AFSA45
QUALITY, SAFETY, AND CAREER ADVANCEMENT THROUGH NICET CERTIFICATION
Jeff Lewis
VP Technical Workforce Development, VSC Fire & Security, Inc.
Chip Hollis
VP Credentials, NICET
SAN ANTONIO, TX
AFSA
American Fire Sprinkler Association

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Jeff Lewis
VP Technical Workforce Development, VSC Fire & Security, Inc.
Jeff is the Vice President of Technical Workforce Development for VSC Fire & Security. He holds an AAS degree in Fire Protection Technology from Guilford Technical Community College and a BS Degree in Occupational Safety and Health with a concentration in Fire Science from Columbia Southern University. His NICET certifications include a Level III in Inspection and Testing of Water-Based Systems, a Level III in Special Hazards Suppression Systems, a Level II in Fire Alarm Systems, and a Level II in Inspection and Testing of Fire Alarm Systems. He is also an NFPA Certified Fire Protection Specialist. Jeff served as a member of the review committee for the AFSA ITM Inspector Development Program and is currently serving on the Board of Directors for the Virginia Chapter of the AFSA.
VSC
FIRE·SECURITY
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jlewis@vscfire.com | 804 283 1383

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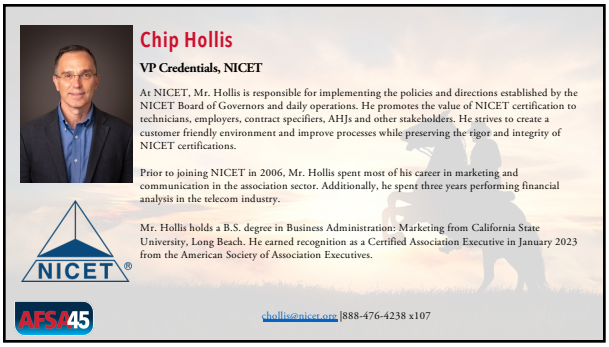
Chip Hollis
VP Credentials, NICET
At NICET, Mr. Hollis is responsible for implementing the policies and directions established by the NICET Board of Governors and daily operations. He promotes the value of NICET certification to technicians, employers, contract specifiers, AHJs and other stakeholders. He strives to create a customer friendly environment and improve processes while preserving the rigor and integrity of NICET certifications.
Prior to joining NICET in 2006, Mr. Hollis spent most of his career in marketing and communication in the association sector. Additionally, he spent three years performing financial analysis in the telecom industry.
Mr. Hollis holds a B.S. degree in Business Administration: Marketing from California State University, Long Beach. He earned recognition as a Certified Association Executive in January 2023 from the American Society of Association Executives.
NICET
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chollis@nicet.org | 888-476-4238 x107

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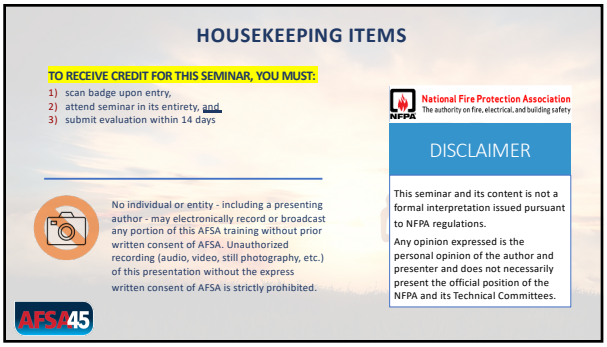
HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS
TO RECEIVE CREDIT FOR THIS SEMINAR, YOU MUST:
1) scan badge upon entry,
2) attend seminar in its entirety, and,
3) submit evaluation within 14 days
No individual or entity - including a presenting author - may electronically record or broadcast any portion of this AFSA training without prior written consent of AFSA. Unauthorized recording (audio, video, still photography, etc.) of this presentation without the express written consent of AFSA is strictly prohibited.
National Fire Protection Association
The authority on fire, electrical, and building safety
DISCLAIMER
This seminar and its content is not a formal interpretation issued pursuant to NFPA regulations.
Any opinion expressed is the personal opinion of the author and presenter and does not necessarily present the official position of the NFPA and its Technical Committees.
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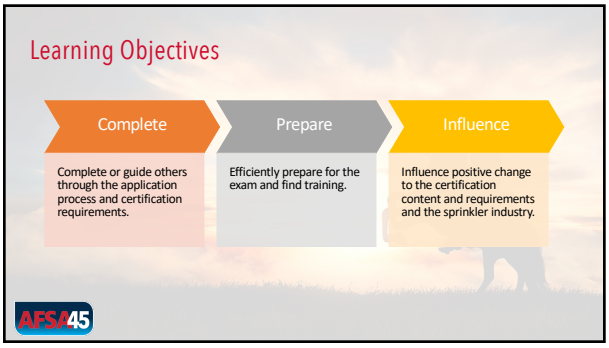
Learning Objectives
Complete
Complete or guide others through the application process and certification requirements.
Prepare
Efficiently prepare for the exam and find training.
Influence
Influence positive change to the certification content and requirements and the sprinkler industry.
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Munchies
Potato chips with assorted dips
Nuts
Pretzels
M & M's (WARNING: ABSOLUTELY NO BROWN ONES)
Twelve (12) Reese's peanut butter cups
Twelve (12) assorted Dannon yogurt (on ice)
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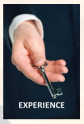
Value of Developing Qualified Workforce

