



2026 Pennsylvania Wildland Fire Academy
Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry
Division of Forest Fire Protection

May 26-31, 2026
Shippensburg University
Shippensburg, PA 17257



Registration is now open for the 2026 Pennsylvania Wildland Fire Academy

The Pennsylvania DCNR, Bureau of Forestry, Division of Forest Fire Protection is announcing open registration for the 2026 Pennsylvania Wildland Fire Academy being held at Shippensburg University in southcentral Pennsylvania. Courses offered at this year's academy include the NWCG entry-level suppression and leadership courses traditionally offered as well as various courses geared toward providing skills certification or recertification. Heavy Equipment Boss and the entry level NWCG dispatcher course will also be offered. The Division of Forest Fire Protection will again cooperate with PEMA this year and offer the ICS-300 and ICS-400 courses. See the course list and course matrix for more details regarding the classes offered and scheduling.

All classes are offered tuition free, and all on-campus meals and lodging will be covered by the Division of Forest Fire Protection. Any student or staff choosing off-campus meals and/or lodging will not have those expenses reimbursed by the Division of Forest Fire Protection.

Instruction may occur beyond the standard 7.5-hour day, 5-day workweek however the Division of Forest Fire Protection does not authorize overtime for students. Forest districts may approve overtime and compensate their staff from district funds as deemed appropriate. Classes are scheduled to provide maximum opportunity for students. Students may register for multiple classes, but if classes overlap, students must prioritize each class and indicate that preference in the remarks on the nomination form. Every effort will be made to enroll students based on the priority submitted. All Bureau of Forestry personnel MUST have supervisor approval BEFORE registering.

IMPORTANT DATES

The early registration period is open until April 10, 2026. Registration will remain active for courses with open seats until May 17, 2026, the last day to register.

Registration for a class does not guarantee placement. Students not selected will be placed on a waitlist. As seats open, they will be filled from the waitlist. Selection letters will begin to be emailed after April 10, 2026.

A cornhole tournament and BBQ social benefiting the Wildland Firefighter Foundation will be held Wednesday evening, May 27, 2026. More details will be included in the student selection letter and in the welcome packet received at check-in. Open this link to get a feel for what the Wildland Firefighter Foundation does for this country's wildland firefighters.

<https://wffoundation.org/>

COURSE LIST

ATV/UTV Operator Safety Training

Course details: This agency specific course is restricted to **PA-PAS resources ONLY**.

Course completion grants the ATVO and UTVO qualifications for PA-PAS resources. The FULL COURSE is required for anyone who has never taken ATV/UTV training. The full course consists of morning classroom time followed by a hands-on field component after lunch. The REFRESHER is specifically for those who have previously completed ATV/UTV training – the refresher consists solely of the field component of the full course; no classroom is required for the refresher.

The full course and two refresher sessions (AM and PM) will be offered. Please do not sign up for both the full course and refresher. See the registration section at the end of this announcement for details.

Students are expected to bring the required PPE to this class - DOT approved helmet, eye protection, gloves, long sleeved shirt and pants, and above the ankle leather boots.

Course prerequisites: None.

D-110, Expanded Dispatch Recorder, 2023

Course details: [D-110](#)

NOTES:

1. With the release of the 2026 version of 310-1 NWCG no longer requires completion of an **EDRC** task book for qualification. Completion of the required EDRC training, of which this class is part, satisfies the requirements for EDRC qualification.
2. This instructor-led training will be delivered virtually.

Course Prerequisites: None.

National Safety Council Defensive Driving Course

Course details: National Safety Council Defensive Driving Courses teach drivers how to recognize and react to immediate and potential hazardous driving situations and conditions. This instructor-led, classroom course provides collision prevention strategies and defensive driving techniques that focus on behavior, judgement, decision making and consequences.

This interactive course will help influence drivers to make positive choices to improve driving behaviors and attitudes and encourage respectful and lawful decisions to avoid motor vehicle incidents and decrease traffic violations.

Course completion grants the DRIV qualification for PA-PAS resources.

