



2026 Sierra Blanca Wildland Fire Academy

Eastern New Mexico University - Ruidoso

Dates: January 5th —9th

Cost: \$150 per class

Special Pricing: \$0 Basic - CISM



SBWFA 2026 Academy Information

Mission of the Sierra Blanca Wildland Fire Academy

To develop professional and safe responses in the wildland environment by offering training and education that meets the National Wildfire Coordinating Group Standards.

Academy Schedule

Dates: January 5th—9th, 2026

Classes: 8:00—5:00 daily

Class Check-in: 7:15—8:00 daily for ENMU Students and Veterans ONLY

Location

**Eastern New Mexico University
709 Mechem Drive, Ruidoso, NM**

Ruidoso is located in the mountains of Southern New Mexico. Please remember that snow and freezing rain are a possibility and plan accordingly. Classes will not be canceled due to inclement weather.

Lodging

When making reservations make sure they know you are with the **SBWFA**. Ask for Government Rate.

MCM Elegante Lodge & Suites: Phone (575) 258-5500.

Comfort Inn & Suites Midtown:
Phone (575) 257-2770 or (800) 424-6423

Hotel Ruidoso:
Phone (575) 257-2007 or (866) 734-5197

Best Western Plus Ruidoso Inn: (575) 257-3600

Ruidoso Mountain Inn: (575) 257-3736

Please note: SBWFA is not responsible for the actions of individuals attending this Academy.

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Registration:

Registration for all workshops, refreshers, and lower level 100/200 level classes will only be available by payment through the SBWFA website.

For all 300 and 400 level courses, federally employed students will need to register via IQCS. All non-federally employed students must submit a hard copy nomination form to the course coordinator. Regional level 300 and 400 level courses require student prioritization and payment cannot be made until course selections are made.

Registration

Per Person

\$150 Per Course**

No refunds will be given after December 1st. No refunds for no-show.

**** Courses will not be canceled and NO refunds will be given due to inclement weather.**

**** Students currently taking classes at ENMU and/or Eligible Veterans will receive a class fee waiver. Students requesting a class fee waiver will be required to bring supporting documentation upon checking in to the academy.**

SBWFA 2026 Course Schedule

| Course # | Course Name | Mon 1/5 | Tues 1/6 | Wed 1/7 | Thurs 1/8 | Fri 1/9 | Prerequisite | Pre-Work |
|--------------------|---|------------|-------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------------------------|----------|
| D-110 | Expanded Dispatch Recorder | Class | Class | Class | | | None | No |
| S-130/190 L-180 | Firefighter Training, Wildland Fire Behavior and Human Factors in the Wildland Fire Service (Field Day Option #1) | Class | Class | | | | None | Yes |
| S-130/190 L-180 | Firefighter Training, Wildland Fire Behavior and Human Factors in the Wildland Fire Service (Field Day Option #2) | | | Class | Class | | None | Yes |
| S-131 | Firefighter Type 1 | | | | Class | Class | Q-FFT2 | No |
| S-200 | Initial Attack Incident Commander | | | | Class | Class | Q-Single Resource Boss | Yes |
| S-211 | Portable Pumps and Water Use | Class | Class | | | | None | No |
| S-212 | Wildland Fire Chainsaws | Class | Class | Class | | | Q-FFT2 | Yes |
| S-215 | Fire Ops. In the Urban Interface | Class | Class | Class | | | Q-FFT1 | No |
| S-219 | Firing Operations | | | Class | Class | | Q-FFT2 | No |
| S-230 | Crew Boss | | Class | Class | | | S-290 / Q-FFT1 | Yes |
| S-231 | Engine Boss | | | | Class | Class | S-230 / Q-FFT1 | No |
| S-236 | Heavy Equipment Boss | | | Class | Class | Class | Q-FFT1 | Yes |
| S-260/261 | Interagency Incident Business Management /Applied Interagency Business Management | Class | Class | Class | Class | Class | None | No |
| S-270 | Basic Air Operations | | | | Class | Class | None | Yes |
| S-290 | Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior | | Class | Class | | | S-190 | Yes |
| S-359 | Medical Unit Leader | Class | Class | Class | | | Current as EMT or equivalent | Yes |
| FI-210 | Wildland Fire Origin & Cause Determination | Class | Class | Class | Class | Class | None | Yes |
| L-280 | Followership to Leadership | | | | Class | Class | L-180 | Yes |
| L-380 | Fireline Leadership | Class | Class | Class | Class | Class | L-180 | Yes |
| CISM | Basic Critical Incident Stress Management | | Class | Class | Class | | None | No |
| RT-130 | Firefighter Refresher | | | | | Class | Q-FFT2 | No |
| RX-300 | Prescribed Fire Burn Boss | Class | Class | Class | Class | Class | None | Yes |
| ICS-300 | Intermediate ICS | Class | Class | Class | | | I-200 | No |
| ICS-400 | Advanced ICS | | | | Class | Class | I-300 | No |