- Increased Safety for Workforce and the Public
- Increased Productivity
- Improved Quality
- Cost Savings
- Reduce Liability
- Retention
- Requirements (federal, state, local, facility)



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I know all this already!

9

Credentialing Terms

- Certificate Programs and Training
- Diploma
- License
- Accreditation
- **Professional Certification**

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Professional Certification

- Measures Knowledge and Skills for **Individuals**
  - Clear Separation of Training and Certification Exams
- Distinguishes **Qualified** from the not-yet Qualified

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NICET Certification

NICET®

- Third-Party Independent evaluator of knowledge and skills.
- Certification content and requirements established by industry experts and practitioners.

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If you choose an answer to this question at random, what is the chance you will be correct?

A. 25%
B. 50%
C. 60%
D. 25%

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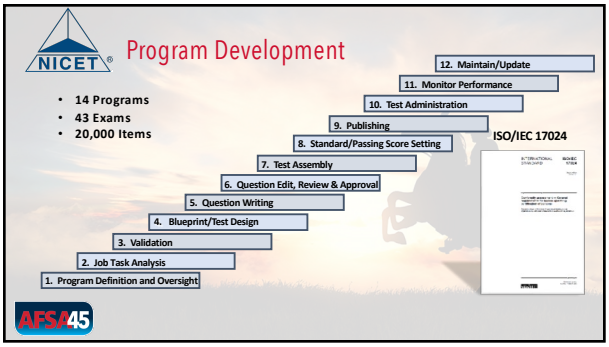

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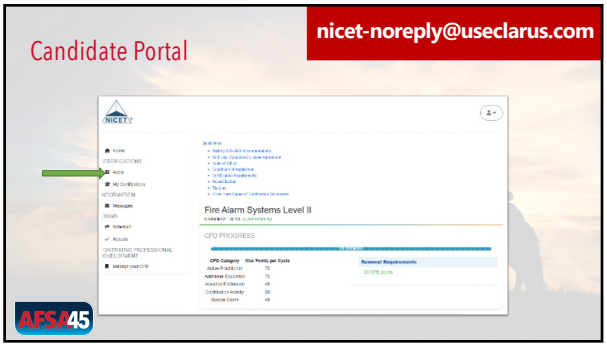

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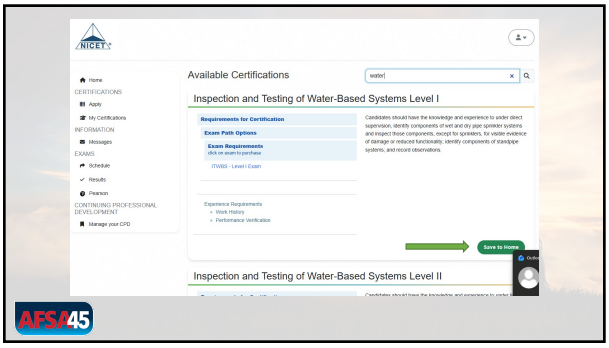

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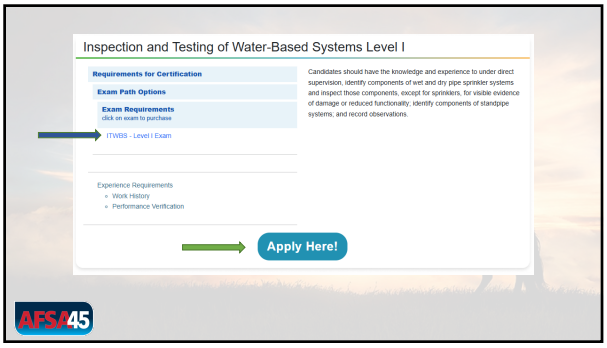

