

Michigan State Police - Fire Marshal Division
2002 Fire Investigation Training Information

The Michigan State Police, Fire Marshal Division is proud to announce the fire investigation-training schedule for the 2002 calendar year. These schools are limited to fire and police personnel who are assigned the responsibility of conducting fire investigations.

The Basic Fire Investigation School is now accredited by the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications (NBFSPQ). The NBFSPQ is a committee of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and is comprised of fire service professionals from across the country. The Board reviews the curriculum, instructional staff, training methodology, equal opportunity standards, and testing methods before accrediting a particular program. The Michigan State Police, Fire Marshal Division program is one of only 11 fire investigation programs accredited worldwide. Accordingly, stricter guidelines have been enacted for student selection, training, and testing.

To be considered for fire investigation training, applications must be fully completed and endorsed by the applicant's supervisor or agency head. The supervisor or agency head must agree that this individual will be utilized for fire investigations. Any agency having a special need for fire investigation training must submit a letter explaining the nature of the special need attached to the application. The applicant's supervisor or agency head must endorse this correspondence. The Fire Investigation Training Selection Committee will use all of the information provided to determine which students will be accepted for each school. The Fire Investigation Training Selection Committee will use the following criteria to evaluate and rank all applicants:

APPLICATION CRITERIA

- 18 years of age or older.
- High school graduate or possession of GED.
- Able to read and write English.
- Good moral character. A conviction for a misdemeanor or felony offense that involves theft, dishonesty, or false statement may be grounds for rejection.
- Application must be completely and accurately filled out.
- **Must have successfully completed Hazardous Materials Awareness for First Responders training.**

- **Fire Service:** Must be a firefighter or higher rank with Fire Fighter I certification through the Michigan Fire Fighters Training Council.

Member of an organized fire department currently complying with MFIRS/NFIRS fire reporting requirements.

Applicant is substantially responsible for fire investigations and arson prosecutions.

- **Police Service:** Must be a full-time law enforcement officer with

Certification from the Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (formerly Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Training Council).

Applicant is substantially responsible for fire investigations and arson prosecutions.

- Applications complying with these criteria will be forwarded to the selection committee for further consideration.

SELECTION CRITERIA

1. The number of fires experienced by the agency/community served, based on the incidents reported to the State Fire Marshal through the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS).
2. The applying agency, if fire service, **must** participate with the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS).
3. The applying agency, if police **must** participate with MICR data regarding fire investigations and related prosecutions.
4. The number of trained personnel available within the applying agency (full or part time).
5. The number of trained personnel available to the applying agency from surrounding agencies or from the Fire Marshal Division.
6. Whether the applying agency has recently had students trained by the Fire Marshal Division.
7. Police/Fire service teams may be given preference based on above requirements when possible.
8. Whether the applying agency has an aggressive policy of pursuing arson prosecutions when a fire is determined to be arson.
9. Applying agency maintains a positive working relationship with surrounding departments to better utilize existing trained investigators available to investigate fire scenes.

Based on these criteria, the Fire Investigation Training Selection Committee will rank each applicant and select students. Students will then be notified by mail whether they have been accepted or not.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

- Do not call the Fire Marshal Division to inquire about the status of your application.
- You are not automatically accepted into a school by submitting an application.
- Applications are valid only for the current year and only for the particular school applied for.
- If the application is not fully completed or signed by both the applicant and supervisor, it will be returned.(Original signatures)
- Practical testing is a mandatory part of the program. Accordingly, students must perform moderately strenuous physical activities (fire scene excavation) in order to participate in the practical testing portion.
- Students with physical disabilities should consider their limitations and consult with a physician prior to applying.
- Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.
- Submit a separate application for each school.

Basic Fire Investigation School – 80 Hours

Spring Session: April 15-26, 2002

Application Deadline: January 24, 2002

Fall Session: September 9-20, 2002

Application Deadline: June 21, 2002

Tuition: \$500.00 – covers meals, lodging, and all training materials

Students are responsible for their own transportation and necessary work equipment. Students selected for training will receive a list of necessary equipment.

\$700.00 – non-resident.

Advanced Fire Investigation School – 40 Hours

March 18-22, 2002

Application Deadline: March 1, 2002

Tuition: \$250.00 – covers meals, lodging, and all training materials

Students are responsible for their own transportation and necessary work equipment.

\$350.00 – non-resident.

Prerequisite: Students **must** have attended the Fire Marshal Division Basic Fire Investigation School or equivalent
See below for equivalency information.

Vehicle Fire Investigation School – 40 Hours

October 7-11, 2002

Tuition: \$250.00 – covers meals, lodging, and all training materials

Students are responsible for their own work equipment.

\$350.00 – non-resident.

Prerequisite: Students **must** have attended the Fire Marshal Division Basic Fire Investigation School or an equivalent
See below for equivalency information.

Arson Follow-Up School – 40 Hours

Winter Session: February 11-15, 2002

Summer Session: August 19 – 23, 2002

Tuition: \$250.00 – covers meals, lodging, and all training materials

Students are responsible for their own transportation.

\$350.00 – non-resident.

