Pittsburgh International Airport’s Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) Training Program provides high quality training to emergency responders. Seasoned instructors offer superior guidance to students from around the world.

Operated by the Allegheny County Airport Authority, the Fire Training Facility provides a safe and enjoyable training environment, utilizing the best equipment, technology, and technical expertise in the industry. The Fire Training Facility staff understands what matters most in providing excellent customer service - you and your safety during training and emergency incident scene operations.

“Our team in Pittsburgh recognizes that the evolution of ARFF is developed through research, technology and knowledge gained from industry best practices. Our goal is to provide every student the best training and experiences necessary to become experts in responding to the many challenges at their home airports.”

– Richard B. Wilson, Fire Chief - Allegheny County Airport Authority

The ARFF simulator system is computer controlled and features a 135-foot diameter propane-fueled burn area with an aircraft fuselage in its center. In addition to fighting fuel spill fires, firefighters are challenged with different emergency types such as: engine fires, wheel brake fires, and interior fires including cabin, flight deck, lavatory, and galley. The aircraft simulator provides a safe and realistic environment for practicing both suppression and rescue operations.

Adjacent to the aircraft simulator is a four story control tower that houses the computer system used to operate the simulator. The Computer Control System ensures consistent evolutions that can be replicated for each student participant.

In addition to being top-of-the-line, our facility is environmentally friendly. The use of propane and control of water run-off combine to reduce environmental impacts while providing quality occupational training for firefighters, emergency responders, and industrial personnel in a safe and enjoyable manner.
New Customized Training Courses!
Off Site Training

Course Length: Dependent on Topic and Audience Size

Pittsburgh ARFF instructors are now available to come to your airport, see your ARFF in operation and train your responders/employees using your own apparatus and equipment.

This program is designed by our instructors to be held at YOUR airport. Content can be customized by your department to meet your specific needs. Simply give us a call, and we will come to you!

Below is a short list of training topics taught by our staff at your location:

- FAA Recurrent Training
- Hazardous Materials Awareness Level and Operations Level Training
- Vehicle Operator Training
- Incident Command (NIMS) Training
- Triennial Exercise Facilitation
- Emergency Vehicle Driver’s Training

Contact us to discuss how easy it is to better train your personnel!
The curriculum is specifically designed with airport firefighters’ needs in mind. This training is in accordance with FAA Part 139 for yearly “Live Fire Training”. In 2016, there will be a new course layout that was designed by our instructors based on evaluations and research. We are proud to introduce a new modular approach to ARFF Training. Now, the responsible party for ARFF protection at your airport can customize a portion of the training to meet your needs. The modular approach now includes topics such as:

- High Reach Extendable Turret (HRET) Practices
- ARFF Vehicle Modulation Training
- Firefighting Foam Practice
- Cockpit Search and Rescue
- Small Frame Aircraft Search and Rescue
- Medium Frame Aircraft Search and Rescue
- Perimeter Fence Access Practice
- ARFF Firefighter Survival Drills
- Low Staffing Practices
- Engine Company for ARFF
Aircraft Rescue &
Fire Fighting Basic Course

Course Length: 40 Hours

This course is designed to provide the initial training for ARFF personnel. Our simulator allows participants to perform hand line operations and vehicle operations simultaneously to address and potential hazards. Each participant will perform fire attack, search and rescue operations, vehicle operations, and incident command functions.

Throughout the week long course, all students will be exposed to the basic workings of an ARFF fire department and jobs performed during critical situations. Our instructors are known for their ability to teach course material and to mold students into firefighters who are educated and work safely and more efficiently.
Specialized ARFF, Structural Fire Fighting, Emergency Response and Industrial Fire Brigade Training are now available.

ARFF Driver/Operator Course with NFPA 1002 Certification

Course Length: 40 Hours

This course is designed to take the ARFF trained individual through everything from vehicle inspection, ensuring vehicle readiness, firefighting systems operations, airfield driving, and even off road driving. Through lecture and practical exercises, participants are given quality instruction that will pay off when it matters most. At the end of the week, participants are even given the opportunity to obtain the NFPA 1002 Driver/Operator ARFF certification.

