

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

**RICH FITZGERALD**  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

June 15, 2020

Allegheny County Emergency Services Fire Academy Community,

Welcome back and I hope to find you all well and safe at this time. With Allegheny County beginning to open up in its fight against the COVID-19 Pandemic, so has the ACES Fire Academy. On Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup> we started our Summer Entry Level Firefighter Training in conjunction with the Community College of Allegheny County Public Safety Institute. To limit the chance of COVID-19 communal spread we have instituted protective measures, such as social distancing, mandatory face mask or shield use indoor or when social distancing is not practical, and medical screening of all course participants.

During our spring break we piloted a distant learning project where we delivered lectures via the internet to students. It wasn't perfect but was well received by the students that participated. Unfortunately, because of the lack of time and student/instructor availability we were not able to give these students the opportunity to have the necessary practical skills training that is part of these courses. For these students they will be given the opportunity to "make-up" these skills and written tests within the next 12-months during our regularly schedule courses.

So, you are probably wondering how we are going to bring training back to the rest of you. Currently the ACES-FA staff is reviewing the previously published 2020 Schedule. It is our goal to use this schedule as a template for the remainder of the year. Courses that are on the 2020 Schedule are going to proceed as scheduled, with some exceptions. If there is a course on the schedule that had a prerequisite course cancelled by the COVID-19 Pandemic, that course may also be cancelled. We are working with the instructors to either replace an advanced course with the basic course or attempt to reschedule the basic course prior to the advanced course. Also, those students that were pre-registered for the Spring course will have first opportunity to attend the Fall course. I know this is going to be a little confusing, but we will all need to be patient in coming back to normal. Look for a revised 2020 Schedule to be published around July 4, 2020.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to any of the Fire Academy Staff or myself.

Sincerely,

Glenn H. Kopec, Administrator  
Allegheny County Emergency Services Fire Academy  
700 West Ridge Road  
Allison Park, PA 15101  
Telephone: (724) 935-4634  
(412) 931-3158  
Fax: (724) 935-6009

---

MATTHEW J. BROWN, CEM, CFPS, CHIEF

**DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

911 COMMUNICATIONS • EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT • EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES • FIRE ACADEMY • FIRE MARSHAL  
150 HOOKSTOWN GRADE ROAD • CORAOPOLIS, PA 15108  
PHONE (412) 473-2550 • FAX (412) 473-2623 • WWW.ALLEGHENYCOUNTY.US