



## 2016 TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT

**COURSE:** Great Basin Engine Academy

**DESCRIPTION:** The Great Basin Engine Academy (GBEA) is an **intense 80+ hour course** designed to expose the student to all aspects of wildland engine operations with an emphasis on practical application and testing. This is a Region 4 effort and participation from all Forests is highly encouraged. **A passing grade will be 70% or higher.** Points will be accumulated from a combination of both written and practical tests and students can be expected to spend after-hours studying and practicing driving skills for upcoming tests.

**OBJECTIVES FOR THE TWO-WEEK COURSE ARE:**

1. Driving
  - a. Operating fire engines/buggies on highways, rural, urban, and mountain roads.
  - b. Laws affecting a moving vehicle.
  - c. Fire engine/buggy driving techniques and defensive driving.
  - d. An introduction to State and Federal laws and regulation in emergency response and obtaining the NFPA certification for operation of an emergency vehicle with red lights and siren.
2. Pumping
  - a. Calculating hydraulic problems from simple to complex hoselays.
  - b. A working knowledge of pump theory and operations.
  - c. Care and maintenance of pumping equipment.
  - d. Designing, troubleshooting, and correcting pumping operations.
3. Maintenance (vehicle and pump)
  - a. Preventive maintenance inspections.
  - b. Troubleshooting mechanical problems.
  - c. Standard care and maintenance.
  - d. Operator's responsibilities.

Students will be organized into four or five person engine companies and will be required to stay at the hotel during the course of the academy. The academy tuition fee is \$0 for those US Forest Service employees in Region 4 and \$2000 for all others. Home units are responsible to cover per diem expenses and over time. After hour practice sessions will be available if the student needs additional help, however, the home unit will need to send an approved overtime authorization with the student.

**ACADEMY HOURS:** Two weeks, 80+ hours, Monday to Saturday, week one and Monday to Thursday week two, approximately 0800 - 1700. Several days will have scheduled extended hours that total approximately 8 hours. Optional after hours practice sessions will start at 1700 and go until dark on most days. Compensation for these hours must be negotiated at home unit prior to academy.

**TARGET GROUP:** Engine captains, engineers, and lead crew with current responsibilities in engine operations. Hotshot and Helitack crew captains, leads, or those driving and maintaining buggies and/or larger Helitack vehicles.

**DATES:** **April 11 - 21, 2016**

**LOCATION:** Academy will be held at the **Dixie Applied Technology College, Emergency Response Training Center (located at the old airport), St. George, Utah.** A block of rooms will be reserved by academy personnel once hotel accommodations have been determined. Students will not call to make individual room reservations. Engine companies will be roomed together with two students per room. Transportation between hotel and training facility will be arranged by academy personnel.

**TUITION FEE:** \$2,000 for all Non-Region 4 Forest Service

**NOMINATIONS:** Priority consideration will be given to candidates who are currently in the following positions:

- Engine/Crew Captains – 1<sup>st</sup> priority
- Engineers/Assistants – 2<sup>nd</sup> priority
- Lead Crew members – 3<sup>rd</sup> priority

\*\*\*Attached is a candidate profile that must be completed and submitted for an individual to be considered for acceptance into the academy. (Do not send a NWCG form)

**Nomination deadline is December 15, 2015.** Email or fax all forms to Kim Osborn at the Regional Office at 801-625-5594 or [kosborn@fs.fed.us](mailto:kosborn@fs.fed.us)

**ACADEMY COORDINATOR:**

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Visit our webpage at: [www.fs.usda.gov/goto/gbea](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/gbea)

**Pre-work will be sent to all potential students in late January to be completed and mailed back by March 1, 2016.** Final selections will be made based on how well the student scores on the pre-work and students will be notification of selection by the end of March. Students will also be required to be in full uniform throughout the academy.