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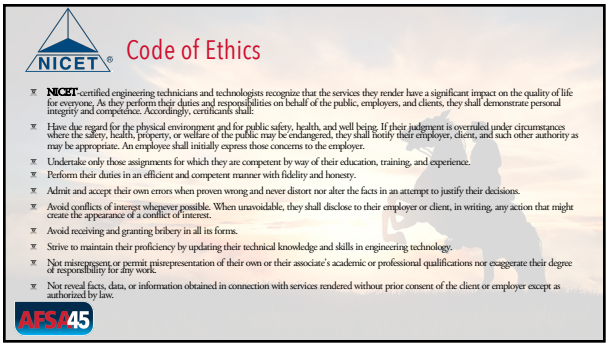

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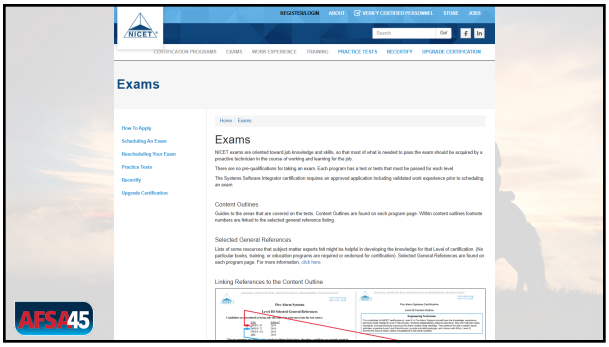

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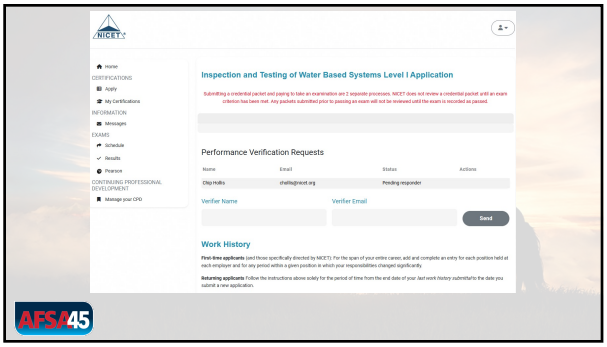

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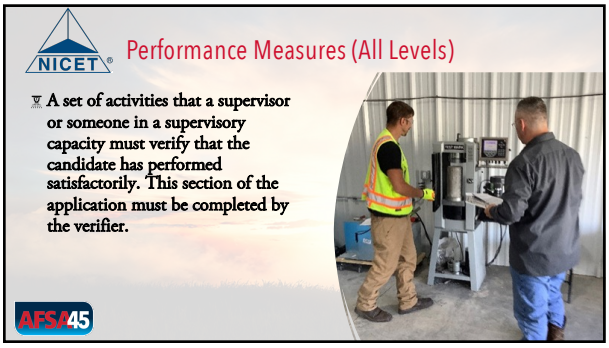

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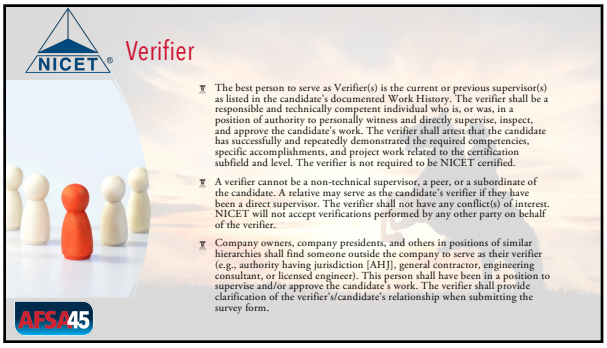

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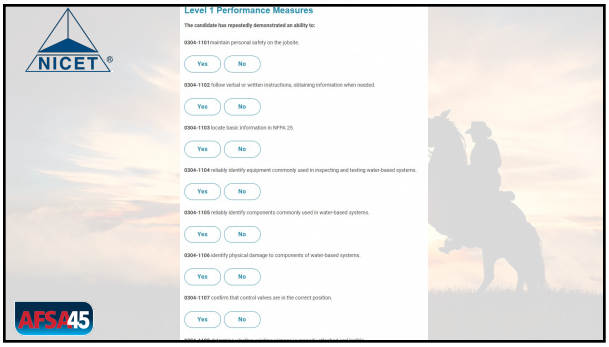