Course prerequisites: None.

e-ISuite

Course details: e-ISuite is designed to expose a user to the basic application functions of each of the e-ISuite modules including Resources, Demob, Cost, Time, and Incident Action Plan. These application modules are used within the Plans and Finance sections of an incident management team and functional knowledge of applicable modules is required to accomplish position responsibilities within those sections.

The course is designed to prepare students to use e-ISuite while working as Status Check in Recorder, Resource Unit Leader, Demobilization Unit Leader, Personnel Time Recorder, Equipment Time Recorder, or Cost Unit Leader.

Course Prerequisites: None. If you are taking this course to increase your Finance Section knowledge, it is recommended that you have a working knowledge of incident business, which can be obtained by completing the S-260 and S-261. The S-260 is available online at the Wildland Fire Learning Portal. For those taking this course to work in the Planning Section, the S-248 is recommended.

FI-110, Wildland Fire Observations & Origin Scene Protection for First Responders (Instructor-Led), 2021

Course details: [FI-110](#)

NOTE: This class will be the ILT version of the course.

Course prerequisites: None.

ICS-300, Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents

Course details: This course provides training for personnel who require advanced application of the Incident Command System (ICS). This course expands upon information covered in the ICS-100 and ICS-200 courses.

NOTE: Because this class is offered through the cooperation of several state and federal partners the registration process has multiple steps that must be followed. See the registration section at the end of this announcement for details.

Course objectives:

- Describe how the National Incident Management System Command and Management component supports the management of expanding incidents.
- Describe the Incident/Event Management process for supervisors and expanding incidents as prescribed by the ICS.
- Implement the Incident Management process on a simulated Type 3 incident.
- Develop an Incident Action Plan for a simulated incident.

Target group: Individuals who may assume a supervisory role in incidents, specifically unit leaders and strike team/task force leaders.

Course prerequisites:

- ICS-100, Introduction to the Incident Command System
- IS-200, Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response
- IS-700, National Incident Management System, An Introduction
- IS-800, National Response Framework, An Introduction

ICS-400, Advanced Incident Command System for Complex Incidents

Course details: This course provides training for personnel who require advanced application of the Incident Command System (ICS). This course expands upon information covered in the ICS-100 through ICS-300 courses.

NOTE: Because this class is offered through the cooperation of several state and federal partners the registration process has multiple steps that must be followed. See the registration section at the end of this announcement for details.

Course objectives:

- Explain how major incidents engender special management challenges.
- Describe the circumstances in which an Area Command is established.
- Describe the circumstances in which Multi-Agency Coordination Systems are established.

Target group: Senior personnel who are expected to perform in a management capacity in an Area Command or Multi-Agency Coordination Entity – T3 C&G.

Course prerequisites:

- ICS-100, Introduction to the Incident Command System
- IS-200, Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response
- ICS-300, Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents
- IS-700, National Incident Management System, An Introduction
- IS-800, National Response Framework, An Introduction

L-280, Followership to Leadership. 2025

Course details: [L-280](#)

Fireline PPE is required for this class.

Pre-course work: 4 hours - Pre-course reading material will be sent to the local forest district for PA-PAS students. All other students MUST include a mailing address in the remarks of the nomination form to be sent the pre-course reading material, or they will be responsible for obtaining the material on their own.

Course prerequisites:

- Experience on incident assignments in operations or support functions.
- Successful completion of L-180, Human Factors in the Wildland Fire Service.
- Satisfactory completion of pre-course work.

S-112, Introduction to Chainsaw Operations (Blended), 2025

Course details: [S-112](#)

NOTES:

1. S-112 is now the introductory NWCG chainsaw training. Individuals pursuing faller qualification ([FAL3](#)) must begin by taking this course.
2. Fireline PPE is required for this class.

Pre-course work: 4 hours – Pre-course work is the successful completion of the Online Training (OLT) component of this course. Students are **required** to complete the OLT prior to participating in the Instructor-Led Training (ILT) component during the academy.

Course prerequisites:

- Successful completion of the OLT component of S-112.

S-130, Firefighter Training (Blended), 2025 - Field Day ONLY

This Instructor-Led Training (ILT) field day completes the Blended S-130 for students who have successfully completed the Online Training (OLT) component. An OLT completion memo must be presented to the field day lead instructor before an S-130 certificate will be issued.