SBWFA 2026 Course Descriptions

S-130/S-190/L180 : Firefighting Training; Intro to Wildland Fire Behavior; Human Factors on the Fireline (Field Portion ONLY)

Prerequisites: None

Pre-work: Yes — I-100 available at: <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-100.b>

This introductory course is designed to train entry-level firefighters referred to as a Firefighter Type 2 (FFT2). You will be introduced to and gain knowledge of the basic incident management organization, firefighting techniques, suppression equipment, safety, strategy/tactics along with fire behavior. Field exercises will be performed for valuable hands-on training. Students will be required to complete the online component of the course and provide certificates of completion before the field day. The course can be found online at the wildland fire learning portal: <https://www.wildlandfirelearningportal.net/login/index.php>.

S-131: Firefighter Type 1

Prerequisites: Yes—Qualified as FFT2

Pre-work: None

S-131 is an eight-hour course designed to meet the training needs of the Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1). This course is designed to be interactive in nature. It contains several tactical decision games designed to facilitate learning the objectives and class discussion. Topics include fire line reference materials, communications, and tactical decision-making. This course is also designed to train Incident Commander Type 5 (ICT5) and Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) to identify environmental factors and indicators of hazardous fire conditions, and how to use these indicators when implementing the Risk Management Process.

S-200 : Initial Attack Incident Command

Prerequisites: Yes—Qualified as a Single Resource Boss

Pre-work: Yes — available at: <https://www.wildlandfirelearningportal.net/course/view.php?id=1965>

This course is designed to meet the training needs of the incident commander type 4 (ICT4). It is presented in a discussion/exercise format. Topics include effective foundation skills at the ICT4 level, gathering and documenting essential information about an incident, sizing up an incident and developing a plan of action, managing an incident through effective leadership and demonstrating the ability to evaluate a plan of action and make adjustments to the plan when necessary.

S-211 : Portable Pumps and Water Use

Prerequisites: None

Pre-work: None

This course is designed to provide knowledge and skills to design, set-up, operate, troubleshoot, and shut down portable water delivery systems. The focus is on portable pumps - it does not address water delivery for engines. Topics covered include: portable water delivery systems, equipment, roles and responsibilities, and system design and hydraulics. There is also a field exercise where students will apply what they learned in the classroom.

S-212 : Wildland Fire Chainsaws

Prerequisites: Yes—Qualified as FFT2

Pre-work: Yes — available at: <https://www.wildlandfirelearningportal.net/course/view.php?id=1932>

This is an instructor-led course intended to be presented at the local level. The course lessons provide introduction to the function, maintenance and use of internal combustion engine powered chain saws, and their tactical wildland fire application. Field exercises support entry level training for firefighters with little or no previous experience in operating a chain saw, providing hands-on cutting experience in surroundings similar to fireline situations.

SBWFA 2026 Course Descriptions

S-215 : Fire Operations in the Wildland Urban Interface

Prerequisites: Yes—Qualified as FFT1

Pre-work: None

This is an instructor-led course intended to be presented at the local level. Instructional units include firefighter safety in the interface, managing human factors in the interface, pre-incident planning, sizeup and initial strategy, structure triage, structure protection overview, tactics in the interface, tactical operations and resource use in the interface, action assessment, plan update, and after action review.

S-219 : Firing Operations

Prerequisites: Yes—Qualified as a FFT2

Pre-work: None

This course was developed using a blended approach to learning. Students are required to complete the online training portion of the course prior to taking the ILT. The course introduces the roles and responsibilities of a Firing Boss, Single Resource (FIRB), and outlines duties of other personnel who may engage firing operations. The course discusses and illustrates common firing devices and techniques. Although comprehensive in nature, the course work is not a substitute for the dynamic fire environment. The course provides students with important information regarding general tasks required to be successful. Any opportunity to show students a real ignition or demonstrate the use of an actual firing device will assist in transferring these new concepts and skills to the job. There is an optional field day outlined in the course, it is the discretion of the delivery unit to include the field day; however, if logistically feasible it is suggested by NWCG that a field day be conducted.

S-230 : Crew Boss

Prerequisites: Qualified as a FFT1, S-290

Pre-work: Online Component – 3 hours

This is a blended course. This course is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills to perform the duties of the Crew Boss ([CRWB](#)) position, as described in the NWCG Incident Position Standards for Crew Boss, PMS-350-98. Topics include travel and check-in in, briefings, assigning tasks and assessing crew performance, implementing fire line duties, mop-up, firing operations, using aerial resources, medical emergencies, and wildland urban interface.

