

**Ministry of Community Safety
and Correctional Services**

**Ministère de la Sécurité
communautaire et des Services
correctionnels**

Ontario Fire College
Office of the Fire Marshal and
Emergency Management

Collège des pompiers de l'Ontario
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Subject: New “Blended Learning” Format Options at the OFC

The Ontario Fire College is pleased to update our stakeholders on the details regarding our latest course delivery option - “blended” learning - beginning with the NFPA 1021 Fire Officer programs.

This new course option allows students to complete portions of the course in an online, self-directed format off campus, prior to attending the classroom portion. The OFC online learning management system enables students to access and complete their mandatory pre-class work through an individual portal.

This new format offers many advantages - namely, reducing the time required in the classroom by 5 full days. The program has been well-received in the pilot phase. In releasing this new option, we remain committed to maintaining the highest possible educational experience to enable students to accomplish mastery of skills and requisites meeting NFPA standards.

Answers to some of the common inquiries about the new blended learning option are provided below:

How do I access the course?

Access instructions will be sent to all registered students through their department Fire Chief or Designate a minimum of 5 weeks prior to the course commencement. Departments are required to forward this information and redemption code to the student in a timely manner.

What must I do to prepare prior to the course?

Completion of all pre-class work is a prerequisite to attending the course, students should begin their program thirty(30 days prior to the classroom portion of the course start date. (Please note: If a student does not complete all assignments and course work listed, he/she will not be eligible to attend the in class portion of the program and will received a “Fail” grade.)

What happens if I need to cancel?

The cancellation policy for the new blended courses will remain the same as all others. Cancellation fees will apply for all cancelled course registrants occurring

within 8 weeks of the in class course commencement. All registrations and changes for the NFPA 1021 FO BLENDED programs will close 5 weeks prior to the in-class portion of the course.

Can a substitute be registered in my place?

No student changes or replacements will be processed after the 5-week cutoff point, due to the nature of these programs and the requirement of pre-class work and assignments.

We trust you find these new course formats rewarding and supportive of your commitment to ongoing professional development, in conjunction with the Ontario Fire College. We look forward to your feedback.

Sincerely,

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