

# ALABAMA FIRE COLLEGE

## AND PERSONNEL STANDARDS & EDUCATION COMMISSION



### COURSE SYLLABUS

**Fire Department Safety Officer:  
Incident Safety Officer**

**FSC 295**

**40 clock hours**

### PREREQUISITES

- Pro Board or IFSAC Certified Fire Officer I

#### **Alternative Certification:**

- Individuals not certified to the Fire Officer I level completing equivalent coursework as approved by the Commission are eligible for alternative certification under the following conditions:
  - Alabama state licensed Emergency Medical Technicians certified to the EMS or Rescue Officer I level may be certified as EMS Safety Officer I.
  - Individuals certified to the EMS or Rescue Officer I Level and able to demonstrate competence in the area of rescue operations may be certified as Rescue Safety Officer I.

### REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

- **Jones & Bartlett: Fire Department Incident Safety Officer, Revised 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition**

#### **Other Required Equipment:**

- Laptop that can produce documents in Microsoft Office or Adobe PDF

### DESCRIPTION

This course is based on NFPA 1521: *Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer Professional Qualifications*, 2020 Edition. The course is intended for the member within a fire department or emergency service organization who performs the functions of an Incident Safety Officer or who serves as an assistant to the Incident Safety Officer.

### STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Perform the role of ISO within an incident command system (ICS) at an incident or planned event
- Monitor the IAP, conditions, activities, and operations
- Manage the transfer of ISO duties
- Stop, alter, or suspend operations based on imminent threats posed to fire fighter safety
- Monitor and determine the incident scene conditions
- Monitor the accountability system
- Determine hazardous incident conditions and advise the IC to establish or modify control zones
- Identify motor vehicle incident scene hazards
- Monitor radio transmissions
- Identify the incident strategic requirements (e.g., fire, technical rescue, hazmat), the corresponding hazards, the size, complexity, and anticipated duration of the incident, including the associated risks
- Determine the hazards associated with the designation of a landing zone and interface with helicopters
- Notify the IC of the need for intervention resulting from an occupational exposure to atypical stressful events
- Determine hazardous energy sources that can affect responder health and safety
- Monitor conditions, including weather, fire fighter activities, and work cycle durations
- Identify incident environmental conditions and contaminants

- Determine incident environmental and operational factors and confirm the establishment of rapid intervention crew (RIC) and evaluate the need to increase RIC capability
- Communicate fire behavior, building access/egress issues, collapse, and hazardous energy issues to established RICs
- Identify and estimate building/structural collapse hazards
- Determine flashover and hostile fire event potential at building fires
- Determine fire growth and blow up
- Determine the suitability of building entry and egress options at building fires
- Determine the need for a rescue technician-trained ISO or assistant ISO
- Prepare a safety plan that identifies corrective or preventive actions
- Deliver a safety briefing for technical rescue incident response members
- Determine the need for a hazardous materials technician trained ISO or assistant ISO
- Prepare a safety plan that identifies corrective or preventive actions
- Deliver a safety briefing for hazardous materials incident response members
- Identify that hazardous materials incident control zones have been established and communicated to personnel on the scene
- Conduct a safety and health investigative process
- Prepare a written post-incident analysis (PIA) from the ISO perspective
- Report observations, concerns, and recommendations

## CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

To be issued certification, the candidate will: provide documentation of prerequisites, complete required training hours including skills training, successfully complete the cognitive written exam, and successfully complete the practical exam.

## ACCREDITATION

Alabama Fire College and Personnel Standards Commission maintains accreditation with Pro Board and IFSAC. Each student will automatically receive national registration and certification upon successful completion of all requirements for certification.

## COURSE SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Day One:	Chapter 1: The Safety Officer Role Chapter 2: Safety Concepts Chapter 3: Guiding Laws, Regulations, and Standards Chapter 4: Designing an Incident Safety Officer System Chapter 5: Reading Buildings Chapter 6: Reading Smoke
Day Two:	Chapter 7: Reading Risk Chapter 8: Reading Hazardous Energy Chapter 9: Reading Firefighters Chapter 10: Triggers, Traps, and Working with the Incident Commander Chapter 11: A systematic Approach to the ISO Role Project 1: Create an Incident Safety Officer Checklist Chapter 12: The ISO at Structure Fires Project 2: Serve as the Incident Safety Officer on a building/structural fire
Day Three:	Chapter 13: The ISO at Wildland and I-Zone Fires Project 3: Serve as an Incident Safety Officer at a Hazardous Materials Incident Chapter 14: The ISO at Hazardous Materials Incidents Project 4: Serve as an Incident Safety Officer at a Hazardous Materials Incident Chapter 15: The ISO at Technical Rescue Incidents Project 5: Serve as the Incident Safety Officer at a Motor Vehicle Accident Project 6: Serve as an Incident Safety Officer at a Technical Rescue Incident
Day Four:	Chapter 16: Post Incident Responsibilities and Mishap Investigations Project 7: Terminating your role as Incident Safety Officer and conducting a Post Incident Analysis Project 8: Conducting an accident investigation Chapter 17: The ISO at Training Drills and Special Events
Day Five:	Project Completion Course Critique Certification Exam

## GRADE ASSESSMENT

### WRITTEN EXAMINATION

Perform to a minimum 70% competency on the examination,  
(One retest is allowed after 30 days but within one year of course end date.)

### PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

Successfully complete a skills/project evaluation to a minimum of 70% competency and successful completion of all critical points. Evaluators will test at least 25% of the skills for each. Skill sheets to be tested will be randomly selected by AFC Certification Unit for the practical examination. (One retest is allowed after 30 days but within one year of course end date.)