



# Southern Maine Community College & Maine Fire Service Institute: Strategic Plan

## 2021-2025



### Maine Fire Service Institute

SMCC Midcoast Campus

at Brunswick Landing

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# A Message from the Director

Dear Fire Service Professionals of Maine,

Maine Fire Service Institute (MFSI) is a division within Southern Maine Community College. Since 1948, MFT&E - now MFSI - has served as the primary organization dedicated to training firefighters throughout Maine. With a full-time staff of 10 and a cadre of 100+ State Fire Instructors all across the state, MFSI produces a variety of programs statewide to meet the demands of fire service professionals and local fire chiefs.

Complementing the delivery of local programs, MFSI also serves as the certification entity for all Fire Fighter, Fire Instructor & Fire Officer programs. MFSI accomplishes all this by fostering partnerships and collaborating with local departments; regional programs; the Fire Science Programs of SMCC & EMCC; and other governmental and benevolent organizations, such as the Maine State Fire Marshal's Office, Maine Forest Service, Maine Fire Chiefs Association, Maine State Federation of Fire Fighters and the Maine Bureau of Labor. Moreover, under Maine law, MFSI is the State Representative to the National Fire Academy. We do all that we can to bring as many NFA programs as possible to Maine each year.

Please take the time to explore our [website](#) and like us on [Facebook](#) for more information about what we do, and to see details about upcoming programs. We are here for you. If we are *not* offering a program you would like to see delivered, please let us know - it may be something we can deliver in the future. The same is true for any NFA programs you would like to see delivered: we rely on feedback from constituents throughout the state as we plan future programming.

If you have a question, please do not hesitate to call us — a full staff directory can be found [online](#). Our aim is to assist our state's treasured resource of fire service personnel at all levels. We are eternally grateful to those who dedicate their time and energy to protecting the Pine Tree State inhabitants, the many tourists that visit Maine annually, our beautiful natural resources, and the infrastructure that keeps our economy safe from the hazards of fire and other disasters.

With much respect and admiration,

MFSI Director Jim Graves

# Our Mission, Vision, and Values

## Mission Statement

The mission of Maine Fire Service Institute is to assist in the development of skills and abilities in support of Maine's Fire Service at the local, regional and state level in collaboration with the Fire Chiefs of Maine.

## Vision Statement

Partnering with the Fire Chiefs, Maine Fire Service Institute shall focus on customer service, quality, and safety. MFSI shall collaborate to deliver standardized and integrated training and education by leveraging technology, innovation and funding opportunities to meet the needs of a dynamic Fire Service.

## Value Statement

Our core values support our mission and ultimately change the culture of today's Maine Fire Service.

- 1. Safety** – Adhere to all safety standards to ensure the safety of all parties involved.
- 2. Customer Service** – Support customers at every opportunity and ensure their satisfaction to the best of our ability.
- 3. Integrity** – All MFSI staff and instructors operate according to the highest ethical principles.
- 4. Professionalism** – Ensure all MFSI Staff and Instructors conduct themselves with a high level of professionalism at all times.
- 5. Fairness** – Ensure all are treated with respect and impartiality in all our processes.
- 6. Training Excellence** – Ensure all fire training and related programs are of the highest possible quality.
- 7. Responsibility** – Be accountable to our customers and stakeholders at all times.
- 8. Tradition and Culture** – Support our Maine traditions and effect positive fire service cultural changes in the interest of the greater good.



# Maine State Fire Instructors



At the core of our mission rests our most important resource: Maine State Fire Instructors. They are a team of passionate and dedicated fire service professionals from every corner of the state, who rise up to support our mission with steadfast integrity and professionalism. They possess innumerable skills and abilities; a combined total of many decades of field experience; wisdom; and a willingness to share their knowledge with others. But perhaps their best quality is their quiet humility - they help build the future of Maine's fire service not in search of personal accolades, but out of a genuine love for the fire service and a commitment to future generations.