NOTE: This school is open only to police and public safety officers. It does not instruct fire origin and cause determination. This school teaches those skills necessary to continue an investigation once a fire has been determined to be arson by a qualified investigator.

Equivalency Information

If you have attended a program that you believe meets or exceeds the training standards of the Basic school, you may apply for either the Advanced or the Vehicle Fire Investigation School.

You **must** submit the following documents along with your application:

- A copy of your certificate
- A copy of the course curriculum showing the specific dates and times that the training was conducted and the total number of contact-hours
- A list of instructors
- Indicate whether there was a written and a practical examination
- Indicate where the training was conducted
- Indicate whether the program was based on N.F.P.A. 1033 – Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator, 1993, 1995 or 1998 edition
- Indicate whether the training included live-burn exercises
- A letter attached to the application requesting evaluation of the program as an equivalent.
- Pro Qual (NBFSPQ) agencies are equivalent programs.

Each equivalency request will be evaluated on an individual basis. If you cannot submit the above information your program will not be considered for equivalency review.

Questions regarding these training programs should be referred to the Fire Marshal Division, D/Lt. Jim Shinsky - 517-322-5463, Spl/Sgt. Chad Coney – 517-322-5783 or Karen Towne – 517-322-5482.

Requests for training applications should be directed to Autumn Schrauben 517-322-1938.

Fire Marshal Division

2002 Fire Investigation Training Application

NOTE: Applications must be neatly printed or typed and fully completed. Incomplete or illegible applications will not be accepted.

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		LAST NAME		FIRST NAME		M.I.	
DOB		DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER		DEPARTMENT			
		MALE <input type="checkbox"/>		FEMALE <input type="checkbox"/>			
JOB TITLE		STREET ADDRESS		CITY		STATE	
						ZIP	
COUNTY		TYPE OF AGENCY		WORK TELEPHONE			
		Police <input type="checkbox"/> Fire <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>					
SUPERVISOR TITLE		FIRST NAME		LAST NAME			
EMPLOYMENT STATUS		FDID (Fire ID)		ORI (Law Enforcement ID)		NUMBER OF YEARS IN FIRE OR POLICE SERVICE	
Full-Time <input type="checkbox"/> Part-Paid <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer <input type="checkbox"/>							
NUMBER OF YEARS IN PRESENT POSITION		IS FIRE INVESTIGATION YOUR PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		PERCENTAGE OF TIME SPENT ON FIRE INVEST.		NUMBER OF FIRES YOU HAVE ACTUALLY INVESTIGATED	
TOTAL NUMBER OF FIRES INVESTIGATED IN 2000		TOTAL NUMBER OF ARSON FIRES TURNED OVER TO LAW ENFORCEMENT IN 2000 (IF FIRE DEPT)		NUMBER OF FIRES YOUR AGENCY RESPONDED TO:			
HAVE YOU COMPLETED HAZ-MAT AWARENESS?		TOTAL NUMBER OF ARSON RELATED ARRESTS FOR 1999		HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ARRESTED FOR A CRIME FOR WHICH YOU COULD HAVE GONE TO JAIL? IF YES, DO NOT PROVIDE DETAILS. YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>			
INDICATE WHICH SCHOOL YOU ARE APPLYING FOR:				DATES OF SCHOOL APPLYING FOR:			

IF APPLYING FOR ADVANCED OR VEHICLE FIRE SCHOOL

BASIC SCHOOL ATTENDED (43rd, April 16-27, 2001, etc.)		DATE ATTENDED:		IF NONE - ARE YOU SUBMITTING AN EQUIVALENCY REQUEST?	

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE. I AUTHORIZE THE RELEASE OF ALL CRIMINAL HISTORY INFORMATION THAT PERTAINS TO THIS APPLICATION.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

SUPERVISOR CERTIFICATION: I HAVE REVIEWED THIS APPLICATION AND ATTEST THE INFORMATION TO BE TRUE AND ACCURATE. I ALSO CERTIFY THAT THE APPLICANT WILL BE UTILIZED AS A FIRE INVESTIGATOR UPON COMPLETION OF THIS SCHOOL.

SUPERVISOR'S SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

- **DO NOT SEND THE REGISTRATION FEE UNTIL YOU HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED IN WRITING WHETHER OR NOT YOU HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED INTO THE SCHOOL.**
- **DO NOT CALL THE FIRE MARSHAL DIVISION TO INQUIRE ABOUT YOUR APPLICATION, YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED BY MAIL.**
- **MAIL YOUR COMPLETED ORIGINAL APPLICATION TO ARRIVE NO LATER THAN THE APPLICATION DEADLINE.**
- **DO NOT FAX YOUR APPLICATION – FAXED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**
- **MAIL COMPLETED ORIGINAL APPLICATION TO :**

Michigan State Police
 Fire Marshal Division
 Fire Investigation Training Applications
 7150 Harris Drive
 Lansing, Michigan 48913

D/Lt. Jim Shinsky 517-322-5463
 Spl/Sgt. Chad Coney 517-322-5783
 Ms. Karen Towne 517-322-5482
 Ms. Autumn Schrauben 517-322-1938