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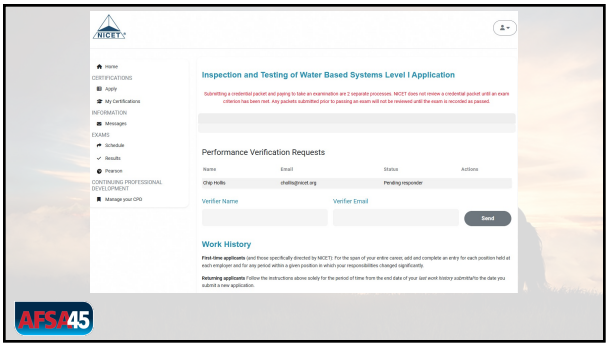

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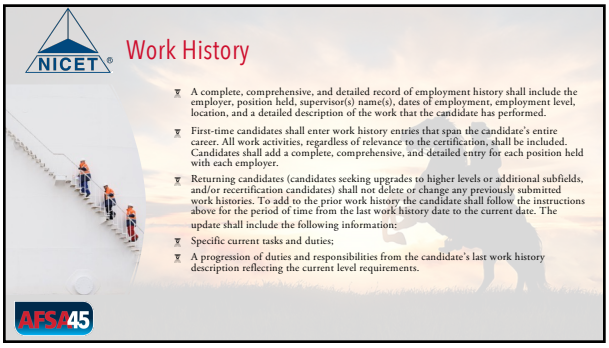

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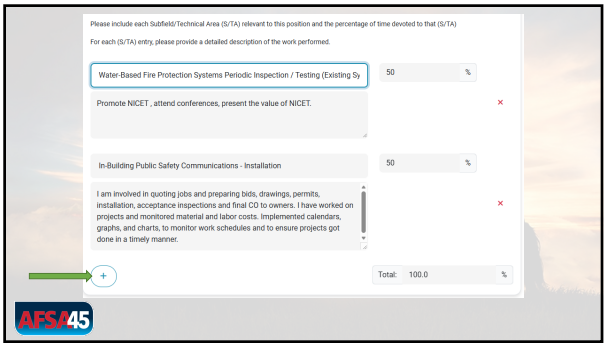

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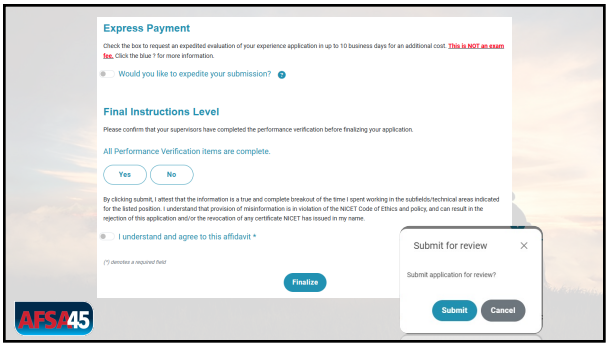

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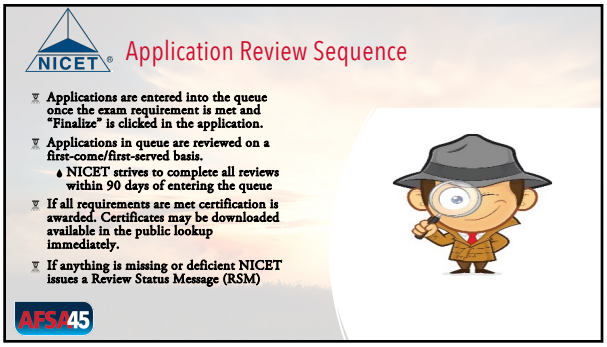

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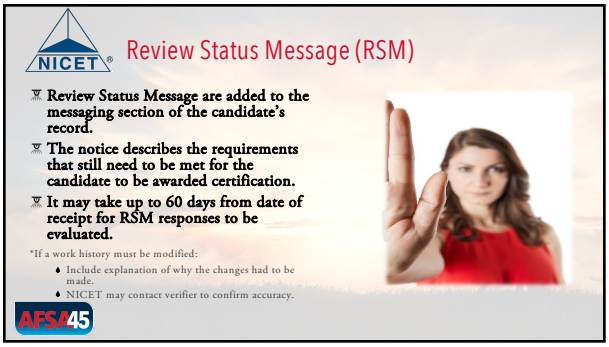