Without these individuals, we could not succeed at our mission. They are - and will always be - our most precious resource. And as demand for our services continues to increase year after year, we must also continue to expand and support our cadre of instructors. If you are interested in becoming part of this mission, we would like you to strongly consider applying to work for MFSI. All Maine Fire Service stakeholders want to see the industry advance in a positive direction - but this can only happen if many hands pick up the rope and pull the heavy load before us.

MFSI typically holds an instructor recruitment period every two years, though this is subject to change, and at times we must conduct a more targeted hiring process in order to meet demands in specific geographical regions of the state. Travel and weekend work can be common in this role. If this type of role appeals to you or someone you know, we hope you will consider applying! The networking and relationship-building with the other fire service professionals you will come in contact with can make a huge positive impact on your career.

# History

Due to the lasting impact of the widespread forest fires of 1947, Maine lawmakers addressed life safety concerns with the passing of legislation requiring fire extinguishers and appropriate means of egress in businesses and public buildings, as well as public education in fire prevention. In 1954, a percentage of the already taxed insurance premiums were earmarked for the administration of fire laws, regulations and educating the public in fire safety. Three years later, the first appropriations made for firefighter training were added to this Statute. Today, 75.7% of these taxes are for the same purpose, with almost 24.3% of the total going directly to fire training and education programs for Maine's firefighters.

This funding source is managed by the Maine Fire Marshal's Office through the Office of Public Safety.



historical images courtesy of NEPM.org

## History (continued)

Maine Fire Training & Education, now known as Maine Fire Service Institute, began its journey in 1958 as a division of the Maine Department of Education and is now a department of Southern Maine Community College. It came to be because a team of dedicated individuals and groups joined together for the benefit of Maine's firefighters and citizens. It was governed by an advisory committee made up of Maine Fire Chiefs, members of the Maine Federation of Firefighters, insurance underwriters, and other municipal and Department of Education members - quite similar to the advisory committee of today. These members were appointed by their respective organizations and were groundbreakers that not only realized the need to train Maine's firefighters but also to train their officers in the areas of firefighting tactics, administration, and leadership. This group's highest priority was not the number of students trained but the quality of the education they received, a mission we still hold today.

*historical images courtesy of NEPM.org*



# Fire Training Laws of Maine

There are many laws that influence the Maine State Fire Service, specifically fire training in Maine. You can find most of these laws on the Maine State Fire Marshals [website](#).

Maine Fire Service Institute falls within the Community College System, specifically Southern Maine Community College. This places our organization within Title 20 - Education, and specific fire training requirements fall under Maine Bureau of Labor Title 26 Labor & Industry. Moreover, some fire service laws fall under Title 25 - Internal Security and Public Safety. A highlight of the relevant legislature is reproduced below.

## **Title 20-A: EDUCATION Part 4: SPECIFIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS, Subpart 3: OTHER PROGRAMS**

### **Chapter 319: MAINE FIRE TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

#### **§9000. Definitions**

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

1. President. "President" means the president of the system.
2. System. "System" means the Maine Community College System,

established by chapter

#### **§9001. Program**

The president may conduct programs to provide fire training and education for members of municipal fire departments, incorporated volunteer fire departments, industrial fire brigades, institutional fire brigades and the general public, to be known as the Maine Fire Service Institute.

1. Voluntary participation. The president may not require participation in these programs by a member of a municipal fire department, incorporated volunteer fire department, industrial fire brigades, and institutional fire brigades or the general public nor use participation in Maine fire training and education programs as a condition of eligibility to receive funds for training and education programs.

2. Fees. The president may charge a fee for the training and education of private industrial fire brigades. The amount of the fee shall reflect, but not be limited to, instructional, material and administrative costs.





# Fire Training Laws of Maine (continued)

## §9003. State agents for federal programs

The following provisions shall apply to federal fire programs in the State.

