

Welcome to the National Fire Academy's (NFA's) "Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist" (YFIS) course. The course will empower you with the knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs) to perform the job performance requirements (JPRs) of an intervention specialist as outlined in the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1035, *Standard on Fire and Life Safety Educator, Public Information Officer, Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist and Youth Firesetter Program Manager Professional Qualifications*, 2015 edition.

Intervention specialists provide services at the program delivery level. They help identify firesetters, conduct program intakes, provide screenings to identify risks of future firesetting, deliver educational interventions, perform follow-ups, and evaluate program services.

The target audience for this course is anyone who has worked (or will be working) with youth who are exhibiting firesetting behaviors. The course is appropriate for 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.

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

- 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 most frequently?
 - Are there particular age groups that represent a greater problem than others?
 - 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?
 - 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 Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention (YFPI) program, please bring copies of the various documents that are used to support it, such as intake and screening forms. Please also bring a copy of any lesson plans for the educational component of your program.
 - If your organization does not have a program, do not worry. The course includes many examples of support materials.
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