

3-day Certification Simulation Lab [▲ TOP](#)



Once the student has successfully completed the Blue Card online training program, they will be eligible to participate in the evaluation/testing phase of the program.

The evaluation portion of the program incorporates:

- Standard 8 Functions of Command
- Regional Standard Operating Procedures
- Tactical Operations Templates for 5 local occupancy types
- High fidelity structure fire simulations

The online program uses a wide variety of structure fire simulations throughout each of the 9 modules. The Blue Card program uses 5 distinct building types for size up and incident action planning.

These building types include:



Search & rescue, fire control and property conservation are all done a little bit different based on the occupancy type. Search and rescue is going to be managed differently in a vacant building than it will be in a fully occupied apartment complex. One of the foundational elements of the Blue Card system is all tactical action is based on the actual incident conditions (or critical factors). This makes the size up and review and revision process major ongoing IC responsibilities.

The evaluation portion of the course merges the Hazard Zone Management - Incident Command Standard with the local; resources, SOP's, tactical hazards, and the standard operational action required for conducting safe and effective locally based operations. The simulation based training provides the students with valuable hands on training and experience for high risk, low frequency events. Simulations are typically delivered at a Command Training Center (CTC). Each student must successfully serve as the Incident Commander's (IC) in a fast attack position (mobile) and a strategic

command position (inside a BC's rig) for each of the 5 building types (a total of 10 times) to become certified.



The Hazard Zone Management – Incident Command Standard Certification Program requires that each student successfully pass evaluation on both command positions for each of the 5 different building types.



The Incident Command Certification will be valid for a 3 year period. At the end of the 3 year period, the Certificate holder will need to have enough continuing Strategic and Tactical training hours to re-certify, 12 hours per year (3 hours per quarter).

Using the same simulations for the sim lab that are also used throughout the online program builds familiarity for the students and leads to much smoother simulations. The ultimate goal of the program is to give the students the necessary tools to safely and effectively manage hazard zone operations. Central to this mission is the curriculum. One of the biggest pitfalls of simulation-based training is delivering it in the absence of a curriculum. Attempting to run a command training program without a curriculum turns the program into an opinion-based, Easter egg hunt.



No other training tool will expose operational shortcomings better than a well-run simulation lab. You can't bullshit your way through a well-designed simulation lab.

The Blue Card program not only builds the personal skills of each student, it also serves as means to make improvements to the systems we use to manage the hazard zone (ICS), the strategy & tactics we employ and the systems we use to keep firefighters operating safely. On the surface these may appear to be separate systems but in application they all must connect, align and work together simultaneously. Used to its full advantage, the Blue Card program can serve as the system used to manage the Operations Division.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Register for this Blue Card Checkoff, three-day class at the 2014 CPSE Excellence Conference by first registering to attend the conference and then register for Blue Card Checkoff when prompted in the registration process. There is no additional fee to attend Blue Card.