1. President; state agent. The president shall be the state agent to be contacted by the United States Fire Administration about matters dealing with the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974, Public Law 93-498.

2. System; testing; certification. The system shall be the state testing agency for the National Professional Qualification Board of the Joint Council of Fire Services Organizations. The president may award certificates to personnel of municipal and incorporated volunteer fire departments using competency standards established by the Joint Council of Fire Services Organizations.

## §9004. Live Fire Service Training Facilities Fund

**1. Fund established.** The Live Fire Service Training Facilities Fund, referred to in this section as “the fund,” is established under the Maine Fire Service Institute within the Maine Community College System as a non-lapsing fund to provide funds to municipalities for the construction and repair or replacement of regional live fire service training facilities in the State.

**2. Grant program.** The Maine Fire Protection Services Commission, referred to in this section as “the commission” and established pursuant to Title 5, section 12004-J, subsection 12, shall establish criteria to award grants to municipalities from the fund, including a requirement that proposals be fully designed and approved by a licensed professional engineer as defined in Title 32, section 1251, subsection 4. The commission may adopt rules to implement this subsection. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

**3. Procedure.** Municipalities may apply to the commission for grants. The commission shall evaluate each application pursuant to the criteria developed in subsection 2 and, to the extent funds are available, shall award grants from the fund to support the construction and repair or replacement of regional live fire service training facilities.

**4. Payment of grants.** Upon the award of a grant by the commission, the commission shall direct the Maine Fire Service Institute to make the payment of the grant award to the municipality from the fund.



# Fire Training Laws of Maine (continued)

Note: The Live Fire Training Grant Program falls within the scope of the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission - all decisions in regards to the program are made with the officials that sit on the commission. The Maine Community College System conducts the financial administration of grant funds through the Southern Maine Community College/Maine Fire Service Institute. To date the following awards have been made:

- City of Auburn - \$20,800.00 for repairs to existing facility
- Town of Farmington - \$509,400.00 to construct new facility
- Town of Yarmouth - \$443,800.00 to replace outdated facility
- Town of Fairfield - \$427,900.00 to construct new facility

Together, the Maine Fire Service stakeholders can make large steps forward to improve fire training in Maine. The administration here at MFSI is committed to the greater good and will continue to work hard toward that goal.

**Learn more about the commission and their other projects on their website:**

[Maine Fire Protection Services Commission](#)



# SWOT Analysis: Strengths



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- Our status as a division of Southern Maine Community College/Maine Community College System, and the benefits of being located in an educational setting with shared resources
- The dedication and guidance of the SMCC/MFSI Advisory Committee toward our mission
- Being placed within the SMCC/MCCS workforce development department
- Collaboration and partnerships with other fire service entities to improve fire training opportunities
- Dedicated and experienced staff who are committed to the mission, including experience within higher education and within the fire service itself
- Flexibility in responding to requests
- Detailed policies & procedures manual; provides solid administrative foundation
- Customer service as a top priority
- Determination to make things better; always moving forward & looking for positive changes rather than being satisfied with the status quo
- External communication: strong marketing materials and graphic design
- Ability to procure and secure grant funding for live fire facilities and other assets
- Cost effective training model; we are able to deliver a number of free programs as well as offering other programs at cost
- Utilizing a nationally-recognized curriculum, and maintaining Pro-Board accreditation on our certification programs
- Willingness to look at new technologies (Zoom meetings, Microsoft Teams, online instructor portal, GigaTrak inventory software, etc.)
- Improvement of officer development through the expansion of Fire Officer and Incident Command simulations program
- Extensive fleet of trailers and mobile props which allow for statewide access and training

