



Dear National Fire Academy Student:

Congratulations on your acceptance into the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) National Fire Academy's (NFA's) *Emergency Resource Deployment Planning SOC* (SOC) course. This course is designed for fire and emergency medical services (EMS) service leaders and managers, local officials, and planning personnel who are faced with performance outcome management decisions that relate to providing fire protection and EMS for their community.

During the course, you will collect data, analyze, and compare and contrast findings to identify base-level performance standards and changes influenced by internal and external impacts. Metrics and graphic displays will be used to demonstrate changes in current and future service levels, expenditures and resource allocations, and changes impacting responders, citizens, community safety, and preparedness.

In order for this course to be meaningful, you need to do the following **three** things:

1. You must have completed the online self-study course *National Fire Incident Reporting System 5.0 Self-Study* (Q494) available at [www.nfaonline.dhs.gov](http://www.nfaonline.dhs.gov) prior to applying for this course.
2. Obtain the following book: Allen, David W. *GIS Tutorial 2: Spatial Analysis Workbook*, 2nd ed. Each student will need a copy of this workbook.

Book description: Publication date: September 15, 2010 | ISBN-978-1589482586 | Edition: 2nd

Possible sources: [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com)  
[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)  
[www.esripress.esri.com](http://www.esripress.esri.com)

You are expected to install both the software and data included with this workbook, and then complete as much of the workbook material as possible prior to class. You are encouraged to bring your laptop with the software, data, and completed materials to class.

3. Obtain and become familiar with the information in the following two Quick Source Guides for Microsoft Excel:

Microsoft Excel 2010 | ISBN-978-193551807-5  
Microsoft Excel 2010 Advanced | ISBN-978-1-935518-17-4  
[www.quicksourcelearning.com](http://www.quicksourcelearning.com)

It is important to note that this is a 6-day class starting on Sunday at approximately 8 a.m. Subsequent classes will meet daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Evening class may be required.

Increasing numbers of students and instructors are bringing laptop computers and other electronics to campus. You alone are responsible for the security and maintenance of your equipment. The NFA cannot provide you with computer software, hardware, or technical support to include disks, printers, scanners, etc. There are a limited number of 120-volt AC outlets in each classroom. A student Computer Lab is located in Building D and is available for all students to use. It is open daily with technical support provided in the evenings. This lab uses Windows XP and Office 2007 as the software standard.

Should you need additional information related to course content or requirements, please feel free to contact Ms. Colleen Heilig, Planning and Information Management Training Specialist, at (301) 447-1613 or email at [colleen.heilig@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:colleen.heilig@fema.dhs.gov)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denis Onieal". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

Dr. Denis Onieal, Superintendent  
National Fire Academy  
U.S. Fire Administration