



State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
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603/271-2791

JOHN J. BARTHELMES
COMMISSIONER

September 17, 2012

Representative Ken Weyler, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court
State House
Concord, NH 03301

His Excellency, Governor John H. Lynch
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Requested Action

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a VI, the Department of Safety, Division of Fire Standards and Training and Emergency Medical Services, requests authorization to budget and expend \$454,500.00 of the prior year carry forward balance in the Fire Standards Instruction account to fund additional personnel and travel expenses for the part-time instructors and evaluators. Effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Executive Council approval through June 30, 2013. Funding source: 100% Agency Income.

Funds are available in SFY2013 in the following account:

02-23-23-237010-4652 Dept. of Safety - Division of FST&EMS - Fire Standards Instruction

<u>Class</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Current Adjusted Authorized</u>	<u>Requested Action</u>	<u>Revised Adjusted Authorized</u>
009-407085	Agency Income	(\$546,797.85)	(\$454,500.00)	(\$1,001,297.85)
020-500200	Current Expenses	52,753.25	28,000.00	80,753.25
030-500301	Equipment	196.60	71,000.00	71,196.60
050-500109	Personal Serv - Temp	355,200.00	270,000.00	625,200.00
060-500601	Benefits	27,173.00	21,000.00	48,173.00
070-500704	In-State Travel Reimbursement	64,125.00	64,500.00	128,625.00
102-500731	Contracts for Program Servi	42,350.00	0.00	42,350.00
104-500742	Certification Expense	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
	Org 4652 Totals	\$546,797.85	\$454,500.00	\$1,001,297.85

Explanation

The Division of Fire Standards & Training and Emergency Medical Services provides training and testing as well as educational and licensing oversight for firefighters and EMS providers throughout the State. These educational components are required to ensure the highest level of safety for the citizens of New Hampshire.

After the budget was submitted for the Division, a new director of the Division was appointed. During the initial weeks of the director's tenure, he traveled throughout the state and conducted many stakeholder meetings with various user groups. The intent of these stakeholder meetings was to gather information about the needs and requirements of communities throughout the state and to see how and where the division could focus resources to meet their needs. Overwhelmingly as a result of these meetings, the need to bring new and additional training offered by the division to firefighters, emergency medical services personnel and first responders was consistent throughout all the user group meetings.

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With this new initiative by the director to better serve our customers and meet their needs, the Division is requesting adjustments be made to the 4652 Fire Standards Instruction account as outlined above.

Many fire departments indicated they would appreciate training beyond what the Academy provides funds for (at 65%); therefore, the departments request a program as "non-funded" or "self-funded." The departments requesting these "non-funded" programs agree to cover 100% of the cost of the program.

There are a number of reasons for a department requesting a "non-funded" program:

- Funded programs have been exhausted for the year, therefore, it is their only option if they require the training.
- Grant funding is available to fund the program through the local department.
- The community requires a program in which a subsidy is not available and/or not appropriate.

These classes must be conducted or coordinated by the Fire Academy for a number of reasons, which include but are not limited to:

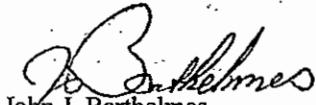
- The community cannot pay Academy instructors directly.
- Instructors have difficulty working for a community directly due to insurance coverage issues.
- The community needs assistance in coordination of the program.
- The community requires Academy staff to provide testing and oversight.

The Academy continues to receive feedback from fire departments across the State because we cannot meet their needs in this area. The solution to this is to augment the 4652 Fire Standards Instruction account. By increasing the funds in the 4652 account it will allow the Academy to provide the additional "self-funded" programs needed. These programs will not have an effect on the overall cost to the Academy or the State of New Hampshire. Additionally, the Division is moving in the direction of administering and running all EMT-Basic exams throughout the State. Students are charged to take the exam, thereby covering all costs, again making this request budget neutral.

The request to allocate funds is needed as follows:

020-500200 Current Expenses	As there will be an increase in programs and exams offered, this funding will provide books and materials.
030-500301 Equipment	These additional programs will require additional equipment needs than the Division currently has. These funds are required to ensure the proper equipment is provided to provide a safe teaching environment.
050-500109 Personal Serv - Temp	Increase in part-time salary funding is required to run additional training programs and exams throughout the state.
060-500601 Benefits	Increased to benefits associated with the Class 050 increase as noted above.
070-500704 In-State Travel Reimbursement	The majority of the programs that will be offered will require the reimbursement of mileage for instructors and evaluators.

Respectfully submitted,


John J. Barthelmes
Commissioner of Safety

**Fiscal Situation
Fire Standards Instruction
Account 02-23-23-2370-4652**

Beginning Balance July 1, 2012	\$686,701.38
SFY 2013 Estimated Revenue	<u>\$526,498.00</u>
Total Available SFY 2013	<u>\$1,213,199.38</u>
Appropriations funded from this fund (maximum)	
4652 Fire Standards Instruction	<u>(\$526,498.00)</u>
Total Appropriations Funded SFY 2013	<u>(\$526,498.00)</u>
Projected Balance June 30, 2013	\$686,701.38
Amount of this Request	<u><u>\$454,500.00</u></u>