# SWOT Analysis: Weaknesses

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- Need for increased instructor development opportunities and clarity regarding expectations for instructors
- Improvement needed on internal communication to match quality and quantity of external communication
- Lack of preventive maintenance on trailers and other assets
- Finite resources and limited number of full-time personnel can make it difficult to follow through on all ideas; capacity of staff to meet demand for our services without overextending
- As demand increases rapidly, attention to detail on projects has become more difficult to maintain
- Perceived disconnect between MFSI & local municipalities/instructors/program coordinators
- Customers (Fire Chiefs, Training Officers, etc.) may be unaware of our full range of props/resources
- Need for streamlining across all channels of communication to ensure that no requests or outreach attempts are overlooked

# SWOT Analysis: Opportunities

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- Adding requirements/quotas for annual instructor development and training
- Targeting smaller instructor groups for development based on their geographic locations, to reduce unnecessary travel and maximize ROI on funds devoted to professional development
- Continue to work with fire service stakeholders to improve funding and training opportunities
- Seek and maintain relationships with other public safety agencies
- Continue to support the expansion of Live Fire Training Facilities alongside the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission
- Encouraging employees and instructors to take initiative and bring new ideas to the table
- Utilizing the SMCC/MFSI Advisory Committee as advocates to help conduct more public outreach
- Increase outreach in all counties through improved communications
- Continue to secure funding via AFG grants
- Use available technology to update file storage and data management
- Place an increased emphasis throughout Maine on Community Risk Reduction efforts (for example, further development of our partnerships with the State Fire Marshal's Office and Maine Forest Service to promote fire sprinklers, wildland fire prevention, etc.)
- Expand our simulations program to deliver computer-generated fire simulations that will enhance incident command and fire ground tactics and strategies - this program will meet all expectations of career, call, & volunteer fire officers, and assist them in developing the skills needed for incident success

# SWOT Analysis: Threats

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- Limited staffing: relatively small team compared to similarly-sized states
- External threats to revenue stream and their impacts on our operational budget
- Technological advancements may outpace staff ability to identify - and receive training on - new tools
- Fire service needs and student dynamics are changing rapidly, and demand for more varied services is increasing

# Planned Improvements by Division: Brief Overview



## Strategic Goal #1 *Certification*

- Ensure Pro-Board Accreditation is secure at all times
- Transition to paperless written and skills exams
- Continue to scan physical archive into virtual database with remote backup
- Establish exam fees to support software for all processes



## Strategic Goal #2 *Administration*

- Work with stakeholders to improve Maine's fire training model
- Improve communications, both internal and external
- Streamline processes to make more efficient
- Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant (AFG) opportunities



## Strategic Goal #3 *Support Services*

- Work to have a new maintenance and storage facility built at MFSI Headquarters
- Increased demand and ability to meet that demand
- Create preventive maintenance schedule for fleet of trailers and replacement schedule for sustainability



## Strategic Goal #4 *Field Operations*

- Work to create more opportunities for instructor training and professional development
- Improve Maine State Fire Officer Academy to better match the job
- Improve Fire Instructor Program and Create Live Fire Training Supervisor and Instructor Program



## **Strategic Goal #1** **Certification**

# Planned Improvements by Division

- **Ensure Pro-Board Accreditation is secure at all times** – Maintaining our Pro-Board Accreditation is of the highest priority for MFSI. Our aim is to keep a close watch on national trends and continue to adjust our programs' administrative practices to keep pace with an ever-evolving environment. Conditions and standards are continually changing within fire training, both around the state and across the nation as a whole. Attending annual Pro-Board Conferences helps us gain firsthand information and make adjustments in all certification practices. MFSI can administer Pro-Board accredited certifications in the following areas:
  - » Fire Fighter I & II
  - » Fire Instructor I & II
  - » Fire Instructor Live Fire Training Instructor & Supervisor
  - » Fire Officer I & II
  - » Fire & Life Safety Educator I
- **Transition to paperless written and skills exams** – In an effort to bring MFSI into the 21st century and establish a more valid, reliable - and secure from potential fraudulent activities - method of providing certificates, we will begin to make our testing processes paperless. This will take significant efforts on our staff's behalf. The plan would be as follows:
  - » Conduct market research on the plethora of available testing software and hardware
  - » Evaluate testing tools for MFSI use and our specific goals
  - » Communicate anticipated changes to fire service stakeholders
  - » Implement new testing tools
  - » Collect customer feedback and make adjustments as necessary
- **Continue to scan physical archive into virtual database with remote backup** – MFSI holds many thousands of paper files on students and past programs alike. In an effort to maintain an orderly data management process, MFSI will utilize Maine State Law & Maine Community College Record Retention Policy to maintain key documents (to assist in research, support our customers and meet legal requirements), while transitioning to a remote server rather than physical files.
- **Establish exam fees to support software for all processes** – This will be necessary to support the above plans as we move toward a new exam and certification process. Fees will be kept at the minimum level needed to support software updates and other administrative costs associated with the program.