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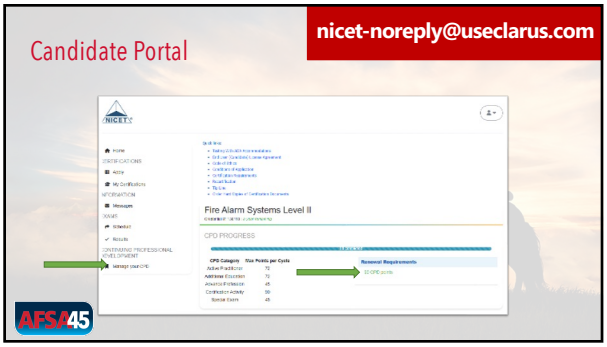

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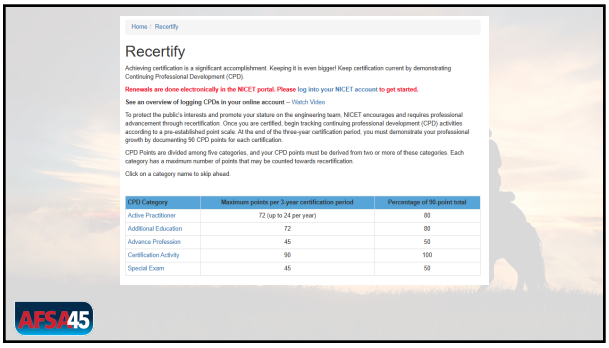

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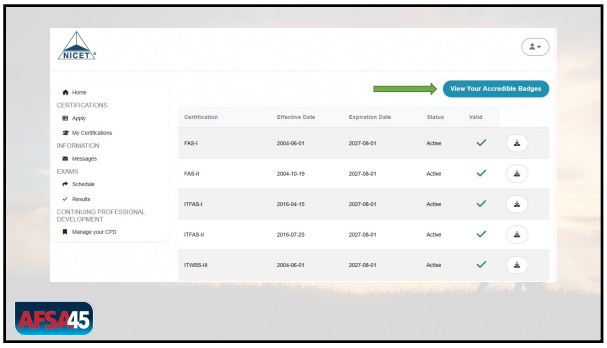

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Recognition
NICET
Girija Subramaniam
SYSTEMS SOFTWARE INTEGRATOR
SSI
NICET
Curtis Streeter
FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS
LEVEL IV
NICET
Steven Lewis
INSPECTION & TESTING OF FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS
LEVEL II
NICET
Trevor Mathews
IN-BUILDING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS
DESIGN
AFSA45

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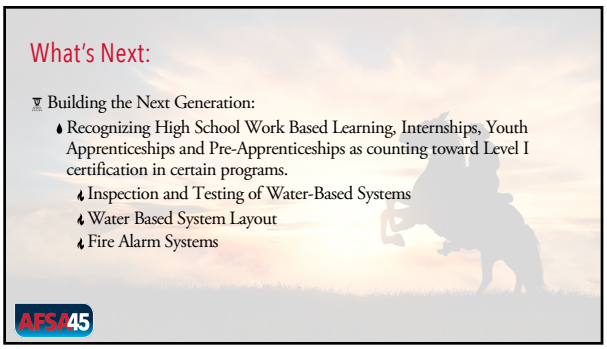
What's Next:
Building the Next Generation:
Recognizing High School Work Based Learning, Internships, Youth Apprenticeships and Pre-Apprenticeships as counting toward Level I certification in certain programs.
Inspection and Testing of Water-Based Systems
Water Based System Layout
Fire Alarm Systems
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NICET's Purple Cow?
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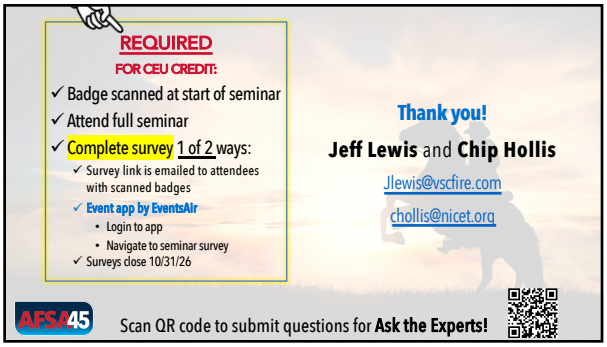
REQUIRED
FOR CEU CREDIT:
✓ Badge scanned at start of seminar
✓ Attend full seminar
✓ Complete survey 1 of 2 ways:
✓ Survey link is emailed to attendees with scanned badges
✓ Event app by EventsAir
• Login to app
• Navigate to seminar survey
✓ Surveys close 10/31/26
Thank you!
Jeff Lewis and Chip Hollis
Jlewis@vscfire.com
chollis@nicet.org
AFSA45
Scan QR code to submit questions for Ask the Experts!

