



VDFP goes Virtual

On-line learning experience available

Virginia Department of Fire Programs releases first on-line program

Alternative learning experience

The Virginia Department of Fire Programs is pleased to announce the rollout of the Virginia Department of Fire Programs Fire Service Training (VDFP-FST) didactic-based on-line classroom. VDFP has partnered through a cooperative agreement with other State agencies to provide, as an alternative to classroom-based learning, an on-line portal for your e-learning experience. The first program for release is the Hazardous Materials Awareness course. This six-module course, administered completely on-line, will allow the entry-level student to take the program in the comfort of their home or station. At the end of each module the student is presented a group of Knowledge Check questions to review materials covered in the previous module and prepare them for the state certification test. Once the entire six-module program is completed on-line, the student will be instructed how to print an on-line certificate which may be presented at any VDFP office as confirmation that they have qualified to take the written certification test.

As additional programs continue to be developed using this form of technology, the student will be given the opportunity to take traditional classroom-based courses at their leisure. Future plans for this alternative delivery method will include program updates for instructors, didactic prerequisite course offerings, and Adjunct Instructor updates. With surging fuel costs, time away from station life, and busy lifestyles hampering your available time to train, this is an excellent opportunity to experience quality training to meet your schedule. VDFP realizes this delivery method will not be a replacement for traditional learning, but rather a technology based enhancement to allow students to cover much of the classroom work on their own leaving more time for practical exercises once they meet with their instructor for their practical learning experience.

To access this new opportunity, you will first need to register in the system. Download the two tutorials and follow the online commands to first get you in the system. Once you have completed the registration process and you are accepted into the program, you will be sent an email to participate in this online learning environment. Please note: The individual qualification process may take up to 24 hours to process. To access this system, logon to www.vafire.com, left margin scroll to Higher Education. A dropdown menu will open, select Virtual Classroom and follow the directions for entry.