Course details: [S-130](#)

NOTES:

1. Use the S-130 link above to access the OLT component. Scroll down and open the 'Online Component' tab. Instructions for enrolling in the OLT are at the bottom of the page.
2. Fireline PPE is required for this class.

Course prerequisites:

- Successful completion of S-190, Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior.
- Successful completion of the OLT component of the Blended S-130.

S-131, Firefighter Type 1, 2016 (Update 2020)

Course details: [S-131](#)

Fireline PPE is required for this class

Course prerequisites: Qualified Firefighter Type 2 (FFT2).

S-203, Introduction to Incident Information, 2008

Course details: [S-203](#)

Pre-course work: 3 hours – The purpose of the S-203 pre-course work is to ensure students have a working understanding of the Incident Command System (ICS). Pre-course work is accessed through the Wildland Fire Learning Portal.

[S-203 Pre-Course Work](#)

Course prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of pre-course work.

S-211, Portable Pumps and Water Use, 2012

Course details: [S-211](#)

Fireline PPE is required for this class.

Course prerequisites: None.

S-219, Firing Operations (Blended), 2025

S-219 is a blended course with an Online Training (OLT) component and Instructor-Led Training (ILT) component. Students are required to complete the OLT component prior to taking the ILT component. The OLT component is to be completed through the Wildland Fire Learning Portal. The ILT component will be completed at this academy.

Course details: [S-219](#)

Fireline PPE is required for this class.

Course prerequisites: Qualified Firefighter Type 2 (FFT2).

S-236, Heavy Equipment Boss, 2013

Course details: [S-236](#)

Pre-course work: 2 hours - Pre-course work is accessed through the Wildland Fire Learning Portal. Use the link listed under Course details above and open the 'Course Materials' tab. Scroll down to the pre-course work.

Course prerequisites:

- Qualified Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1).
- Satisfactory completion of pre-course work.

S-270, Basic Air Operations, 2011

Course details: [S-270](#)

Pre-course work: 1 hour

Course prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of pre-course work.

WFA, Wilderness First Aid

Course details: This course is taught by representatives of Mid-Atlantic Outdoor Recreation Education (MORE), a contractor hired by the Division of Forest Fire Protection. This course provides the first aid principles and skills needed to respond to emergencies and to give care in areas and situations where access to Emergency Medical Service (EMS) resources may be delayed by hours. This includes wilderness and remote environments, as well as urban environments experiencing natural or man-made disasters. WFA is a dynamic, hands-on, skills-based course using a mix of classroom instruction and realistic outdoor teaching scenarios tailored to the training audience.

Students who successfully complete the course will be granted a two-year certification in Wilderness First Aid.

Outdoor scenarios are part of this course. Students should dress appropriately.

Course Prerequisites: None.

Basic - Wildland Fire Crew

Course details: This is the required, introductory course for all PA-PAS resources who travel out-of-state responding to wildfires - aka PA Wildland Fire Crew. This course is required for all WFC members regardless of previous wildland fire experience. For those in single resource positions that do not require fitness testing, the field work component of the course can be modified to be less strenuous. For all others, the Work Capacity Test must be passed at the arduous level prior to attending the class. Basic begins the afternoon of Friday, May 30 and extends through the weekend to accommodate the work schedules of volunteers. As a result, most instruction will occur outside the regular workweek. No overtime is authorized by the Division of Forest Fire Protection however forest districts may approve overtime and compensate their staff from district funds as deemed appropriate. WFC members routinely overnight in the field. Students must be

prepared to spend Saturday night in the field, weather permitting. Further details will be provided in the student selection letter.

NOTE:

1. Students **MUST** register for Basic through the local forest district. **DO NOT** attempt to use the QR code or URL to register.
2. Full PPE required.

