Forms Used for the Development of the Incident Action Plan (IAP), (30 points) plus Student Response Checklist and seven scenarios (up to 10 points each) equals the grade.

The required performance to successfully complete the course is attained by completing the class with a letter grade of a “C” or higher.

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Point Range</b>
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
F	69 or lower

### **Required Reading Assignments**

Student completion of reading assignments will be done via evaluation of their class participation and will not be a separately graded activity.

### **Suggested Readings**

Suggested readings are not evaluated, but may enhance the student’s understanding and promote discussion of course material.

### **Course Outline**

#### **Module 1: ICS Overview (Day 1)**

#### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 1.1 Identify the Incident Command System’s (ICS’s) features, functions and responsibilities.

#### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 1.1 Describe the ICS structure.
- 1.2 Define common ICS terms.
- 1.3 Differentiate among Groups, Divisions and Branches.

- 1.4 Identify the leadership titles for ICS organizational elements.
- 1.5 Describe each of the relevant ICS forms.
- 1.6 Discuss ICS map symbols.

## **Module 2: ICS Specific to EMS Overview (Day 1)**

### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 2.1 Demonstrate Emergency Medical Services (EMS) resource management and organization within the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Incident Command System (ICS) structure.

### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 2.1 Identify common ICS terminology specific to EMS.
- 2.2 Describe the basic structure of the medical component within an ICS structure.
- 2.3 Describe methods for incorporating Medical Branch organization into ICS structure.
- 2.4 Describe resource typing.
- 2.5 Describe Ambulance Strike Teams.
- 2.6 Define EMS Task Force.
- 2.7 Describe Staging.

## **Scenario A: Mass Casualty Incident — Car Accident (Day 1)**

### **Scenario Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- SA.1 Organize Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions and allocate resources in support of the organization.

## **Scenario Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- SA.1 Develop a Brief Initial Report (BIR) and conduct a size-up of an incident.
- SA.2 Develop an Incident Command System (ICS) organizational structure, specific to the EMS/Medical functions, with resources that reflect incident priorities.
- SA.3 Track patients using a Patient Tracking Form.
- SA.4 Use benchmarks to order and assign appropriate resources.

## **Module 3: On-scene Considerations (Day 1)**

### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 3.1 Articulate the identification of and decision-making points relative to on-scene actions.

### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 3.1 Discuss Lookouts, Communications, Escape routes and Safety zones (LCES).
- 3.2 Discuss traffic control devices (TCDs).
- 3.3 List common roadway incident benchmarks.
- 3.4 Discuss Conditions, Actions and Needs (CAN) reports.

## **Module 4: Preplanning (Day 1)**

### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 4.1 Discuss preplanning as implemented and used by Emergency Medical Services (EMS).



## **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 4.1 Define the purpose of preplanning.
- 4.2 List principles and features of preplanning.
- 4.3 Identify guidelines on ordering resources.

## **Module 5: Multipatient Medical Transport Vehicles (Day 1)**

### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 5.1 Examine the types and usage of Multipatient Medical Transport (MPMT) vehicles.

### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 5.1 Define MPMT vehicles.
- 5.2 Describe types and function of MPMT vehicles.
- 5.3 List federal guidance for deployment of MPMT vehicles.
- 5.4 Describe alternatives to MPMT vehicles.
- 5.5 Discuss possible sources of funding for MPMT vehicles.

## **Scenario B: Structure Fire (Day 1)**

### **Scenario Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- SB.1 Organize Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions and allocate resources in support of the organization.

## **Scenario Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- SB.1 Develop the Medical Branch within an Incident Command System (ICS) organizational structure, and assign resources to reflect incident priorities.
- SB.2 Track patients using a Patient Tracking System.
- SB.3 Use benchmarks to order and assign appropriate resources.

## **Module 6: Special Considerations in Wildland Fires (Day 1)**

### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 6.1 Examine wildland fire incidents for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Incident Command System (ICS) functions.

### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 6.1 List types of Incident Management Teams (IMTs).
- 6.2 Identify prequalifications for assistance in wildland fire operations.
- 6.3 Identify functions of EMS personnel in wildland fire incidents.
- 6.4 Identify EMS responsibilities and processes for setting up the initial Medical Unit.
- 6.5 Identify elements of proper gear and documentation for EMS personnel in wildland fire incidents.
- 6.6 Explain importance of preparing in advance for wildland fires.

## **Scenario C: Wildland Fire (Day 1)**

### **Scenario Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- SC.1 Organize Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions and allocate resources in support of the organization.

## **Scenario Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- SC.1 Develop a Medical Unit in the Incident Command System (ICS) organizational structure.
- SC.2 Employ the duties of the Medical Unit Leader.
- SC.3 Track patients using a Patient Tracking Form.
- SC.4 Use benchmarks to order and assign appropriate resources.

## **Module 7: Special Considerations in Mass Gatherings (Day 2)**

### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 7.1 Examine mass gathering incidents for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Incident Command System (ICS) functions.

### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 7.1 List special considerations related to various types of mass gatherings.
- 7.2 Identify EMS event classification and resource deployment factors and personnel.
- 7.3 Discuss alternative modes of transporting EMS resources.
- 7.4 Review the Mass Gathering Checklist.
- 7.5 Discuss the Incident Action Plan (IAP).

## **Scenario D: Mass Gathering — Planned Protest (Day 2)**

### **Scenario Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- SD.1 Organize Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions and allocate resources in support of the organization.

## **Scenario Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- SD.1 Develop a Medical Branch and a Medical Unit in the Incident Command System (ICS) organizational structure.
- SD.2 Develop a Medical Plan.
- SD.3 Track patients using a Patient Tracking Form.
- SD.4 Use benchmarks to order and assign appropriate resources.

## **Module 8: Special Considerations in Tactical Emergency Medical Support (Day 2)**

### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 8.1 Examine tactical response incidents for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Incident Command System (ICS) functions.

### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 8.1 Discuss special considerations in violent situations.
- 8.2 Discuss management considerations for Tactical Emergency Medical Support (TEMS).

## **Scenario E: Tactical Law Enforcement Support — University Active Shooter (Day 2)**

### **Scenario Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- SE.1 Organize Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions and allocate resources in support of the organization.

## **Scenario Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- SE.1 Develop a Medical Branch and a Rescue Branch in the Incident Command System (ICS) organizational structure.
- SE.2 Using best practices, determine the best location for facilities required in the management of a mass casualty incident (MCI).
- SE.3 Practice horizontal and vertical communication.
- SE.4 Track patients using a Patient Tracking Form.
- SE.5 Use benchmarks to order and assign appropriate resources.

## **Module 9: Special Considerations in Hazardous Materials Situations (Day 2)**

### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 9.1 Examine hazardous materials incidents for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Incident Command System (ICS) functions.

### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 9.1 Discuss special circumstances and considerations in hazardous materials situations.
- 9.2 Discuss the differences in meeting the needs of responder/entry teams and other patients.

## **Scenario F: Hazardous Materials (Day 2)**

### **Scenario Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- SF.1 Organize Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions and allocate resources in support of the organization.

## **Scenario Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- SF.1 Determine initial actions.
- SF.2 Determine information to be included in a hazardous materials size-up.
- SF.3 Develop a Medical Branch and a Medical Unit in the Incident Command System (ICS) organizational structure.
- SF.4 Develop a Medical Plan.
- SF.5 Track patients using a Patient Tracking Form.
- SF.6 Use benchmarks to order and assign appropriate resources.

## **Module 10: Special Considerations for EMS as Incident Commander (Day 2)**

### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 10.1 Examine incidents in which Emergency Medical Services (EMS) may serve as the Incident Commander (IC).

### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 10.1 Identify special considerations for EMS as the IC.
- 10.2 Apply the formula for determining transport resources.