S-231 : Engine Boss

Prerequisites: Qualified as a FFT1, S-230

Pre-work: None

This is a skill course designed to produce student proficiency in the performance of the duties associated with Engine Boss, Single Resource (ENGB). Topics include engine and crew capabilities and limitations, information sources, fire size up considerations, tactics, and wildland urban interface.

S-236 : Heavy Equipment Boss

Prerequisites: Yes—Qualified as a FFT1

Pre-work: Yes— available at: <https://www.wildlandfirelearningportal.net/course/view.php?id=1968>

This is a skill course designed to meet the training needs of a Heavy Equipment Boss, Single Resource (HEQB) on an incident as outlined in the NIMS: Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide, PMS 310-1, and the position taskbook developed for the position. Primary considerations are tactical use and safety precautions required to establish and maintain an effective dozer operation. A field exercise is required as part of the course.

SBWFA 2026 Course Descriptions

S-260/ S-261 (Combined) : Interagency Incident Business Management

Prerequisites: None

Pre-work: None

This course meets the general training needs of all positions for which an understanding of interagency incident business management is required. The Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook, PMS 902, is used as the primary job aid to supplement this course. It provides basic policy and direction for incident business management.

Applied Interagency Incident Business Management

This is an instructor led course designed for entry-level finance positions. The format is a mix of exercises, facilitated group discussions and lecture supported by PowerPoint presentations. Students work directly from the Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook for most of the exercises. S-261 is designed to be taken after completion of S-260, Interagency Incident Business Management.

S-270 : Basic Air Operations

Prerequisites: None

Pre-work: Yes— available at: <https://www.wildlandfirelearningportal.net/course/view.php?id=1973>

This course covers aircraft types and capabilities, aviation management and safety for flying in and working with agency aircraft, tactical and logistical uses of aircraft, and requirements for helicopter take-off and landing areas. *Note:* The regulations, procedures, and policies addressed in this course are primarily those governing federal agency and ICS operations. State, county, or other political subdivisions using this course will need to consult their agency having jurisdiction with respect to regulations, procedures and policies. Refer to the Interagency Aviation Training (IAT) Guide for IAT A-course equivalencies: <https://www.iat.gov/>.

S-290 : Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior

Prerequisites: Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior (S-190)

Pre-work: Online Component – 22 hours

This is a skills focused course designed to prepare the developing fireline supervisor to undertake safe and effective fire management operations. It is the second course in a series that collectively serves to develop fire behavior prediction knowledge and skills. The course will train students how to make a thorough, timely assessment of the fire environment and to anticipate changes in fire behavior based on changes in and/or alignment of the fuels, weather, and topography. Students will then practice using this information to support their decision-making and risk management on the fireline.

This BLENDED course is designed to introduce students to the characteristics and interactions of the wildland fire environment (fuels, weather, and topography) that affect wildland fire behavior for safety purposes. Students will also be shown how such information can be applied.

The course is a blended training combining an Online Training (OLT) component and an Instructor-led Training (ILT) component.

S-359 : Medical Unit Leader

Prerequisites: Current certification as EMT or equivalent

Pre-work: Online component – 4 hours

This course is designed to provide the skills and knowledge needed to perform in the role of Medical Unit Leader (**MEDL**). Topics include gathering information, organizing the medical unit, supervising the unit, evaluation, documentation, and demobilization.

This course is offered in a **Blended Training** format. A Blended Training format combines elements of Online Training (OLT) with elements of Instructor-led Training (ILT).

SBWFA 2026 Course Descriptions

FI-210 : Wildland Fire Origin and Cause Determination

Prerequisites: Recommended students have law enforcement or firefighter experience.

Pre-work: Yes — available at: <https://www.wildlandfirelearningportal.net/course/view.php?id=2026>

The primary purpose of this course is to provide a consistent knowledge and skill base for the Wildland Fire Investigator ([INVE](#)). The concepts taught in this course will help an [INVE](#) perform at an acceptable level on a national basis without regard to geographic boundaries. The course is presented by lectures, electronic presentations, field exercises, and class discussion. Although formal night sessions are not required, past FI-210 investigation teams have recognized the need to work together after hours to complete their investigation presentation. You are encouraged to keep your evenings open for these team sessions. [Selections for this course will be made by December 1, 2025. Payments will be refunded to students that are not selected.](#)

L-280 : Followship to Leadership

Prerequisites: Completion of L-180

Pre-work: Yes — available at: <https://www.wildlandfirelearningportal.net/course/view.php?id=1953>

This training course is designed as a self-assessment opportunity for individuals preparing to step into a leadership role. The course combines one day of classroom instruction followed by a second day in the field with students working through a series of problem solving events in small teams (Field Leadership Assessment Course). Topics include leadership values and principles, transition challenges for new leaders, situational leadership, team cohesion factors, ethical decision making, and after action review techniques. Some course delivery may be arduous in nature.