# Planned Improvements by Division



## Strategic Goal #2 *Administration*

- **Work with stakeholders to improve Maine's fire training model** – Over the past few years, MFSI has collaborated with other Maine Fire Service Stakeholders to improve the fire training model in Maine. Establishing new - and fostering existing - partnerships will be key in the coming years. Through these collaborations, we can extend our reach on a number of programs including Fire Officer III & IV; Fire Investigations; Fire & Life Safety Educator; Maine Fire Chiefs Workshops; and much more. MFSI will work to foster these relationships and continue to increase the training opportunities across the State. This will also include continued support of the efforts of the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission, specifically regarding the Live Fire Training Facilities Grant Program.
- **Improve communications, both internal and external** – Communication is key to any organization's success. Hiring MFSI County Representatives to attend county meetings armed with up-to-date information on what is transpiring here at MFSI, and communicating that to the individuals in attendance at these meetings, has been very effective. By utilizing virtual mailing lists & social media, we are also reaching more individuals with program information and announcements on behalf of our partner agencies. That said, there are still misconceptions regarding who we are and what we do. These can be addressed by better and more frequent communications from our team. MFSI will seek to expand on existing communication channels, as well as develop new methods of reaching our target audiences.
- **Streamline processes to make more efficient** – MFSI has many internal processes that require redundant staff labor and are unnecessarily time consuming in nature. MFSI is committed to streamlining these processes through the use of modern technologies and new software, with the valuable support of the SMCC Information Technologies Department. Our aim is to improve every aspect of our administrative procedures to ensure the best possible end product and timely customer service.
- **Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant (AFG) opportunities** – The Maine Fire Service Institute has been very successful with receiving federal grants. We will continue to apply for these and other funding opportunities to improve fire training across Maine. These grants have increased our sustainability insofar as helping us secure training props and equipment. For as long as the federal government continues to fund these grant programs, MFSI is committed to utilizing them for the greater good of all fire service personnel throughout the state.

# Planned Improvements by Division



## Strategic Goal #3 *Support Services*

- **Work to have a new maintenance and storage facility built at MFSI Headquarters** – The need for a safe and efficient maintenance/storage facility is a top priority for the Support Services division. Our assets are currently scattered across a number of physical locations, not all of which are equipped with the necessary accommodations, such as restrooms or reliable heat during the winter months. With more than 25 trailers and countless other tools and fire training props, preventive maintenance is essential to our operational safety and success. The demand for our props and trailers has skyrocketed over the past few years, with over 165 requests per annum, and it is imperative that our Support Services team has a safe and comfortable space in which to work with our equipment so that it is ready to be transported statewide. A proposed building is in the works and would be located near our offices on the SMCC Midcoast Campus in Brunswick, Maine.
- **Increased demand and ability to meet that demand** – MFSI has noted a serious increase in demand for props and training trailers in recent years. By contrast, our staffing levels have remained consistent over this same time frame - meaning that we must seek creative solutions in order to meet skyrocketing demand with our finite resources. One strategy will be communicating a county model of training, and having more departments sharing or cooperating with each other to increase participation in each individual training opportunity. Should MFSI receive an increase in revenue, we will seek to create a part-time position for Support Services in order to ease the pressure on current staff, and improve other processes within that division.
- **Create preventive maintenance schedule for fleet of trailers and replacement schedule for sustainability** – MFSI Support Services has worked hard to ensure all our assets are on a preventative maintenance schedule, including through the recent purchase of asset tracking software and hardware (known as GigaTrak). Implementation of the new asset tracking system is underway and will continue over the next several years. The ability for MFSI administration to forecast major asset procurement to assist in our sustainability model is also key to our short-term and long-term success in assisting the Maine Fire Service with a cost benefit model of shared assets for the betterment of fire training in Maine.