Course prerequisites:

- Successful completion of S-130, Firefighter Training
- Successful completion of S-190, Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior
- Successful completion of L-180, Human Factors in the Wildland Fire Service
- Successful completion of ICS-100, Introduction to ICS
- Successful completion of IS-700, NIMS: An Introduction
- Successful completion of arduous WCT

FFT1/CRWB On-the-Job Training (OJT)

Course details: This is an opportunity for PA-PAS (PA Wildland Fire Crew) personnel working toward FFT1 or CRWB qualification to obtain experience working in the FFT1 or CRWB role while assigned to the Basic crews during their training. Participants will be embedded as trainees leading the Basic crews/squads through the entire training including the field day and should be prepared to spend Saturday night in the field, weather permitting. FFT1 and CRWB trainees will tie in with their assigned crews beginning the evening of Friday, May 30. The assignment will then mirror the Basic schedule and extend through the weekend to accommodate the work schedules of volunteers. As a result, most of the assignment will occur outside the regular workweek. No overtime is authorized by the Division of Forest Fire Protection however forest districts may approve overtime and compensate their staff from district funds as deemed appropriate.

NOTE:

1. Participants **MUST** register for FFT1/CRWB OJT through the local forest district. **DO NOT** attempt to use the QR code or URL to register.
2. Participants are strongly encouraged to bring an initiated task book for the position they are serving in for the weekend, there will be opportunities for tasks to be signed.
3. Full fireline PPE required.

PPE

Many courses have a field component and students of those classes should arrive fire ready prepared to work in the field with fireline PPE. Fireline PPE is required for L-280, S-112, S-130 Field Day, S-131, S-211, S-219, Basic, and FFT1/CRWB OJT. Fireline PPE includes Nomex pants and shirt, leather boots and gloves, hard hat with chin strap, eye and

ear protection, and line pack. Further information regarding PPE will be included in the student selection letters.

Students attending Wilderness First Aid should arrive to class prepared to spend time outdoors potentially during inclement weather though fireline PPE is not required.

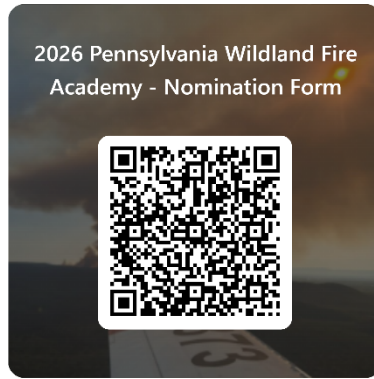
NOMINATION FORM

Submit one nomination form per person. The form allows for selection of multiple classes if desired. Be sure to indicate class priority in the last question (12. Remarks) if multiple classes are selected. Nomination does not guarantee placement. Selection letters will begin to be emailed April 10, 2026. Last day to submit a nomination for classes with open seats is May 17, 2026.

NOTES:

1. ATV/UTV Operator – Register for either the full course or refresher but not both. If registering for the refresher select either the AM or PM session but not both. If AM session registrations do not meet the minimum number needed, the session will be canceled, and registrants will be given the opportunity to attend the PM refresher.
2. L-280 – To ensure proper and timely delivery of the pre-course reading material be sure to include a valid mailing address under the ‘Remarks’ question on the nomination form. If a mailing address is not included, the student will be responsible for securing the required pre-course reading material on their own.
3. ICS-300/ICS-400 - Because these classes are offered through the cooperation of several state and federal partners the registration process has multiple steps that must be followed.
 - 1) Prospective students must use the QR code or URL provided below to submit the Bureau of Forestry nomination form.
 - 2) Students selected to attend each class will then receive an email from the lead instructor detailing the next steps in the registration process including securing a FEMA Student ID Number (SID), registering through the PEMA training website (TrainPA), and completion of a FEMA registration form. The email containing this information will not be sent until after April 10, 2026.
4. Basic – **PA-PAS resources ONLY**. Registration is through the local forest district ONLY. **DO NOT** attempt to register for this class using the provided URL or QR code. Prospective students must contact their local forest district for more information.
5. FFT1/CRWB OJT - **PA-PAS resources ONLY**. Registration is through the local forest district ONLY. **DO NOT** attempt to register for this class using the provided URL or QR code. Prospective students must contact their local forest district for more information.

Use the link or QR code below to access the academy nomination form.



[2026 PA Wildland Fire Academy – Nomination Form](#)