

Service Area Plan

Department of Fire Programs

Fire Services Training and Professional Development (74403)

Service Area Background Information

Service Area Description

VDFP coordinates and delivers specialized training across the Commonwealth to emergency response personnel. VDFP training programs also provide the opportunity for professional development with comprehensive, nationally-accredited training courses for career and volunteer emergency responders in specialized areas including:

- Structural Fire Fighting
- Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting
- Incident Management
- Heavy & Technical Rescue
- Hazardous Materials Awareness/Operations
- Virginia Fire Marshal Academy
- Officer Development

VDFP integrates training and education to enhance the professional development of fire and rescue personnel. This integration of educational support is accomplished through public/private partnerships. VDFP serves as a fire/rescue training delivery and certification agency in collaboration with academic fire programs to provide an efficient path for fire service professional development. The focus of these providers is to align the Virginia professional development pathway with emerging national models.

Service Area Alignment to Mission

Professional development by providing comprehensive, nationally-accredited training programs for career and volunteer emergency responders and higher education opportunities is specifically mentioned in our mission statement.

Service Area Statutory Authority

§ 9.1-201 directs the appointment of a director of fire services training. § 9.1-203 charges the Virginia Fire Services Board with developing a five-year statewide plan for fire education and training, conducting training schools for fire service personnel in various areas of the Commonwealth; and to render assistance to local fire departments and volunteer fire companies in training firefighters.

Service Area Customer Base

Customer(s)	Served	Potential
Fire and Emergency Services	23,141	30,000
Government (state and local)	400	400

Service Area Products and Services

- 70 discrete curricula delivered via funded, non-funded, or reimbursable training schools across the Commonwealth.

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Service Area Financial Summary

VDFP delivers/coordinates training and certification programs in the form of funded, non-funded, and reimbursable schools. Funding for these programs is via the Fire Programs Fund.

	Fiscal Year 2007		Fiscal Year 2008	
	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund
Base Budget	\$0	\$3,206,000	\$0	\$3,206,000
Changes To Base	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
SERVICE AREA TOTAL	\$0	\$3,206,000	\$0	\$3,206,000

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Service Area Objectives, Measures, and Strategies

Objective 74403.T1

Adhering to National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) 1403 Live Burn Standard

Adhering to NFPA 1403 is of paramount importance. NFPA 1403 establishes standards for safe training, in a live-fire scenario.

This Objective Supports the Following Agency Goals:

- Enhance and Improve Training Programs
(Adherence to NFPA 1403 helps to ensure the health and safety of our firefighters during live-fire training.)

This Objective Has The Following Measure(s):

- **Measure 74403.T1.02**

NFPA 1403 Compliance Rate

Measure Type: Outcome **Measure Frequency:** Annually

Measure Baseline: Approximately 60% of live-burns are being completed in compliance with NFPA 1403

Measure Target: 95% of live-burns completed in compliance with NFPA 1403

Measure Source and Calculation:

Number of live-burns successfully completed in compliance with NFPA 1403. Recorded by Division Offices using an in-house tracking system.

Objective 74403.T1 Has the Following Strategies:

- Identify NFPA 1403 Compliance Officers; develop standard operating procedures; provide necessary equipment; continually evaluate needs and success of program; and educate fire service on NFPA 1403.

Objective 74403.T2

Plan for a State Emergency Services Academy

The concept of a statewide emergency services training academy has been explored for many years. This academy would provide a unique, yet safe and controlled environment for multi-discipline training. In order for a project of this magnitude to flourish, we must consult with our state and federal partners to develop and begin implementation of this capital project.

This Objective Supports the Following Agency Goals:

- Partner to Build a State Emergency Services Academy
(Planning of an Academy such as this is an arduous task with many facets that must be examined and planned for.)

This Objective Has The Following Measure(s):

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- **Measure 74403.T2.03**

Partnerships Established

Measure Type: Output **Measure Frequency:** Monthly

Measure Baseline: 2

Measure Target: as many as possible

Measure Source and Calculation:

Number of partners (state, local, and federal) secured. Tracked via internal documentation.

- **Measure 74403.T2.04**

Phase Implementation

Measure Type: Output **Measure Frequency:**

Measure Baseline: 0

Measure Target: 1 Phase per biennial.

