



PA State Fire Academy PSFA LOCAL LEVEL INSTRUCTOR APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

for the 2026 Application Periods

May 1-15 2026(Applications requested/issued May 1-10, 2026)
October 1-15, 2026 (Applications requested/issued October 1-10, 2026)

INSTRUCTIONS:

Thank you for expressing an interest in becoming a Pennsylvania Fire Service Local-Level Instructor. Please refer to the document entitled [Pennsylvania State Fire Academy Instructor Policy](#) . This policy sets the requirements to become a local-level instructor, details the instructor classification and credential maintenance requirements, and defines the instructor Code of Professionalism.

Carefully follow all instructions and complete the application in its entirety. **All requirements** for the level you are applying **MUST** be completed **PRIOR** to making application.

Applications will only be accepted electronically through the ACADIS system with the PSFA. Only permitted 1 application per year. If rejected, you can re-apply during the next Instructor Application Period which opens annually in October.



Application Process

1. All applications to become a PSFA Local Level Instructor will be made within the ACADIS system. The application must be requested thru the applicants ACADIS Portal the first 10 days of the application period.
2. ALL uploaded documents shall be in a PDF or JPEG format or it will not be accepted.
3. All prerequisites required by this directive ***must be fully completed*** and uploaded before final submission.
4. All submitted applications must be **100% complete** with all documentation attached or the application will be rejected. An application may **NOT** be edited once submitted.
5. Applications will **ONLY** be accepted during the open periods of May 1-15, 2026 or October 1-15, 2026.
6. The application review process will be completed within 30 days of submission, a TEAMS meeting, and individual interview will be scheduled for approved applicants.
7. A policy acknowledgement and Code of Conduct signed and returned (Electronically) will be collected via a webform along with Reference Names prior to the interview. This must be completed before further processing will occur.
8. Applicants dissatisfied with their application determination may appeal to the Fire Academy Administrator. Any such appeal shall be received in writing at the PSFA within 30 days of the date of their notification of disposition. The appeal shall detail the reasons for the appeal.



Mandatory information:

- You MUST have an active ACADIS account with the PSFA.
<https://psfa.acadisonline.com/>
(Please review your account information for accuracy.)
- You must have a FEMA student identification number which must be acquired prior to requesting an Acadis Portal Account
<https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid/>
- You must be 26 years old by October 1 of the application year.
- You must upload an Incident Safety Officer-NFA course completion or certification as Incident Safety Officer; valid/active government issued ID Card (ie, driver license, passport, ID card); Child Abuse and Criminal History Check dated within 1 year of application submission; a Resume; Certification as Fire Service Instructor I; proof of education. (G.E.D., High school or higher diploma); Completion certificate of an acceptable Educational Methodology(list of acceptable options is below):

PA State Fire Academy Course Educational Methodology for Local Level Instructors (EMLL).(Only in person delivery accepted currently)

PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Instructor Trainer Course (30 hours – Sir Stanford Fleming College).

National Fire Academy Resident Course R – 114 Fire Service Course Design or its predecessor Fire Service Instructional Methodology.

A formal post-secondary collegiate-level course in adult education methodology awarding at least 1 college credit.

OR

A formal course of instruction in adult educational methodology and instructing adults of at least 30 hours duration conducted by another state's fire training system, the military services, state/federal agency, or other organization (i.e., PSP Instructor Development, DOC TST,MOPETC-General Instructor, WMD Instructor Training-COBRA)



Certification course certificate (not challenge examination or virtual delivery) as a Fire Instructor I & II by an entity accredited by the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications (NBFSPQ) *or* the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC).

OR

Certification as public-school teacher by the Pennsylvania Department of Education; secondary or post-secondary certification preferred.

OR

Certification as an Instructor by the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

- The resume is to include **ALL** fire, rescue, and/or emergency medical training you have completed. Include military and college level training accomplished during your time as an emergency service responder.
- Two references will be requested after the application has been reviewed, one must be a current PSFA Local Level Instructor in good active standing, and the second must be associated with emergency services having an Acadis portal account.

All applicants must upload a Criminal Record Check and Child Abuse History Clearance dated within 1 year of application receipt.

- **Criminal History Check –**

Use the following site to obtain criminal history check:

1) Web site: <https://epatch.state.pa.us/>



- **PA Child Abuse History Clearance -**

Call 1-877-343-0494 to request form and instructions

OR

go to: <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/CWIS/Public/Home>

For "Purpose of Clearance" check the "**INDIVIDUAL**" box.

Acceptance Flow Process if application is accepted:

Applicant is accredited as a Local Level Instructor in a Mentoring Status, either suppression or non-suppression. (Assigned ISET class)

Applicant is allowed to submit no more than two "Course Upgrade Request" webforms located on the Academy Resources webpage. Awarded levels will be done so with a mentoring status. (Except Suppression)

If upgrades are reviewed and have the required prerequisite documentation the upgrades are approved in a Mentoring Status

Initial Mentoring is completed, and the Local Level Status is changed to Active, and the course Mentored is changed to Active.

Applicant may submit for another upgrade (Max of 2 courses in a Mentoring Status, exception is initial ZFID class completion assignment)

An incomplete application will not be processed. All requirements for the level of instructor you are applying must be met PRIOR to making application.