## **Scenario G: Evacuations (Day 2)**

### **Scenario Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- SG.1 Organize Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions and allocate resources in support of the organization.

## **Scenario Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- SG.1 Develop an Incident Command System (ICS) organizational structure for a mass evacuation and move.
- SG.2 Develop incident safety message.
- SG.3 Develop an Incident Briefing.
- SG.4 Track patients using a Patient Tracking Form.
- SG.5 Use benchmarks to order and assign appropriate resources.

## **Module 11: Wrapping Up Incidents (Day 2)**

### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 11.1 Establish the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) functions during incident wrap-up.

### **Enabling Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 11.1 Identify tasks involved in wrapping up incidents.

## **Policies**

### **Class Attendance and Cancellation Policy**

#### **Attendance**

- You are required to attend all sessions of the course. If you do not, you may not receive a certificate.
- If you need to depart the training facility early and miss any portion of the course, you must make the request in writing to the sponsoring agency (e.g., State training director, etc.). The State training director may waive the attendance requirement in order to accommodate you with extraordinary circumstances as long as you complete all course requirements.

### **Student Substitutions**

Substitutions for NFA courses are made from waiting lists; your fire department can't send someone in your place.

### **Cancellations or No-Shows**

NFA's mission for delivery of courses is impaired significantly by cancellations and no-shows. It is very difficult and costly to recruit students at the last minute. Currently there is a two-year ban on student attendance for students who are no-shows or cancel within 30 days of the course start date without a valid reason. If you receive such a restriction, your supervisor needs to send a letter to our Admissions Office explaining the cancellation/no-show.

### **Course Failure**

You can reapply for the failed course or any other NFA course and go through the random selection process. You don't have to successfully complete the failed course before attending another NFA course.

### **Student Code of Conduct Policy**

Students, instructors and staff are expected to treat each other with respect at all times. Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.

### **Writing Expectations**

Student writing will conform to the generally accepted academic standards for college papers. Papers will reflect the original work of the student and give appropriate credit through citations for ideas belonging to other authors, publications or organizations. Student written work should be free of grammatical and syntax errors, free of profanity or obscene language or ideas, and reflect critical thinking related to the course subject matter.

### **Citation and Reference Style**

Attention Please: Students will follow the APA, Sixth Edition as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to NFA. Assignments completed in a narrative essay, composition format, abstract, and discussion posts must follow the citation style cited in the APA, Sixth Edition.

### **Late Assignments**

All assignments must be turned in by the established deadline. Late submissions could result in a 10 percent decrease in grade.

### **Disclaimer Statement**

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.



## **Grading**

Please review the above grading methodology that explains how grades will be awarded. Students who do not complete the entire course will be awarded an Incomplete (I) grade. In accordance with National Fire Academy academic policies, an Incomplete (I) grade must be removed by the end of the next semester following the course, or it automatically becomes a Failing (F) grade.

If you fail an on-campus course, you will not be issued a stipend for that course. You can reapply for the failed course or any other NFA course and go through the random selection process. You don't have to successfully complete the failed course before attending another NFA course.

[https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/admissions/student\\_policies.html](https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/admissions/student_policies.html)

## **Academic Honesty**

Students are expected to exhibit exemplary ethical behavior and conduct as part of the NFA community and society as a whole. Acts of academic dishonesty including cheating, plagiarism, deliberate falsification, and other unethical behaviors will not be tolerated.

Students are expected to report academic misconduct when they witness a violation. All cases of academic misconduct shall be reported by the instructor to the State training director or host agency and to the NFA Training Specialist.

If a student is found to have engaged in misconduct and the allegations are upheld, the penalties may include, but are not limited to one or a combination of the following:

- expulsion,
- withholding of stipend or forfeiture of stipend paid,
- exclusion from future classes for a specified period; depending on the severity it could range from 1-10 years, and/or
- forfeiture of certificate for course(s) enrolled in at NETC.

Refer to NFA-specific Standard Operating Procedure 700.1 – *Academic Code of Conduct and Ethics* for more information.