# Planned Improvements by Division



## **Strategic Goal #4** ***Field Operations***

- **Work to create more opportunities for instructor training and professional development** – Developing a more robust plan to assist our instructors with training and professional development is another top priority for MFSI. The ability to bring instructors together and conduct necessary skills training and evaluation is key to the overall mission success. This can be done with the creation of a field supervisor approach to our current fire training model. Steps would be as follows:
  - » Promote key Senior State Fire Instructors
  - » Conduct a risk assessment model on key fire training subjects to focus our efforts
  - » Create an annual training model/schedule supported by the Training Program Managers
  - » Provide quarterly training opportunities for instructors/evaluators
  - » Document all training activities thoroughly
  - » Provide external professional development opportunities as budget allows

In doing this, we will achieve better MFSI instructor communications, more consistency in the manner in which key subjects are taught and delivered, increase instructor involvement & networking amongst our cadre of State Fire Instructors, and most importantly, provide a quality training experience for our customers.

- **Improve Maine State Fire Officer Academy to better match the job** – Over the past few years, academy alumni have commented on the need for less classroom instruction and more out-of-the-seat experience via simulations and group assignments, similar to the Fire Officer III & IV programming. This will be the focus of future Maine State Fire Officer Academies. Our goal is to fully prepare each graduating Fire Officer to safely and efficiently communicate a proper size-up and begin the incident command process. Moreover, it is important for the candidates to understand the level of responsibility that comes with such a promotion.
- **Improve Fire Instructor Program & Create Live Fire Training Supervisor and Instructor Program** – It is a longstanding goal of the Maine Fire Service Institute to have a program that prepares our state's fire service professionals with all the tools necessary to deliver a safe and effective fire training experience. With our current model, we have increased the contact hours and workload to reflect the reality of fire training in the 21st century. The next step will be to deliver live fire training programs that can better prepare our state's fire professionals with the skills necessary to maintain safety during high-risk training. This program will be focused on the newest live fire training facilities and the surrounding regions. This risk management approach is long overdue.



# Proposed Fee/Free Mixed Approach to Fire Training

Due to increased demand for programming and certification at all levels, MFSI is working on a sustainability plan which will balance free and fee-based fire programs with local fire department support.

## Proposed Fee Based Training Model:

- **Fire Fighter I & II Blocks = FREE**
- **Basic Fire School = FREE**
- **EVOC = FREE**
- **BPOC = FREE**
- APOC = \$100.00 per candidate or \$1000.00 per class of 12
- Water Supply = \$100.00 per candidate or \$1000.00 per class of 12
- Extrication = \$250.00 per Candidate
- RIT/RIC = \$175.00 per Candidate
- Simulations = \$150.00 per Candidate
- Fire Fighter I & II Academy Cost per candidate = \$1,200 for entire program
- Fire Officer I & II Academy Cost per candidate = \$1,200 for entire program
- Fire Instructor I & II Program Cost per candidate = \$350.00
- Fire Instructor Live Fire Training Supervisor Cost per candidate = \$150.00 per candidate
- Live Fire Training Trailer = \$1,200.00 per day or negotiated by independent program variables
- Gas fired props = cost of the propane per use market price per gallon

## Testing and certification fees proposed:

- Skills exams – \$50.00
- Written exams – \$25.00
- Retake fees – \$50.00

This an early draft of proposed changes and not a finalized fee schedule. MFSI will always work hard to meet all demand for our services, and these attempts to recover some of our costs will be undertaken with the goal of expanding our reach and providing more opportunities.

