



Carcinogen Reduction/Cancer Prevention and Burn Prevention Program

VDFP will again offer this program in two upcoming regional fire schools, The Wise Regional Fire School on September 7, 2018 and The Tri-Cities Regional Fire School over the weekend of October 20 -21, 2018. VDFP piloted this two-part program at The Virginia State Firefighter's Conference earlier this month.

The program will be delivered in a train the trainer type format where we provide you educational materials and reference materials. This will allow departments to deliver training to better protect their members. In development is a resource webpage to store these materials. Students may bring flash drives to obtain most of the materials before the end of class.

Questions can be directed to VDFP Chief Safety Officer Briant Atkins at briant.atkins@vdfp.virginia.gov, 804-371-0220.

Part 1: Prevention and Care of Firefighter Burn Injuries

This course will provide a better understanding of the factors that increase the risk of a firefighter sustaining a burn injury and ways to reduce these risks. The proper sizing of the firefighter's personal protective equipment (PPE), along with appropriate gear selection, care and maintenance, and the proper use of PPE will be discussed.

The program will outline common trends that have resulted in burn injuries, steps to prevent these injuries, and the importance of having a plan in place prior to these injuries occurring. An overview of the resources available regionally, statewide, and nationally for firefighters burned in the line of duty will also be discussed.

After attending this program, firefighters and fire service leaders will have a better understanding of the burn care processes, burn center treatment, and returning to full duty protocols.

Part 2: Carcinogen Reduction and Cancer Risk Reduction

Cancer is becoming an alarming issue within the Fire Service. The focus of this program is to inform students within fire service about the significantly increased cancer risks that firefighters are experiencing in comparison to the general population. There are large amounts of data and scientific evidence to show the increase in risk to firefighters. Our intent is for you to leave with



life changing information that could help you and other firefighters not fall victim to this terrible disease

This training will:

- Describe the most prominent types of cancer that affect fire fighters
- Identify the top carcinogens in the firefighting environment
- Review the major routes of exposure to carcinogens for fire fighters
- Discuss best practices for reducing carcinogen exposure in the station, before and after the fire of which some can be implemented at little to no cost.