



SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FIRE

a Division of South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

South Carolina Fire Academy

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CONFINED SPACE INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT

Last Fall, the SC Fire Academy began offering the accredited Confined Space Awareness, Operations, and Technician (AOT) course-3396, which combines the previous Operations-3390 and Rescue-3392 courses into one five-day program.

Since this change, demand for Confined Space has increased significantly. To meet the need and expand the instructor pool, the Academy's Special Operations section will take the following action:

- Except in-house and previously scheduled offerings, regional delivery of Confined Space AOT-3396 will pause for five months. This pause will allow time to build instructor capacity, qualify additional instructors, and strengthen course delivery statewide.

INSTRUCTOR ORIENTATION WORKSHOPS (IOWS)

Three IOWs will be held on the SC State Fire campus. Attendees must be active instructors (taken 4174 or 4220 within the last 2 years) and have taken either Operations-3390 and Rescue-3392, or AOT-3396 as a student.

Each IOW will include:

- Challenge Exam: Students who do not successfully complete, will be removed from the IOW and may retest under the standard policy or enroll in another IOW.
- Skills Setup and Demonstration: Students must successfully set up and perform each assigned skill.
- Lecture Presentation: Each student will deliver a lecture to a Rescue Instructor panel. Modules will be assigned once the class is confirmed

Course Code/Section Number	Dates	Times	Deadline to Register	Direct Registration Link
3995-26001	Jan 6 - 8	8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Dec 23	Click here to register
3995-26002	Jan 30 - Feb 1	8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Jan 16	Click here to register
3995-26003	Feb 24 - 26	8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Feb 10	Click here to register

APPRENTICESHIPS

At the conclusion of the IOW, prospective instructors must sign up for an apprenticeship in one of the scheduled Confined Space AOT classes on the SC State Fire campus. The apprenticeship must be completed to receive final approval to instruct Confined Space AOT-3396.

The available apprenticeship classes are listed below.

- March 2-6, 2026
- March 23-27, 2026
- May 4-8, 2026

Your involvement plays an important role in the success of future Confined Space classes.

QUESTIONS? Contact [Don Headrick](#)



Our mission is to be the focal point for service and support to save lives and property.