

ARFF Training Bulletin



Winter 2025

SCFA HONORED FOR PARTNERSHIP IN ARFF TRAINING AT SYMPOSIUM

The South Carolina Fire Academy was honored with a Certificate of Appreciation during the September ARFF Working Group Symposium in Myrtle Beach. This was given in recognition of the partnership between the Academy and the ARFF Working Group Board of Directors during the 2024 Boeing AIRFAM Workshop in Charleston. This acknowledgement highlights the Academy's commitment to collaboration and excellence in training and professional development.

In addition to receiving the award, Academy ARFF Training staff, Joe Charleston and Michael Lew, participated in the conference, gaining valuable insights into recent advancements in airport operations and aircraft recovery. Sessions highlighted innovative strategies and emerging technologies designed to enhance efficiency and safety in these areas. The knowledge gained will directly impact the Academy's ARFF programs, ensuring that customers remain at the forefront of industry standards and practices. The combination of recognition and learning further underscores the Academy's leadership role in shaping the future of training and response.



FIVE UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The South Carolina Fire Academy's ARFF program is accredited by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC). The Academy is also an FAA Regional ARFF fire-training center.

Training opportunities (*right*) are available through May 2025.

Upcoming ARFF Classes	
Course Code	Dates
3400-25004	January 13-17, 2025
3400-25005	February 3-7, 2025
3400-25006	March 3-7, 2025
3400-25007	April 7-11, 2025
3400-25008	May 12-16, 2025

REGISTRATION CHECKLIST

- Complete a [SC Fire Academy registration form](#). If you do not know your FDID, leave it blank.
- Insert either your Student ID number previously issued by SC State Fire or the last five (5) digits of your Social Security number (if you have one) in the space labeled "Student ID."
 - If you are from a foreign country, leave it blank.
 - If you are a returning student, your Student ID number is found by logging into your [Fire Portal account](#).
- Provide the correct course code and dates at the top of the form. The course code is two series of numbers (i.e. 3400-20001).
- Indicate if you need to rent bunker gear (additional \$65) for the training program or if you will be bringing your own. Structural gear is acceptable in the ARFF program.
- Provide the full name, address, contact number, and name of the person or entity who is responsible for course payment. If this information is not provided, registration cannot be processed.
- Sign the release section, date the form accordingly, and have your Chief Officer sign where indicated. If you are self-sponsoring, you do not need to include your Chief Officer's signature.
- Attach Firefighter II certification. IFSAC or Pro-Board is acceptable. This registration requirement cannot be waived.



Class Schedule: Each class starts at 8:30 a.m. on the first day. The training week runs through Friday at 5 p.m.

Local Airport: Columbia Metropolitan Airport (CAE) is about 18 miles from campus. The Academy is at 141 Monticello Trail in Columbia, SC. Make sure you allow time for flights according to the training schedule. The Academy cannot cut a class short nor make accommodations for travel time.

Proper Attire: Be sure you wear appropriate clothing, such as a station uniform and casual clothing (pants/collared shirt). No shorts, flip-flops, tank tops, jeans, or other similar apparel can be worn in class. Additionally, no facial hair that interferes with the seal of the SCBA is allowed.

Payment: An invoice and confirmation letter will be sent to the student or the student's agency. Invoice payment instructions are noted in the confirmation letter.



COMING SOON: ARFF PROGRAM UPDATES

ARFF training staff are working with the Academy's Curriculum and Accreditation teams on the NFPA 1010 update/consolidation. The Academy is partnering with an IFSTA test validation group for the ARFF test bank for the 7th Edition. The anticipated release date for updated ARFF and ARFF Driver/Operator programs is January 2026. Our expectation is to provide the best real-world training that exceeds the standard.

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 SC 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 2025 rate for students attending classes and events at the Academy is \$103 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

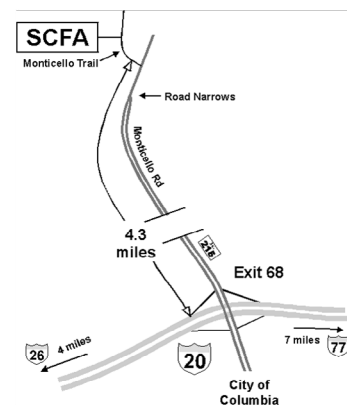
Two ways to make your reservation:

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:

Joe Charleston
ARFF Program Coordinator
(803) 896- 9847
JOE.CHARLESTON@LLR.SC.GOV

 803-896-9813

 SCFA-ARFF@LLR.SC.GOV

 [SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FIRE](#)
[SOUTH CAROLINA FIRE ACADEMY](#)

 [@SCSTATEFIRE](#)
[@SCDLLR](#)

 STATEFIRE.LLR.SC.GOV