

	<b>Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy</b>	
	<b>Course Syllabus</b>	<b>202</b>
<b>Title: Rope Rescue Technician</b>		<b>Program Duration: 40 hours</b>
<b>Type: Campus Training Program (CTP)</b>		<b>Coordinator: R. Chapman</b>

### 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 accomodations 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, 5<sup>th</sup> 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, 5<sup>th</sup> 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 followng 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:** Reeving 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

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**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

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**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

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**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 (uppercut/rad maneuver)
- Decent to Ascent (self-rescue/escape maneuvers)

#### Afternoon

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**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**

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**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**

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**Mod:** Dynamic Deflection Systems

**Mod:** Cross-haul Systems

## **DAY 4**

### **Morning**

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**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**

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**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, 5<sup>th</sup> edition*. Phoenix, Az.: Desert Rescue Research.

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