



International Association of Arson Investigators, Inc.

Substitute or Alternatives to IAAI Curriculum

The IAAI Board of Directors, under the advisement of the IAAI Certifications Committee, adopted the Revised Certifications Manual on September 14, 2024. The IAAI's Revised Certifications Manual will be implemented beginning on May 1, 2025.

All certifications are now moved to a five-year renewal and there will now be only one expiration date, regardless of the number of IAAI credentials held. Experience and training criteria have been brought in line with the IAAI's credentialing cycles. Effective May 1, 2025, any non-IAAI training courses claimed by an applicant for credit towards an IAAI certification, credential, and/or endorsement, must be expressly pre-approved by the IAAI as a substitute or alternative to the IAAI's foundational core training courses. This includes courses relating to training and certifications for IAAI-Fundamentals of Fire Investigation, IAAI-Motor Vehicle Fire Investigation, IAAI-Marine Fire Investigation, and IAAI-Expert Witness Courtroom Testimony. If the applicant wishes to use any courses outside of the IAAI offered curriculum course for certification, credentialing, and/or endorsements, that course must be submitted by the teaching organization for approval by IAAI as outlined below.

All courses submitted for consideration as an equivalent training course to the IAAI should be submitted to the IAAI-Certifications Committee and include a comprehensive training syllabus for evaluation.

All proposed substitutes or alternative training courses will be considered for approval by the IAAI Certifications Committee. Only after review and approval by the IAAI-Training & Education Committee will the training entity be given an approval document control number that they can use in their marketing and certificates given to their attendees.

The T&E Committee will review the submissions to determine whether any proposed substitute or alternative training course of instruction meets or exceeds the IAAI course curriculum.

For a list of approved programs, please refer to: <https://www.firearson.com/credentials/approved-courses/>

Any course that is being marketed as a substitute or alternative to the IAAI curriculum must be approved by the IAAI-Certifications Committee and IAAI-T&E Committee prior to the course offering. Courses not approved by the IAAI prior to the delivery will not be accepted for any subsequent submission by students for consideration in any certification, credentialing, and/or endorsements. The subsequent certificate presented to students after successful completion of an IAAI approved course must indicate the IAAI approval number and date of issuance on the certificate.

All submissions for alternative or substitute courses may be submitted by the host agency, course coordinator, or instructor responsible for the course delivery.

Procedure for Applying for Alternative or Substitute Courses for Non-IAAI Curriculum

Training courses may be approved upon the executed and written application of the host agency, course coordinator, or instructor responsible for delivery of the course. All applications for approval of a course by a non-IAAI curriculum shall:

- a. Be submitted at least thirty (30) days, and preferably longer, in advance of the course.
- b. Be submitted using the online JotForm located on www.firearson.com.



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- c. Contain all the information requested on the form.
- d. Be accompanied by any advertising material, a detailed course outline, timeline, presentation materials, and student and instructor lesson plans that describe the course content, learning objectives, allocation of time for each instructional topic, dates and locations for which the program is to be offered, and identification of all instructors along with current instructor CVs.
- e. Include a detailed calculation of the total hours and indicate the hours allocated to the Job Performance Requirements (JPR) outlined within the current edition of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1033, *Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator*, effective as of the date of the course.

Alternate or Substitute Fees Paid for Course Vetting.

An alternate or substitute fee shall be required for each alternate or substitute course for which a sponsor seeks IAAI approval for such course pursuant to these regulations. Each course will be vetted annually, outlining the curriculum and instructors, at the rates detailed below. The IAAI will be contacted for approval prior to each offering within the vetted year. Blanket authorization is not permitted. If at any time within the vetted year, a curriculum or instructor change occurs, the program must be re-vetted at the costs outlined below. The accreditation fee for non-IAAI training curriculum shall be calculated as follows:

\$50 for 0.50 – 2.50 hours of credit

\$75 for 2.75 – 5.00 hours of credit

\$100 for 5.25 – 10.00 hours of credit

\$150 for 10.25 or more hours of credit

Applicant will receive an invoice after application has been received. Payment of the minimum fee shall be paid immediately upon receipt of invoice. Applications submitted without payment of the minimum fee shall be returned to the host agency, course coordinator, or instructor responsible for the course delivery without being processed for approval. No refunds will be issued for course applications that are not approved by the IAAI-Certifications Committee and IAAI-Training & Education Committee.