MONTHLY BUGLE

October 2024

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Academy Training Staff

Academy Director
John Shafer

Field Operations Section Chief
Mike Parks

Planning Section Chief
Zach Mathews

Academy Program Manager (Districts 1 and 4)
Ryan Thoma

Academy Program Manager (Districts 2 and 3)
TR Hagerty

Academy Program Manager

Message from the Director

Greetings to all,



I hope this October edition of the "Monthly Bugle" finds you doing well and adjusting to the cooler weather as we head into the last three months of 2024, which is so hard to believe.

In this month's edition, I want to inform you of a few changes that have resulted from the new 655 IAC going into effect at the end of August.

Reporting of Criminal Conviction:
We have received several questions concerning the party responsible for reporting a criminal conviction since this requirement went into effect. As you will see below, the responsibility is on the individual and not on the department to report to the education board within 90 days of the conviction. Below is the exact language from the new 655 IAC.

655 IAC 2-2-6 Reporting of a criminal conviction

Sec. 6. (a) An individual certified by the education board must provide written notice to the department within ninety (90) days of any misdemeanor or felony criminal conviction, except traffic-related misdemeanors other than operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a drug or alcohol. (b) The notice required by subsection (a) must be submitted in a form approved by the department and include the following:

(1) name of the individual certified by the education board;

(2) contact information for the individual certified by the education board;

(3) certified copy of the order or judgment of conviction; and (4) a letter of explanation from the individual certified by the education board. (c) This section applies only to criminal convictions occurring on or after the date this rule is promulgated.

We have developed a new form on our website for individuals to report their criminal convictions to the board.

(Districts 5 and 7)
Loren Tewes

Academy Program Manager
(Districts 6 and 9)
Chuck Gunter

Academy Program Manager
(Districts 8 and 10)
James Warren

Academy Certification Staff

IFSAC Accreditation and Academy Information Officer
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Certification Supervisor
Nichelle Elliot

Program Coordinator
Regine Johnson

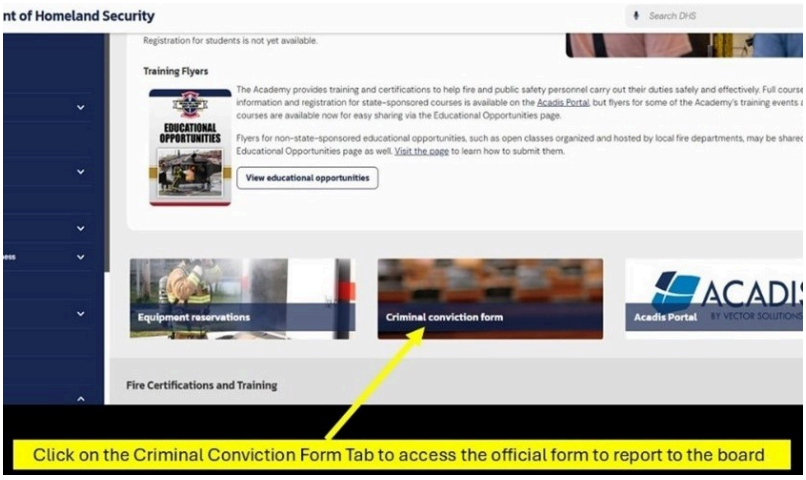
Clerical Assistants
Antoinette Hammack
Courtney James

After-hours Certifications Help

New Method to Request Academy Resources:

The Academy is implementing a new system for requesting training trailer props to improve efficiency and maintain the longevity of its resources. Previously, local agencies could request assets on a first-come, first-served basis through Acadis. However, this often leads to trailers and props moving across the state, which has accelerated wear and tear on the equipment.

To address this issue, the Academy is introducing a more structured and equitable process for asset requests. The new system will no longer operate on a first-come, first-served basis, which has proven costly and time-consuming. Instead, requests will



New Acadis Migration:

We have worked with Envisage to create a NEW schedule for the Migration to the Cloud.

During the cutover, all Acadis access to the admin side, Web Portal and Testing Portal will be offline from Thursday, Oct. 31 at 3 p.m. to Friday, Nov. 1 at 3 p.m.

Alan Burns Training Center Groundbreaking



Earlier this month, the groundbreaking ceremony for the Alan W. Burns High-Rise Training Center took place in Plainfield. Named after fallen Madison Township Fire Chief Alan W. Burns, this center is critical to advancing firefighter training in Indiana.

be grouped regionally each quarter, allowing the Logistics Section to conduct preventive maintenance and reduce unnecessary resource strain.