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2027 Training Schedule

WEBINARS

1/6	Updates to NFPA 20
1/20	Calculating Pressure Reducing Hose Valves
2/3	Consumer Alert: Nitrogen in Sprinkler Systems
2/17	Reviewing Hydraulic Calculations
3/3	Updates to NFPA 13, 2028 Ed.
3/17	Updates to NFPA 13R & 13D, 2028 Eds.
4/7	Topic Coming Soon
4/21	NFPA 25: Roles & Responsibilities
5/5	Standpipe Flow Test Procedures
5/19	Storage 101
6/2	NFPA Technical Meeting - Voting Guide
6/16	Topic Coming Soon
6/30	Topic Coming Soon
7/7	Updates to NFPA 14, 2027 Edition
7/21	Adjacent Hazards & Design Methods
8/4	Acceptance Testing
8/18	Modifications to Existing Systems
9/22	Topic Coming Soon
10/6	Seismic 101
10/20	Proposed Updates to NFPA 25, 2029 Ed.
11/3	Evaluating Fire Pump Flow Tests
11/17	Top 10 Tech Reviews
12/1	Designing Water Storage Tanks
12/15	Pump Room Layout

PROGRAMS

Feb 9 - Mar 5 Apr 20 - May 14 Aug 3 - Aug 27** Oct 26 - Nov 19	Beginning Design School*
Apr 26 - May 7 Nov 1 - 12	Intermediate Design School*
Feb 8 - 10** Apr 12 - 14 Jul 12 - 14 Oct 11 - 13	Sprinkler Hydraulics Calculations Workshop
Apr 19 - 21 Oct 18 - 20	Advanced Hydraulics Calculations Workshop
Feb 11** Apr 30 Jul 23 Sep 24	Introduction to the Fire Sprinkler Industry
Mar 1 - 3 May 17 - 19 Aug 16 - 18 Oct 18 - 20**	NFPA 25 Essentials Workshop
Jun 7 - 10 Sep 20 - 23	Experienced Inspector Skills Lab
Mar 4 - 5 May 20 - 21 Aug 19 - 20 Oct 21 - 22**	NFPA 25 Fire Pump Workshop
Spring Summer Fall	ITM Inspector Development Program* *This program is 20 months.*

** Hybrid course **At General Air Products Lab, Exton, PA*

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September 8-11	Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego, CA

For More Details Visit:
firesprinkler.org

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Dates subject to change. Programs subject to minimum registrations.

rev 9/14/2026

Virtual Instruction Path (VIP)

for Sprinkler Fitting Apprentices

Level 1 - Begins January 2027

Level 2 - Begins February 2027

Level 3 - Begins January 2027

Level 4 - Begins March 2027

www.firesprinkler.org/VIP

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HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS FOR 2027

FEATURING AFSA'S TRAINING LAB

NFPA 25 Essentials Workshop

Mar | May | Aug | Oct

Description: Understand roles, responsibilities, and NFPA 25 ITM procedures through hands-on testing of wet systems, dry systems, and fire pumps.

NFPA 25 Fire Pump Workshop

Mar | May | Aug | Oct

Description: Develop practical NFPA 25 fire pump ITM skills, including no-flow and full-flow testing, water supply graphing, and performance evaluation.

Introduction to the Fire Sprinkler Industry

Feb | Apr | Jul | Sep

Description: This course is designed for those new to the industry. An introductory, wide-ranging 8-hour course that provides a broad overview of core fire sprinkler industry concepts for those new to the field.

Experienced Inspector Skills Lab NEW

Mar | Sep

Description: Take your ITM expertise beyond the basics. Designed for experienced technicians, this course combines focused classroom instruction with hands-on system lab training to strengthen your application of current NFPA 25 inspection, testing, and maintenance requirements. Refine fire sprinkler testing practices, improve documentation, deliver more consistent service, and help reduce liability while reinforcing knowledge commonly covered on certification exams.

Learn more about AFSA's fire sprinkler lab featuring functional risers, a spray room, fire pumps, and an interactive classroom.

firesprinkler.org/lab