# Train-the-Trainer Opportunities

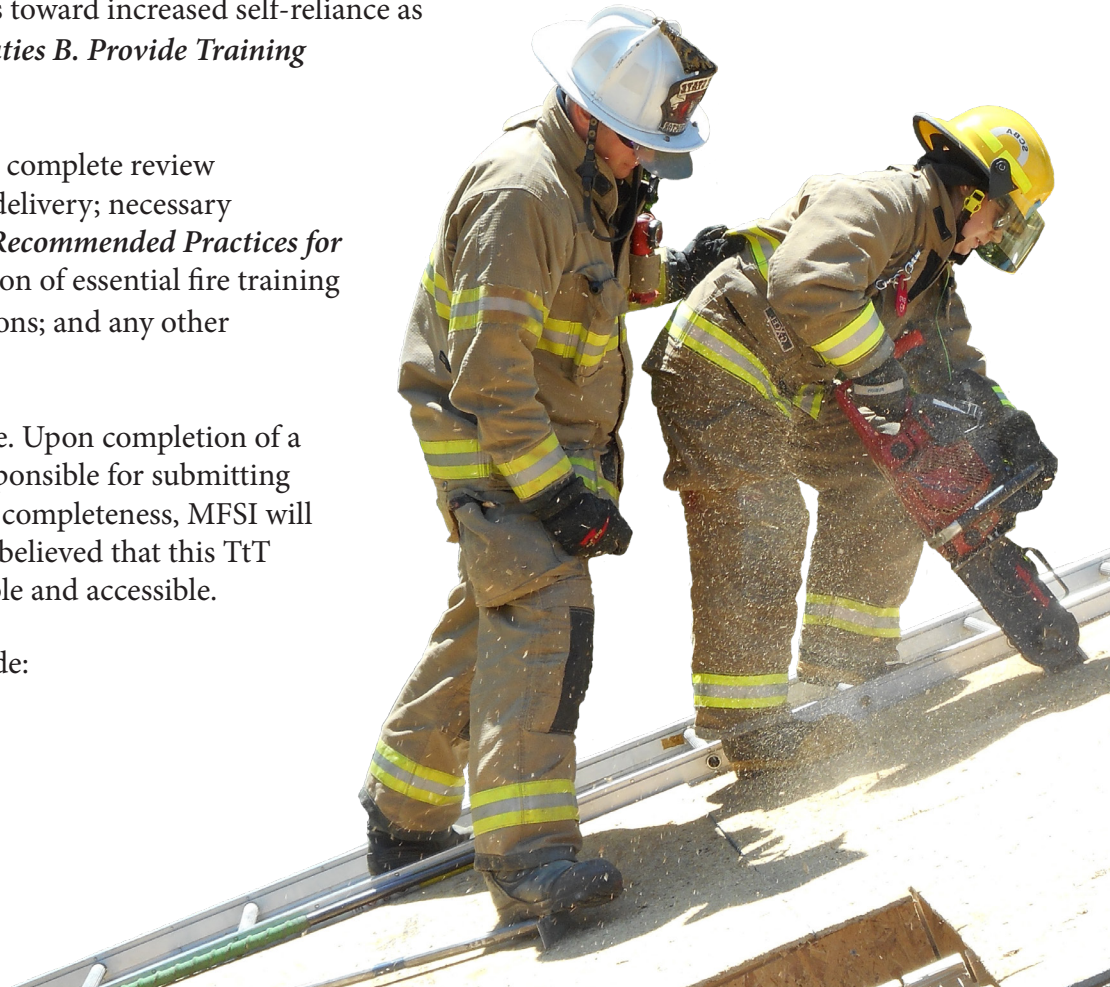
In order to better serve Maine's fire service and provide additional training opportunities, MFSI will hold and support "Train the Trainer" (TtT) sessions for municipal Fire Instructors. This will allow for these qualified individuals to then conduct their own training programs - thus broadening the scope of safe and effective training opportunities offered throughout the state. Upon completion of these TtT sessions, participants will also be qualified for the use of specific MFSI training props and other jointly-owned assets within their respective departments. It will be strongly discouraged that such independent training by qualified individuals be done for profit. We will, however, support any and all good-faith efforts toward increased self-reliance as described under *Maine State Law, Title 30-A §3153 Fire Chiefs, (2) Duties B. Provide Training Programs.*