Measure Source and Calculation:

The State Emergency Services Academy will be completed in phases over multiple years. We will seek to have a phase included and completed in each biennial.

Objective 74403.T2 Has the Following Strategies:

- Identify and form partnerships with state and federal agencies willing to participate in such an effort.
- Develop a business plan for the Academy; identify potential funding sources; identify training props to be located at the Academy; and identify programs to be taught at the Academy.

Objective 74403.T3

Enhancement of Virginia Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE)

Partnerships and collaboration are of paramount importance to our fire and emergency services professional development efforts. By partnering and collaborating with the Virginia Community College System we provide the most comprehensive curricula available aimed at helping to further professional development. In order to increase our efforts to educate and provide professional development opportunities to Virginia's fire and emergency services, we will enhance our dialogue with institutions of higher learning through annual meetings, which will parallel national FESHE.

This Objective Supports the Following Agency Goals:

- Enhance and Improve Training Programs
(Through collaboration and reciprocity we will help to improve and enhance our development curricula.)
- Enhance the Attainment of Higher Education for the Fire Service
(FESHE is directly correlated to our goal to enhance the attainment of higher education for the fire service.)
- Increase Course Offerings
(By working towards reciprocity and through partnerships we will be able to increase the number of development course opportunities.)

This Objective Has The Following Measure(s):

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- **Measure 74403.T3.00**

Meeting attendance rate

Measure Type: Output **Measure Frequency:** Annually

Measure Baseline: The number of attendees/number of invited, compared with the previous years' rate.

Measure Target: 100%

Measure Source and Calculation:

90% of the people invited attended the VA FESHE meeting in May 2005.

- **Measure 74403.T3.05**

Number of students trained under dual accreditation

Measure Type: Output **Measure Frequency:** Annually

Measure Baseline: not available at this time

Measure Target: all students taking instructor/officer development courses.

Measure Source and Calculation:

This partnership is still in its infancy, therefore we do not currently have a baseline, but this will be measured and tracked via the Fire Service Training Records System (FSTRS).

Objective 74403.T3 Has the Following Strategies:

- Continual work with the Virginia Community College System to review programs for reciprocity and streamline record-keeping procedures.
- Enhance our dialogue with respective stakeholders by hosting annual meetings of Virginia's FESHE.

Objective 74403.T4

Investigate Alternative Delivery Methods to Provide Training

In efforts to keep up-to-date with current delivery methods and techniques, VDFP continually investigates alternative delivery methods and partnerships to implement them.

This Objective Supports the Following Agency Goals:

- Increase Course Offerings
(In efforts to meet our changing societal needs, investigating alternative delivery methods is essential in increasing our course offerings.)

This Objective Has The Following Measure(s):

- **Measure 74403.T4.07**

Number of students trained

Measure Type: Output **Measure Frequency:** Annually

Measure Baseline: under development

Measure Target: 150 students per year receiving online training

Measure Source and Calculation:

We currently are developing our first online course delivery, therefore we do not have a baseline figure. Once implemented we will track this using our Fire Service Training Records System (FSTRS).

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Objective 74403.T4 Has the Following Strategies:

- Employ the use of our staff curriculum developer to research what courses/methods/techniques are available and then plan a pilot offering and eventual implementation.

Objective 74403.T5

Provide Development Training Opportunities for Fire and Emergency Services Career Advancement

Providing development opportunities for instructors, company officers, and chief officers is essential for professional development and in keeping skills and knowledge base current.

This Objective Supports the Following Agency Goals:

- Increase Course Offerings
(Instructors, company officers, and chief officers have continual need for training opportunities as a part of their professional development. By providing development training opportunities we will directly increase our course offerings.)

This Objective Has The Following Measure(s):

- **Measure 74403.T5.07**

Number of students receiving development training

Measure Type: Output

Measure Frequency: Annually

Measure Baseline: 150

Measure Target: 250

Measure Source and Calculation:

We use information from the Fire Service Training Record System (FSTRS) to provide this measure.

Objective 74403.T5 Has the Following Strategies:

- Explore opportunities to bring speakers/materials from all facets of the fire service and increase the number of NFPA Certified courses offered.