This new method ensures that training trailer props are utilized effectively and fairly across the state. The Logistics Section will carefully evaluate all requests, considering regional demand within each quarter.

Departments wishing to request a training trailer prop will now do so through the Academy's website, following the schedule below:

Request Schedule:

- Requests are due by Jan. 1, April 1, July 1 and Oct. 1.
- Requests can be submitted at any time, and departments are encouraged to plan well in advance, even for the following calendar year.
- The Academy will approve all requests 30 days before the start of the next quarter.

To submit a request, please visit https://www.in.gov/dhs/training/fire-training/equipment-requests/#equipment-reservationscomplete and complete the Smartsheet request form. This form will guide you through the necessary information and ensure a smooth request process. Equipment reservation requests cannot be made through Acadis anymore.

Air Management on the Fireground

Conserving air during fireground operations extends your search or firefighting time. Conducting air consumption drills to understand how long your air lasts while performing fireground tasks is vital. These drills estimate how much time you have before the Vibralert activates and how long you have





As the central “Hub” site for Indiana's Hub and Spoke regional training model, this center will serve as a place for advanced-level firefighters. One such advanced feature will be a nine-story fire training building that allows the opportunity to practice high-rise firefighting in various residential and commercial environments.

To read more about this event and what else is coming to firefighting training in Indiana go to the NextLevel Firefighting page.

John Shafer
Indiana Fire and Public Safety Academy Director



Important Note on Registering for Classes on Acadis

The Indiana Fire and Public Safety Academy provides training and education **free** of charge to all Hoosier fire and

after it starts. Monitoring your air supply is crucial, and you can do this using the Heads-Up Display (HUD) on your regulator.

The indicator lights provide information about the following air levels:

- Two green lights: full-cylinder
- One green light:3/4 full (about 4000 psi)
- One yellow light: 1/2 full (about 3000 psi)
- Flashing red light: 1/3 full (about 2000 psi), and Vibralert activates

When your air reaches around 100 psi, the Vibralert stops, indicating minimal air.

Emergency Air Procedure

If your mask starts to suck to your face, indicating you are out of air, remain calm and get low. Check that your cylinder is fully open with your right hand while using your left hand to open the bypass valve and check for a pinched regulator hose. If this does not resolve the issue, leave your mask on, disconnect the regulator and breathe through the filter as best you can. Make sure to call or update a MAYDAY if necessary. Practicing this procedure during morning SCBA checks can improve familiarity.

Breathing techniques to maximize respiratory efficiency:

- In through the nose, out through the nose: Breathe in and out normally through the nose.
- In through the nose, out through the mouth: Breathe in through the nose and

emergency service personnel, a benefit few states offer. This year, the Academy has made significant efforts to track class enrollment data through Acadis to serve the community. While classes often fill up quickly, a concerning pattern has emerged: some registered individuals are not attending the courses.

When students register and fail to attend without canceling, it significantly impacts the Academy's ability to continue offering high-quality training. Resources such as staff time, logistics and materials are invested in these sessions and no-shows result in wasted efforts. Additionally, students on waitlists are denied the opportunity to participate due to spots held by those who do not cancel in advance.

Recently, two instructors were flown in from out of state to teach a course, but 13 registered students failed to attend without canceling their registration. This highlights how no-shows affect not only the Academy's resources but also the ability of other students to receive valuable training. The Academy understands that emergencies can happen, but **every effort should be made to notify the Academy if you cannot attend a class for which you are registered.**

New Fire and Emergency Service Instructor Template in Acadis

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has recently updated its standards regarding fire instructor terminology. At the same time, Indiana's board adopted the new title of fire and emergency services instructor and reduced the continuing education (CE) requirements from 20 hours to 16 hours. Due to these changes, the Academy updated all instructor certification templates in Acadis.

The Academy's certification staff manually retired each instructor certification at all three levels and reissued new fire and emergency services instructor certifications.

Instructors will notice their old Fire Instructor I or II/III certifications are marked as "retired" in Acadis, but this only reflects the template update. Additionally, documentation is now required when renewing fire and emergency services instructor certifications. A form-fillable PDF of the Instructor Renewal Form is available on the Academy's website

Instructors are advised to download the form now and keep track of all teaching and adult education to streamline the renewal process.

