



BROOME COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Debra A. Preston, County Executive .

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Office of the Fire Coordinator

Firefighter 1 and a Bridging program from older legacy courses.

Starting September 1st, 2016 the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control began to offer a new delivery to Firefighter 1 and a bridge program from the older Essentials of Firefighting, Basic Firefighter and Scene Support Operations into Firefighter 1.

This program allows members with the older legacy courses to come up to the new firefighting standard and meet the initial training requirements, or core competencies, listed In the April 2015 NYS Department of Labor (PESH) letter to all Fire Chiefs regarding Firefighter training. This letter gave fire departments direction on both initial training for job titles and annual OSHA training requirements.

All members wishing to become Firefighters, both interior and exterior, will follow a stepped basic training program. Everyone will start with the Basic Exterior Firefighting Operations Course (BEFO 2016) with Hazardous Materials First Responder Operations. This course is 25 units long. Upon completion of the course, the student has met the basic training requirements for Exterior Firefighter and met the mandate for Hazardous Materials First Responder Operation for anyone responding to an incident where hazardous materials are present. Members wishing to become interior firefighters may then complete SCBA/ Interior Firefighting Operations Course. At the completion of this course students have met the basic training for an interior firefighter. This course is an additional 15 units.

Current members of the fire service may “Bridge” into the Firefighter 1 program if they have completed Scene Support Operations/BEFO 2015 or have completed Essentials of Firefighting or Basic Firefighter. To “bridge” from these classes you must complete selected portions of the BEFO program, taking the BEFO final exam, the completing the SCBA/ Interior Firefighting Operations Course. A guidance document for bridging into Firefighter 1 has been published by NYS OFPC.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office!