Components of a typical TtT program include, but are not limited to: a complete review of the program materials; identification of key elements for successful delivery; necessary documentation to meet Maine Bureau of Labor rules and *NFPA 1401 Recommended Practices for Fire Service Training Reports and Records*; the care, set-up and operation of essential fire training props and equipment in accordance with manufacturer recommendations; and any other pertinent information.

MFSI will maintain records of qualified individuals within our database. Upon completion of a program by a qualified municipal instructor, said instructor will be responsible for submitting all necessary documentation to MFSI. Once this has been reviewed for completeness, MFSI will provide the department with certificates for the program. It is strongly believed that this TtT model will help allocate training resources in a way that is both equitable and accessible.

Typical programs and props for which this TtT model may apply include:

- **Emergency Vehicle Operators Course**
- **Basic Pump Operators Course**
- **Mobile Alarm, Sprinkler Training Trailer**
- **Car Fire Prop**
- **Others as they become available**



# Collaborations & Partnerships



MFSI collaborates with a number of other agencies to offer Fire and Emergency Services training throughout our state. We sincerely thank our many partners and stakeholders for all that they help us achieve in service of our important mission.

**Programs supported by other subject matter experts that enhance fire fighter training in Maine include:**

- Maine Fire Chiefs Workshop in partnership with Maine Fire Chiefs Association
- Texas A&M Fire Officer III & IV Agreement/Contract with TEEEX
- Fire Investigations partnership with Maine State Fire Marshal's Office
- Collaboration with Maine Bureau of Labor Standards on numerous programs
- Wildland Fire Fighting Programs in partnership with Maine Forest Service
- National Fire Academy Programs via NFA Training Grant
- National Fire Academy Maine State Weekend, in partnership with other states and with leadership from our new Maine State Weekend coordinator, Paul Froman
- National Fire Academy six day NFA Program via TRADE (Training Resource and Data Exchange)
- National Fallen Fire Fighters (NFFF) Programs
- National Volunteer Fire Fighter Programs in partnership with Maine State Federation of Fire Fighters
- UTV/ATV Training for Fire Department Operations in collaboration with Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
- Fire & Life Safety Educator & Community Risk Reduction in partnership with Pine Tree Burn Foundation

# Final Comments

Our mission is at the forefront of this organization, and our top priority is to constantly improve every aspect of a very large moving machine that is the Maine Fire Service Institute. We see nothing but forward and upward momentum in future years for the benefit of the Maine Fire Service as a whole.

We encourage any and all to assist with this noble mission. Help us collectively improve fire training in Maine, and reach more and more of our state's emergency responders to ensure they are prepared to meet the real world challenges they will surely face.

Maine is a beautiful and unique state, and we at MFSI serve those who work every day to protect our families, our friends, our neighbors, and the vital infrastructure that we rely on to keep our economy running smoothly - and of course, all those that travel far and wide to spend time on vacation in the great State of Maine.

We thank you for all that you do.

Respectfully,

MFSI Administration  
*Dirigo, "We lead"*



[mfsi.me.edu](http://mfsi.me.edu)