New Immediate Family Limitation Requirement

A new requirement in the 655 IAC prohibits individuals from evaluating or proctoring certification tests for immediate family members. The term "immediate family member" includes spouses, siblings, parents, children, grandchildren

exhale slowly through the mouth.
- Skip breathing: In emergencies, breathe in through the nose, pause briefly, then exhale through the mouth, extending the exhalation.

Introduction to Energy Systems Course

The National Fire Academy announced the release of a new online self-study course, Introduction to Energy Systems (ESS) (course code Q0757). Many modern devices people use daily rely on some electrical source to power their operation. Many device manufacturers use batteries to allow mobility and function without connecting to the electrical power grid. In this course, you will learn to recognize energy storage system (ESS) concepts and principles so you can analyze the hazards involved with ESS incidents.

After completing this course, you will be able to:

- Define an energy storage system (ESS)
- Recognize hazards associated with ESS
- Associate chemical ESS hazards with Lithium-Ion-Battery Energy Storage Systems (LiBESS)
- Associate thermal ESS hazards with LiBESS
- Identify response considerations during LiBESS incidents
- Identify the post-incident operations following an ESS response

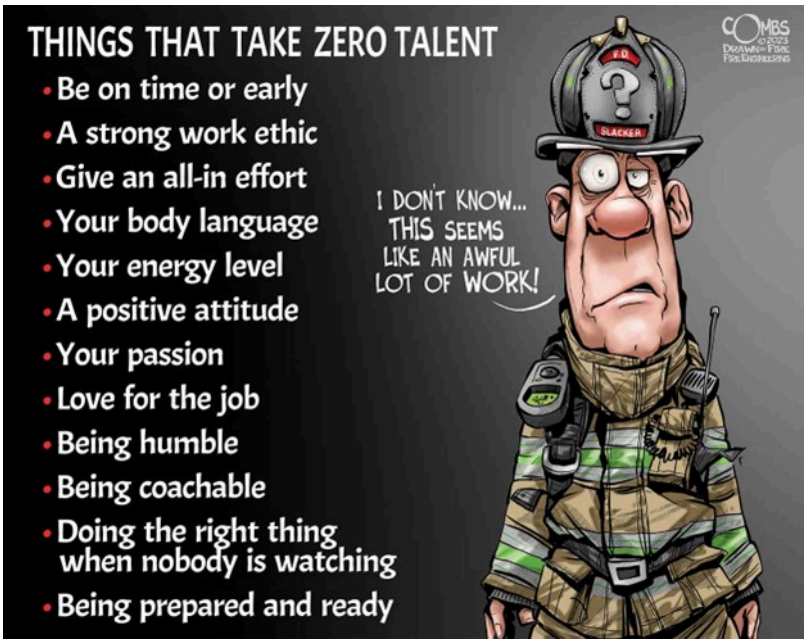
Register today

or stepchildren.

The specific language from 655 IAC 5-3-3(c) is:
"No person may serve as a lead evaluator or proctor for a certification course in which an immediate family member is enrolled."

Calling All Instructors

The Fire and Public Safety Academy will host its second annual Winter Fire School at the Plainfield training facility on Feb. 1-2, 2025. Instructors interested in teaching during the event are encouraged to apply by Nov. 1. Final selections will be made by Nov. 29.
Apply here



FD Spotlight: Harrison Township Fire Department (Corydon)

The Harrison Township Volunteer Fire Department traces its roots back to the early 1900s when the Corydon Volunteer Fire Department was founded. Initially, it operated as a hose company, relying on hose reels pulled by residents to fight fires. Over the years, the department evolved, and in 2002, the Corydon Fire Department merged with the Harrison Township Fire Department, forming a unified service for the area.

Today, the department operates as a combination fire department, having transitioned to a 24/7 service in 2019. It employs 11 full-time firefighters and 26 volunteers, responding to approximately 2,300 calls annually across a 102-square-mile area that includes the Town of Corydon and Harrison Township.



The Fire and Public Safety Academy is dedicated to providing outstanding customer service and delivering professional fire and public safety training, education and certification to Indiana's first responders in support of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security's mission of protecting the people, property and prosperity of Indiana.

Contact the Indiana Fire and Public Safety Academy at

firecertifications@dhs.in.gov

SERVICE TO STAFF AND COMMUNITY
INTEGRITY IN ALL WE DO
RESPECT FOR ALL PEOPLE

Stay Connected with the Indiana Department of Homeland Security:
