



FCM 087-2016

FIRE CHIEF MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 20, 2016

TO: All Members

THROUGH: Eric C. Tade, Chief of Department *ECT*

FROM: Todd A. Bower, Deputy Chief of Department *TAB*

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED FOR CFAI ACCREDITATION PROCESS

The Denver Fire Department is registered to complete an accreditation process with the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI). In order to complete this process, we will need the help of all *interested members* to form 10 (ten) committees. The main focus of these committees will be to help gather necessary information.

Who is the CFAI?

The Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) is governed by an 11-member Commission representing a cross-section of the fire service industry, including fire departments, city and county management, code councils, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the International Association of Firefighters. More information can be found by following the link below:

<http://www.cpse.org/agency-accreditation/about-accreditation-cfai.aspx>

Why is the CFAI accreditation important for the DFD?

- Nationally recognized standard that allows us to compare ourselves to the industry's best practices
- The process is a complete organizational proactive review, including strengths and weaknesses
- Identifies high-risk areas
- Improves safety and wellness
- The Denver Fire Department is one of only a few major departments in the metro area who have not yet completed this process.

How does accreditation benefit the DFD?

Accreditation benefits the DFD by ensuring we stay progressive and on top of industry best practices. This reduces the potential for our organization to become complacent. With accreditation, the DFD can be competitive in offering the following:

- National Fire Academy services for surrounding departments
- Revenue
- Facility growth
- Provide rationale for funding grant opportunities

How is the membership important during this process and how can the membership be involved?

The CFAI accreditation model includes 10 performance evaluation categories. There will be 10 different committees formed. Members interested in helping with the accreditation process are encouraged to join 1 of the 10 listed committees.

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| • Assessment and Planning | • Governance and Administration |
| • Essential Resources | • Human Resources |
| • External Systems Relations | • Physical Resources |
| • Financial Resources | • Programs |
| • Goals and Objectives | • Training and Competency |

Each category includes a measure or index on which a judgment or division can be based, as well as indicators that define the desired level of ability to perform a particular task.

The accreditation model includes a comprehensive research and information collection guide with checklists, exhibits, benchmarks, references, and activities broken down by category. Several appendices address additional topics including defining the elements of response time, creating standards of response coverage, and developing master or strategic plans.

How do I become a part of this process?

Members of all ranks are encouraged to send a letter of interest to Deputy Chief Todd Bower at HQ if interested in any of the above categories. Experience in each category is recommended, but not necessary. Please respond no later than **August 5, 2016** to express interest in joining the accreditation process. We look forward to your involvement.

NL:kfc/H/FCMs/2016/087-2016 Committee Members Needed for CFAI Accreditation Process

DISPOSITION: Read at Roll Call for three (3) consecutive shifts.

DISTRIBUTION: Suppression and Support Services (*electronic*)