OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATIONS COURSE PACKET
General Course Information, Course Requirements, and Course Objectives

EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2019

OHIO EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATIONS COURSE

COURSE OVERVIEW

Proper operation of an emergency vehicle is critical for fire service providers. The Ohio Emergency Vehicle Operations Course is designed to enhance safe vehicle operation by stressing theory and principles of defensive driving in both emergency and non-emergency situations. Students will learn safe driving practices, defensive driving principles, the responsibilities of an emergency vehicle driver, how to safely operate emergency vehicles during emergent responses, and the difficulties of driving fire apparatus. The course includes hands-on driving exercises that will enhance a student's ability to operate a vehicle during an emergency situation by teaching personal and vehicle control limitations. The course is a requirement to qualify for Ohio Firefighter I and Firefighter II certification.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The Ohio Emergency Vehicle Operations Course Objectives have been designed to meet, and shall be consistent with, the general knowledge requirements, general skill requirements, and job performance requirements specified in NFPA 1002: Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications and NFPA 1451: Standard for a Fire and Emergency Service Vehicle Operations Training Program.

Proper documentation of students meeting course objectives is required.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The Emergency Vehicle Operations Training Course (EVOC) shall consist of a ***minimum of sixteen (16) hours***[(1)(2)] of emergency vehicle operations training, including classroom lecture (eight hours minimum), practical application of skills on a competency course (six hours hands-on driving minimum) and two hours as determined by the Program Director or Lead Instructor based on student need. The EVOC course shall be consistent with the intent of "NFPA 1002" and "NFPA 1451", and shall meet the course objectives established by the executive director, with advice and counsel of the Firefighter and Fire Safety Inspector Training Subcommittee.

CONTACT HOURS

Student contact hours: 50 - 60 minutes = 1 hour; 25 - 30 minutes = ½ hour; full days (0800 – 1600) = 7 hours (assuming 1 hour for lunch unless otherwise documented). Instructional hours may include topic instruction, practical application of skills, material review, and testing for knowledge, e.g., quizzes. Instructional hours shall not include instruction on any topic(s) not listed on this guide.

(1) Course hours are restricted to curriculum instruction and shall not include time attributed to course administration.

(2) Each hour shall include a minimum of fifty (50) minutes of instruction.

OHIO EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATIONS COURSE		
STANDARD / DIRECTIVE	**O.A.C. REFERENCE**	**COURSE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**
NFPA 1001	4765-24-10 4765-24-11 4765-20-02	Individuals shall be at least eighteen years of age, except that a chartered fire training program may admit a student who is 17 years old provided that the student has graduated or is enrolled in the twelfth or final grade in a secondary school program. A chartered fire training program may admit a student into a secondary school firefighter I course who is sixteen years old provided that the student is enrolled in the eleventh grade or twelfth grade in a secondary school public safety program.
N/A	4765-24-09	Individuals shall meet all admission requirements established by the chartered fire training program.
N/A	N/A	Individuals shall possess a valid Ohio Driver License.

EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATIONS COURSE OBJECTIVES & RECOMMENDED HOURS GUIDE					
NFPA Standard	**COURSE OBJECTIVES**	**CORE COMPETENCIES**	**Cognitive Hours**	**Practical Hours**	**Total Hours**
1451	General	This standard shall contain the minimum requirements for a fire and emergency service organization (FESO) vehicle operations training program.			
5.3 Basic Training Requirements					
5.3.7 5.3.8 5.3.9 5.3.10 5.3.11 5.3.12 5.3.13	Basic Training Requirements	Identify the potential hazards of off-road driving and conditions that justify driving on other than paved or hard surface roads. Outline the potential hazards of driving unconventional or specialized units and conditions that justify responding to the scene of an emergency. Discuss inclement weather driving conditions, with emphasis on handling of vehicles, particularly where auxiliary braking devices are to be used. Describe the potential hazards of retarders, such as engines, transmissions, driveline retarders, antilock braking system (ABS) brakes, vehicle stability system, and traction control systems. List the proper use and limitations of the electronics provided. Explain the engine regeneration process specific to the vehicle. Discuss lessons learned from vehicle crash scenarios.	1.75		1.75

6.1 Laws and Liabilities					
6.1.1 6.1.2	Laws and Liabilities	Identify the type of laws that apply to emergency vehicle operations. Identify state laws and local laws, standards and requirements that effect emergency vehicle driver training and operation.	0.50		0.50
7.1 & 7.2 Emergency Response					
7.1.1 7.1.2 7.1.3 7.1.4 7.1.5 7.2.1 7.2.2 7.2.3	Emergency Response	Explain the reasons that written SOP/SOG's are important to the operation of an effective vehicle driver's training program. Describe the importance of maintaining proficiency through an ongoing training program based on the authority having jurisdiction and the written SOP/SOG's for personnel and vehicles changes. Define the term "due regard" and identify negative right of way situations. Outline response safety procedures regarding railroad crossings. Describe safe traveling and following distances. Discuss written SOP/SOG's which impact emergency response procedures. Identify safe driving skills required when operating emergency vehicles. Identifying that emergency response driving is a complex process.	2.0		2.0
8.1 Crash and Injury Prevention					
8.1.1 8.1.2 8.1.3	Crash and Injury Prevention	Identify unsafe vehicle conditions that should be corrected immediately and the process to report the condition to the proper personnel. Describe the hazards associated with operating a vehicle in reverse. Outline criteria for drivers/operators to discontinue the use of manual brake limiting valves, frequently labeled "wet/dry road switch," and requiring that the valve/switch remain in the "dry road" position, where provided on vehicles.	0.75		0.75

8.2 Drivers'/Operators' Responsibility					
8.2.8 8.2.10 8.2.11 8.2.12	Drivers'/Operators' Responsibility	Describe the process to adjust the mirrors to provide the optimal field of vision. Identify pinch or crush points. Discuss the importance of chocking the wheels of the vehicle after applying the parking brake. Explain when and how to use an auxiliary braking device during slippery conditions.	1.0		1.0
8.4 Apparatus Prone to Rollover					
8.4.1 8.4.2	Apparatus Prone to Rollover	Identify the recommended best practices to maintaining control of high center of gravity vehicles. List the primary considerations to avoid a rollover crash.	0.50		0.50
8.5 Safe Operations at Highway Incidents					
8.5.1 8.5.2 8.5.4	Safe Operations at Highway Incidents	Explain the procedures for safe positioning of emergency apparatus while operating in or near moving traffic. Outline the actions necessary to ensure safety of personnel when operating in or near moving traffic. Explain the ten best practices to ensure roadway safety	0.75		0.75
9.1 Crash Review					
9.1.1	Crash Review	Identify the procedures for crash investigation	0.25		0.25

10.1, 10.2, & 10.3 Vehicle and Apparatus Care					
10.1.1 10.1.2 10.2.1 10.2.2 10.2.3 10.3	Vehicle and Apparatus Care	Identify the value and importance of regular inspections and documentation of the inspections on emergency vehicles. Identify the various classes of preventive maintenance and the importance of a preventive maintenance program for emergency vehicles. Identify the component of an inspection and maintenance program. Discuss how to perform pre and post trip inspections. Identify the role of the driver in inspections and maintenance. Identify the importance of keeping accurate and complete records.	1.50		1.50
NFPA Standard	**COURSE OBJECTIVES**	**CORE COMPETENCIES**	**Cognitive Hours**	**Practical Hours**	**Total Hours**
NFPA 1002	**General**	Prior to operating fire department vehicles, the fire apparatus driver/operator shall meet the job performance requirements defined in Sections 4.2 and 4.3.			
4.2 Preventive Maintenance					
4.2.1 4.2.2	Performing Control Options	Perform routine tests, inspections, and servicing functions on the systems and components specified in the following list, given a fire department vehicle, its manufacturer's specifications, and policies and procedures of the jurisdiction, so that the operational status of the vehicle is verified Document the routine tests, inspections, and servicing functions, given maintenance and inspection forms, so that all items are checked for operation and deficiencies are reported.	0.50		0.50

4.3 Driving/Operating					
4.3.1 4.3.2 4.3.3 4.3.4 4.3.5 4.3.6 4.3.7	Driving/Operating	Operate a fire department vehicle, given a vehicle and a predetermined route on a closed course or public way that incorporates the maneuvers and features, specified in the following list, that the driver/operator is expected to encounter during normal operations, so that the vehicle is operated in compliance with all applicable state and local laws, departmental rules and regulations, and the requirements of NFPA 1500, Section 4.2: Back a vehicle into restricted spaces on both the right and left sides of the vehicle, given a fire department vehicle, a spotter, and restricted spaces 3.7 m (12 ft) in width, requiring 90-degree right-hand and left-hand turns from the closed course or roadway, so that the vehicle is parked within the restricted areas without having to stop and pull forward and without striking obstructions. Maneuver a vehicle around obstructions on a closed course or roadway while moving forward and in reverse, given a fire department vehicle, a spotter for backing, and a closed course or roadway with obstructions, so that the vehicle is maneuvered through the obstructions without stopping to change the direction of travel and without striking the obstructions. Turn a fire department vehicle 180 degrees within a confined space, given a fire department vehicle, a spotter for backing up, and an area in which the vehicle cannot perform a U-turn without stopping and backing up, so that the vehicle is turned 180 degrees without striking obstructions within the given space. Maneuver a fire department vehicle in areas with restricted horizontal and/or vertical clearances, given a fire department vehicle and a course that requires the operator to move through areas of restricted horizontal and/or vertical clearances, so that the operator accurately judges the ability of the vehicle to pass through the openings and so that no obstructions are struck. Operate a vehicle using defensive driving techniques under simulated emergency conditions, given a fire department vehicle and emergency conditions, so that control of the vehicle is maintained. Operate all fixed systems and equipment on the vehicle not specifically addressed elsewhere in this standard, given systems and equipment, manufacturer's specifications and instructions, and departmental policies and procedures for the systems and equipment, so that each system or piece of equipment is operated in accordance with the applicable instructions and policies.	0.5	6.0	6.5
	Hours as determined by Program Director or Lead Instructor	Based on need of students			2.0
		TOTAL HOURS	**10.0 listed/8.0 required as minimum**	**6.0 required as minimum**	**18.0 listed/16.0 required as minimum**