

	Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy	
	Course Syllabus	202

Title: Rope Rescue Technician	Program Duration: 40 hours
Type: Campus Training Program (CTP)	Coordinator: R. Chapman

Course Description

NIPSTA's Rope Rescue Technician program is designed to exceed the requirements outlined by the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM), and provides students with the basic knowledge and skills needed to perform basic rope rescue at the NFPA 1006 Technician level. Students will leave prepared to operate as a member of a regional team capable of responding to statewide emergencies where advanced rope rescue may be needed.

Prerequisites

The purpose of prerequisite course work is to ensure students have sufficient backgrounds to understand the terminology, tactics and practical applications presented in NIPSTA programs. At a minimum, NIPSTA requires successful completion of the following:

- Member of a recognized fire department or brigade
- Basic Operations Firefighter
- Rope Rescue Operations

Attendance

In order to receive a certificate of completion for courses, NIPSTA requires students to be present for all lectures, demonstrations and evolutions.

Safety

NIPSTA Instructors will ensure hazards have been identified and addressed prior to the start of each program. All course safety guidelines are discussed prior to operations and at a minimum, a one (1) to six (6) instructor to student ratio will be maintained at all times. Unsafe actions or behaviors will not be tolerated and will be grounds for dismissal.

Academic Integrity

NIPSTA aspires to the highest possible standards of academic honesty and integrity in all programs as key tenants of the NIPSTA experience. NIPSTA Instructors set forth clear ethical expectations, promote consistency of standards, and encourage reporting of dishonest and unsafe behaviors. While education through participation is the central goal for every NIPSTA program, it is only possible when honesty and integrity are part of the overall mission.

Performance Testing & Evaluation

NIPSTA employs multiple methods of measuring competency subject matter including cognitive and performance skill testing. Cognitive skills will be measured by utilizing a comprehensive written exam at the conclusion of the course. Students must achieve a minimum 70% score to successfully pass the written exam. Performance skill tests measure an individual's ability to perform specific tasks or applications based on given or known JPRs. Unless otherwise specified, performance skill tests will be measured on a pass or fail basis.

ADA Compliance

Students with a documented disabilities, as that term is used in the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), may qualify for reasonable accomidations as defined in section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Textbook

The following Textbook is required for Rope Rescue Technician

- Title: Rope Rescue Principles and Practice (5th edition).
 - ISBN: 9781284195101
- Title: The Essential Technical Rescue Field Operations Guide, 5th Edition
 - ISBN: 9780692901533

Pre-course Assignments

The purpose of pre-course assignments is to ensure candidates are prepared to succeed at the onset of the program. The pre-course assignments for NIPSTA's Rope Rescue Technician course are as follows:

- Review:** “The Essential Technical Rescue Field Operations Guide, 5th Edition”

Rope Operations Course Content

Course content is broken into subject area modules or “Mods”. NIPSTA's Rope Rescue Technician program is comprised of the following Mods:

Mod: Introduction & Course Information
Mod: Safety & Hazard Identification
Mod: PPE & Personal Fall Protection
Mod: Rescue Knot Review & Practice
Mod: Rescue Anchor Systems Review
Mod: Mech. Advantage System Review
Mod: Rescue Harnesses Review
Mod: Patient Assessment & Care
Mod: Suspension Trauma
Mod: Emotional & Psychological Issues
Mod: Patient Packaging Equip/Skills
Mod: Ascending & Descending
Mod: Rope Escape Devices
Mod: Pre-rigged Rescue Systems
Mod: Pick-off Rescue Maneuvers
Mod: On-line Changeovers & Escape

Mod: Skate-block Systems
Mod: Self Braking Descenders
Mod: Fall Arrest Devices
Mod: Climbing & Work Positioning
Mod: Artificial High Directional Anchors
Mod: Vehicles as Anchors
Mod: High-point Anchors
Mod: Horizontal Movement Systems
Mod: Simple Highlines (high to low)
Mod: Reeling Highlines (high to high)
Mod: Terminating Rescue Operations
Mod: Gear Mastery: Rescue Winches
Mod: Course Final Exam
Mod: Practical Skill Evaluations
Mod: Equipment Inspection & Inventory
Mod: Course Review & Evaluation

Following the conclusion of these modules, students will be familiar with the requisite knowledge and skills needed to perform as a member of a rope rescue team. Written and practical evaluations will be conducted at the completion of this course.

40 Hour Course Schedule

DAY 1

Morning

- Mod:** Introduction & Course Information
- Mod:** Safety & Hazard Identification
- Mod:** PPE & Personal Fall Protection
- Mod:** Rescue Knot Review & Practice
- Mod:** Rescue Anchor Systems Review & Practice
- Mod:** Mechanical Advantage System Review & Practice

Afternoon

- Mod:** Anchoring & Mechanical Advantage Systems
- Mod:** Gear Mastery: Rescue Harnesses
- Mod:** Patient Assessment, Suspension Trauma & Care
- Mod:** Victim Emotional/Psychological Issues
- Mod:** Patient Packaging (Litter Basket & Spec Pak)

DAY 2

Morning

- Mod:** Day 1 & Knot Review
- Mod:** Ascending, Descending & Escape Devices
- Mod:** Gear Mastery: Pre-rigged systems (Aztek Kit)
- Mod:** Pick-off Rescue Maneuvers
 - Pick-off from suspended rope
 - Pick-off from platform
- Mod:** On-line Changeovers
 - Ascent to Decent Maneuvers
 - Escape Descender Use
 - Ascending on Descenders (upercut/rad maneuver)
 - Decent to Ascent (self-rescue/escape maneuvers)

Afternoon

- Mod:** Skate-block Systems
- Mod:** Gear Mastery: Petzl I'D & Clutch
- Mod:** Gear Mastery: Fall Arrestors (Petzl ASAP)
- Mod:** Structure Climbing
 - Fall Arrest vs Fall Restraint
 - Work Positioning with Lanyards & Wire Rope Grabs

DAY 3

Morning

Mod: Day 2 & Knot Review
Mod: Artificial High Directional (AHD) Anchors
Mod: Vehicles as Anchors
Mod: High-point Anchors
Mod: Horizontal Movement

- Cross-haul, Dynamic Deflection & Highlines

Mod: Simple Highlines (high to low)
Mod: Reeving Highlines (high to high)

Afternoon

Mod: Dynamic Deflection Systems
Mod: Cross-haul Systems

DAY 4

Morning

Mod: Day 3 & Knot Review
Mod: Terminating Rescue Operations
Mod: Gear Mastery: Rescue Winches
Mod: Course Final Exam
Mod: Practical Skill Evaluations

- Rescue Knots & Hitches
- Mechanical Advantage Systems
- Anchor Systems
- Knot Passing Operations

Afternoon

Mod: Practical Skill Evaluations

- Comprehensive Final Rescue Scenario

Mod: Equipment Inspection & Inventory
Mod: Course Review & Evaluation

Reference List

McCurley, L., & Vines, T. (2023). *Rope Rescue Principles and Practice* (5th ed.). Jones & Bartlett Learning.

Pendley, T. (2017). *The Essential Technical Rescue Field Operations Guide, 5th edition*. Phoenix, Az.: Desert Rescue Research.

NFPA 1006, *Standard for Rescue Technician Professional Qualifications*, 2017 Edition.