

**YOUTH FIRESETTER PROGRAM
MANAGER
PRE-COURSE ASSIGNMENT**
YOUTH FIRESETTER PROGRAM MANAGER

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YOUTH FIRESETTER PROGRAM MANAGER

Welcome to the National Fire Academy's (NFA's) "Youth Firesetter Program Manager" (YFPM) course. The course will empower you with the knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs) to perform the job performance requirements (JPRs) of a Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist (YFIS) program leader as outlined in NFPA Standard 1035, Standard on Fire and Life Safety Educator, Public Information Officer, Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist and Youth Firesetter Program Manager Professional Qualifications.

Program leaders help develop, implement, lead and evaluate a Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention (YFPI) program. In addition, the program leader must be proficient in all of the skills required for an intervention specialist. For that reason, it is highly suggested that you attend the YFIS course prior to enrolling in a YFPM offering.

The target audience for this course is anyone who will perform leadership duties within a YFPI program. Leaders can be volunteer and career firefighters, fire investigators, Fire and Life Safety Educators (FLSEs), and allied professionals from criminal justice, mental health, social services and juvenile justice.

The outcome of the YFPM course is the development of draft program operating procedures for a YFPI program that will serve the needs of your community. Because the most effective programs include collaboration from an interagency task force, we urge you to invite members of key agencies that may support your effort to attend this course with you — most specifically, those listed as allied professionals in the previous paragraph. At a minimum, you must have an idea of key agencies and people whom you will likely ask to help create a program or enhance an existing one.

To achieve the optimal benefits of the course, we ask that you perform research in advance of the course. Please come prepared to use the following information pertinent to your community and organization:

Is your community urban, suburban, rural or a mixture?

How many youth firesetting incidents does your organization handle per year? What types of youth firesetting incidents do you handle the most frequently?

Are there areas of your community where incidents of youth firesetting occur more frequently? If so, where?

Are there particular age groups that represent a greater problem than others? If so, please identify them.

What is the minimum age at which your jurisdiction can file criminal charges against a youth for fire-related incidents?

If charges can be filed, what is the average number of youth who are charged per year?

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On average, how many injuries caused by youth firesetting does your community experience per year? How many deaths?

On average, how much property loss is associated with youth firesetting per year?

If your organization currently has a YFPI program, please bring copies of the various documents that are used to support it, such as:

- YFPI program mission statement.
- Intake and screening forms.
- Lesson plans for youth firesetting educational interventions.
- Program operating procedures.
- Release of information and consent forms.
- Confidentiality agreements and waivers of liability.
- Budget.

Note: If your organization has a YFPI program, you will have the opportunity to recommend enhancements that can be made to strengthen it.

You should also be cognizant of the educational programs offered by your organization that feature content aimed at reducing the occurrence of youth firesetting and the resources that are invested into the programs.

If your organization currently has a YFPI program, what agencies are you already working with to collaborate on the disposition of youth firesetting cases?

If your organization does not have a program, please consider what local agencies you should be collaborating with and whom from those agencies you should be working with.

Who are the people from your organization who are (or should be) involved with the components of the YFPI program? The following are examples:

- Identification of youth in need of services.
- Intake of youth/families.
- Screening process.
- Educational interventions.
- Follow-up to program services.
- Program service evaluation.

Please also bring a copy of your organization's overall mission statement.

You are encouraged to bring a laptop or other electronic device that will allow you to process class activities. It is also important to bring a storage device such as a thumb drive so you can exchange information with peers.

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Because of the amount of information that will be shared, the NFA would like you to read the text content of the Student Manual (SM) in advance of attending the course. Doing so

will better prepare you to participate in class discussions and networking opportunities with peers. The SM text is included with this pre-course packet.

Multiple activities will be included in each unit of the course, and there is a robust amount of appendix material for your future use. You will get this material when you arrive in class.

Lastly, sign up for Fire is Everyone's Fight™. This national effort is led by the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) to lower the number of home fires and home fire injuries in America. Along with USFA and partner organizations across the country, the fire community is speaking out with a unified message of fire prevention and safety to the public. The goal is to change how people think about fire and fire prevention, using social marketing strategies to address the broadest audience.

Go to <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/fief/>. Scroll down a couple lines, and click on Fire is Everyone's Fight. Continue scrolling down the page until you see the box on the right to register as a partner to use the Fire is Everyone's Fight logo on materials you create. The Fire is Everyone's Fight logo is trademarked, so we require that you complete a simple registration form to use it. Once you register, you'll have access to various versions of the logo optimized for website, print and online materials.

You are encouraged to download the Fire is Everyone's Fight Guide at: https://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/fief/fief_outreach_guide.pdf. This will help you develop creative ways to engage your community.