ICS 300 – Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents

Course Length: 24 Hours

In this program, the student will take an interactive role in learning how ICS works and is used for Expanding Incidents. Taught by ARFF trained instructors, with real world experience, this class promises to be comprehensive and worthwhile for all involved. This course is not only for ARFF personnel, but for a wide scope of emergency personnel, community leaders, and business/aviation leaders.

Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting Advanced Course

Course Length: 24 Hours

This course is designed to further the knowledge and skill sets of personnel tasked with responding to Aircraft Emergencies. Students in this course will learn and practice tactics that go beyond the text book! This course is fast paced and has limited enrollment to ensure ample hands on time for all students. NOTE: Only students that have completed the Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting Basic Course at our facility are eligible to attend this course!!

ICS 400 – Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff – Complex Incidents

Course Length: 16 Hours

All Federal, State, Local, Private Sector and Non-governmental personnel should take ICS 400. The following topics are covered: Command and General Staff, Deputies and Assistants, Unified Command, Organizational relationships between Area Command, Multi-Entity Coordination Systems and Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs).
Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting for the Structural Firefighter

Course Length: 16 hours

This course is designed and priced for an entire crew of firefighters from a single department or close working departments as both an introduction to ARFF and how to use structural tactics and equipment to handle an ARFF incident. Depending on the customer’s needs, we can tailor the course for departments in close vicinity to an airport, or those who just want to be prepared. Feedback on this course has been extremely positive, and the topics covered have been used on a multitude of non-aviation incidents. Scheduling this class for your group is easy and flexible to your training schedule.

Firefighter Survival for ARFF

Course Length: 16 hours

When firefighters are in peril on an emergency, they revert to training. Here at PIT we have taken numerous structural firefighting survival skills and adapted them to ARFF incidents. Our team of instructors will guide you through practical exercises that show you how to save yourself. As one of our most hands on courses offered, the participants learn how to save their most valuable resource, themselves.

Rapid Intervention Exercises for ARFF

Course Length: 24 hours

When saving yourself is not an option, knowing that there are rescuers on scene to get you out is always reassuring. Rapid Intervention training for ARFF incidents takes extensive practice and planning. How to save your co-worker is taught in this hands-on course designed to show a multitude of different rescue operations. Topics covered include SCBA replacement in a hazardous environment, moving injured rescuers, and disentanglement of rescuers from aircraft wreckage.

NEC/AAAE Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Training

Course Length: September 24 - 28, 2018

NEC and AAAE offer Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) Training each year at Pittsburgh International Airport ARFF training facility. Staffed by certified Suppression Level Instructors, the programs prepare responders to serve in an airport fire department.

Register at https://necaaaee.org/events/arff-training

Please contact us for up to date course schedules and pricing.
Visit our website: FLYPITTSBURGH.COM
Customized Training Available

If your department or company has a special training need, we can help! Contact us to create a tailored course to suit your requirements. Class dates and times are flexible to meet your schedule.

Contact

Register today for the best in ARFF Training!

Contact: Deputy Fire Chief Tom Bonura
Email: firetraining@flypittsburgh.com
Call: 412-472-5871
Address: 1000 Harper Road, Clinton, PA 15026
Follow us on: @PITairport /PITairport PITairport
Disclaimer: All pricing and course dates are subject to change.

Directions to the ARFF Training Facility at Pittsburgh International Airport From Downtown Pittsburgh

1. From downtown Pittsburgh, take 376 West to Clinton Exit (Exit 52) (First exit past Airport Exit).
2. At the Stop Sign at the top of the Exit Ramp, turn LEFT.
3. Proceed straight (the road narrows to two lanes) for about one mile.
4. Turn LEFT onto McCaslin Road. Imperial Metals Company is at the turn.
5. Continue Straight and go through Gate MMM.
6. Go one mile to the first Paved LEFT TURN. This is at an underpass / tunnel.
7. Go through the tunnel, to the top of the hill.
8. At the top of the hill, bear RIGHT.
9. Road leads into the Fire Training Facility Parking Area.