L-380 : Fireline Leadership

Prerequisites: Completion of L-180, Incident personnel with supervisory responsibilities

Pre-work: Yes

This is a leadership development training recommendation for unit supervisors. The training should be designed to provide at least 50% of the delivery time as exercises and simulations. Some approved course packages may be arduous in nature. Low student-to-instructor ratios are necessary for successful exercise/simulation-based training delivery. A dedicated cadre of at least three instructors is recommended for a class size of 20-25 students.

L-380 is targeted at leaders whose decisions have immediate consequences in dynamic, high-risk environments. The intent is to provide small unit supervisors with the tools to build and maintain effective and cohesive crews/teams. Beyond a set of tools and techniques, this training experience should be designed to make an emotional and lasting impact. Essential guiding principles for achieving this impact include: enhancing the students' understanding of the human dimension when leading others in dynamic work environments; utilizing experiential training techniques that will engage students in ways that challenge them to perform under realistic and high-stress situations; and motivating students to examine their role, strengths, and weaknesses as a leader.

[Nominations for this course must be completed by submitting a Microsoft form with the deadline being November 21, 2025. Selections will be made utilizing the SWA prioritization process. Students can register once acceptance letters have been received.](#)

SBWFA 2026 Course Descriptions

Basic – Critical Incident Stress Management

Prerequisites: None

Pre-work: None

This 3-day course combines the content of Assisting Individuals in Crisis & Group Crisis Intervention courses. Crisis Intervention is a specialized acute emergency mental health intervention that requires specialized training. Designed to present the core elements of a comprehensive, systematic, and multi-component crisis intervention curriculum, this course will prepare participants to understand a wide range of crisis intervention services for both the individual and for groups. Fundamentals of Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) will be outlined, and participants will leave with the knowledge and tools to provide several group crisis interventions, specifically demobilizations, defusing's, and the Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD).

RT-130 : Annual Fireline Safety Refresher Training

Prerequisites: Qualified as FFT2

Pre-work: None

Annual Fireline Safety Refresher Training should be designed to provide up to date fireline safety information to employees holding Incident Command System qualifications requiring this training per the 2006, PMS 310-1, Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide. Individual sessions of Annual Fireline Safety Refresher Training should contain content pertinent to the registered students.

ICS-300 : Intermediate ICS

Prerequisites: Completion of Basic ICS Course (I-200)

Pre-work: None

This course provides description and detail of the Incident Command System (ICS) organization and operations in supervisory roles on expanding or Type 3 incidents. Topics include ICS fundamentals review, incident/event assessment and agency guidance in establishing incident objectives, Unified Command, incident resource management, planning process, demobilization, transfer of command, and close out. This course was developed in conjunction with the U.S. Fire Administration (H465) and the Emergency Management Institute (G300). These courses are built on the same lesson objectives and content as the NWCG I-300 course and are interchangeable; they are all National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant.

ICS-400 : Advanced ICS

Prerequisites: Completion of Intermediate ICS (I-300)

Pre-work: None

This course directs the student towards an operational understanding of large single-agency and complex multi-agency/multi-jurisdictional incident responses. Topics include fundamentals review for command and general staff, major and/or complex incident/event management, area command, and multi-agency coordination. This course was developed in conjunction with the U.S. Fire Administration (H467) and the Emergency Management Institute (G400). These courses are built on the same lesson objectives and content as the NWCG I-400 course and are interchangeable; they are all National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant.

SBWFA 2026 Course Descriptions

RX-300 : Prescribed Fire Burn Boss

Prerequisites: Qualified as a Firing Boss, Single Resource ([FIRB](#)) and Incident Commander Type 4 ([ICT4](#)).

Successful completion of S-390.

Pre-work: Yes — available at: <https://www.wildlandfirelearningportal.net/course/view.php?id=1963>

RX-300 Prescribed Fire Burn Boss will provide students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to prepare, critically evaluate, and implement a prescribed fire plan in accordance with the [NWCG Standards for Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation, PMS 484](#). **Nominations for this course must be completed by submitting a Microsoft form with the deadline being November 21, 2025. Selections will be made utilizing the SWA prioritization process. Students can register once acceptance letters have been received.**

D-110 : Expanded Dispatch Recorder

Prerequisites: None

Pre-work: None

This course provides students with the skills to perform as an Expanded Dispatch Recorder ([EDRC](#)). Topics include the structure of the expanded dispatch organization, description of resource ordering and statusing process, and the importance of the EDRC having effective communication skills and working relationships. The final is a 4-hour, scenario-based exercise where students will complete resource orders based on timed inputs and supplemental handouts. The course gives a general overview of Interagency Resource Ordering Capability (IROC).