

ARFF Training Bulletin



Winter 2024

BLACKHAWK HELICOPTER PROP OFFERS UNIQUE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

The South Carolina Fire Academy recently acquired a new UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopter prop to provide realistic hands-on training that allows firefighters to experience the challenging physical and psychological effects.

“This heavy-duty fire-training prop allows for a unique training experience,” ARFF Program Coordinator Captain Joe Charleston said. “It also has movable rotors, a cockpit, and cabin doors.”



This prop was acquired in conjunction with Lion Training Systems.

Every critical environmental condition a first responder may face during an emergency can be simulated. These conditions include darkness, integrated smoke and sound effects, intense flames, fuel spills, and real heat – depending on the desired helicopter, cockpit, or cabin fire scenario.

“The prop is ideal when practicing positioning of apparatus, angle of attack, and stretching the proper hose lines while the helicopter remains fully involved,” Charleston said.



The UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopter prop also includes an integrated cooling system. This allows for long-duration fire simulations while minimizing steel fatigue and wear.

The upgraded features on the prop also provide another tool for refresher burns.

“Not only will we incorporate this prop into our 3402 Municipal Approach to ARFF class, but we hope to offer the Response to Rotorcraft Accidents course real soon,” he said.

UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Airport Firefighter 2024 Class Offerings

Point of contact and registration questions

[Sherri Bush](#)

Office: (803) 896-9857

Course Code	Dates
3400-24005	January 8-12, 2024
3400-24006	March 4-8, 2024
3400-24007	April 8-12, 2024
3400-24008	May 13-17, 2024
3400-24009	June 24-28, 2024

<i>Fees</i>	
\$1,001	In-State (SC)
\$1,124	Out-of-State
\$1,474	Out-of-Country



ADDITIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The SC Fire Academy ARFF program can support your Department's training requirements. Each month, Part 139 Refresher burns are scheduled on an as-needed basis.

To coordinate training dates, contact:

ARFF program

[Captain Joe Charleston](#)

Office: (803) 896-9847

Cell: (803) 260-2373

ACADEMY ACCOMMODATIONS

SCFA Dormitory

Students staying overnight enjoy the recently renovated dormitory with hotel-like accommodations and an expanded weight room/gym area. Dormitory rooms are first-come, first-served. Each room has a private bathroom, and linens are provided.

Single and double occupancy is available. Single occupancy is \$50/night; double occupancy is \$25/night. Please make your room selection during the registration process.

In the event the State Fire Academy's dormitory is full or unavailable, the DoubleTree by Hilton is less than 10 miles away (15 minutes) from the Academy site. Their 2024 rate* for students attending classes and events at the Academy is \$99 per night, including breakfast. For stays of five nights or more, the rate is \$89 per night, and includes breakfast each morning.

DoubleTree by Hilton Columbia

2100 Bush River Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

* Blackout dates: April 6-14, 2024

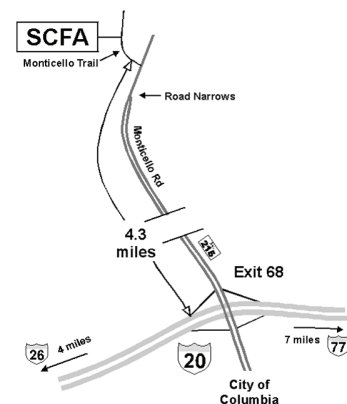
Two ways to make your reservation:

1. Call 1-803-731-0300 and mention group: South Carolina State Fire #0002765133, or
2. Utilize convenient [online booking](#).

COLUMBIA CAMPUS

From Interstate 20, take Exit 68 and turn north on Monticello Road (S.C. 215). Travel about 4.3 miles north to Monticello Trail and turn left. (The road will narrow from four to two lanes about ¼ mile before the turnoff.)

The Fire Academy complex is about ¼ mile down Monticello Trail on the left.



South Carolina Fire Academy

141 Monticello Trail
Columbia, SC 29203

Tel: (803) 896-9800
Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Monday - Friday except State holidays

Contact:

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