

Exterior-Only Firefighter Academy Syllabus (64 Hours)

Program Overview

Length: 64 hours (nights + weekends)

Certification: Boulder County Defensive Firefighter (DFF)

Requirements:

- Completion of all 25 Exterior JPRs over 5 years to maintain currency
- Written Exam: 100 questions, 80% minimum passing
- Practical Exam: 9 mandatory JPRs + 4 random

Exclusions: Interior JPRs (Mayday, Search & Rescue, Exit Hazardous Environment, Vertical Ventilation, Interior Live Fire)

Curriculum Breakdown:

Session	Topic	Hours	IFSTA Chapters	JPRs
1	Introduction & PPE	4	1, 3, 5	1A, 1E
2	Communications, Building Construction & Utilities	4	2,3	1D, 2A, 2B, 2C, 3Q
3	SCBA & Hose Loads	8	3, 12	3A, 5A, 5B
4	Fire Dynamics & Horizontal Ventilation	4	4, 11	3J
5	Extinguishers, Ropes & Knots	4	5, 7	1B, 1C, 3O
6	Ladders, Forcible Entry & Hose Mgmt	8	6, 9, 12, 13	3D, 3F
7	Fire suppression, Ground Fire	4	14	3H, 3R
8	Water Supply, Scene Lighting & Foam	4	13	3N, 3P
9	Vehicle Fire & Extrication / Work Zones	8	14, 17	3G, 3B, 3C
10	Salvage, Overhaul & Air Monitoring	4	15	3M, 3S
11	Written Test & JPR Practice	4	All (1-15, excl. 10)	Review
12	Live Fire & JPR Practical	8	14, 15, 17	9 mandatory + 4 random

Key Job Performance Requirements (Exterior-Only)

- PPE (don/doff, documentation)
- Communications (radio, telephone, incident response)
- SCBA (donning, emergency procedures – no interior search)
- Ladders, forcible entry, utilities control
- Extinguishers, ropes & knots, hoisting tools
- Vehicle fires, Extrication, Class A exterior fires, ground fires
- Salvage, overhaul, scene lighting, air monitoring
- Water supply, hose handling, equipment maintenance

Utility Safety Integration (Xcel Modules 1–4)

- Module 1: Electrical hazards & safe clearance
- Module 2: Natural gas response & shutoff procedures
- Module 3: Scene safety, downed lines, work zones
- Module 4: Joint operations with utilities, protective actions

Outcome

Graduates will be certified as Defensive (Exterior-Only) Firefighters, demonstrate all exterior JPRs under live-fire and scenario conditions, and be prepared for safe exterior suppression, support, and utility coordination roles.