



Be Trained by the World's Largest Volunteer Firefighting Agency

NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) provides fire fighting and prevention services to more than 95% of the area of NSW.

The RFS draws on a membership of some 70,000 volunteers from over 2,100 brigades located across the State. This course is based on training provided to RFS members.

Face to face courses are run by RFS trainers who are fully accredited, possess practical experience and have vast subject matter experience.

How to Access Bush Fire Awareness Training

Online

Email: LDA@rfs.nsw.gov.au

Face to Face

Contact your local RFS District office via the relevant [fire control centre](#)

Heavy Plant Operators

Email: Heavy.Plant@rfs.nsw.gov.au



RFS

NSW Rural Fire Service

4 Murray Rose Ave,
Sydney Olympic Park
NSW 2127
Tel: (02) 8741 5555

Social Media

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RFS

Bush Fire Awareness Training





This course provides non-firefighting personnel with an understanding of the elements of wild fire and, for those who complete the course assessment successfully, controlled access to NSW fire grounds.

Bush Fire Awareness Training (BFA)

Who Should Complete this Training

Any non-fire fighting personnel who need access to a NSW active fire ground in the course of their work.

The course is especially helpful for utility suppliers (electricity, water, gas, telephone) who need to restore services to the community as soon as possible, or who may need to take precautionary measures ahead of a fire. It is also recommended people completing BFA also complete the Hazardous Tree Module.

Course Access

You can access the BFA training course via a free online module.

Alternatively face to face training may be available through your local RFS District office.

Face to Face Course Format

This course uses a mixture of audio-visual presentations, group discussion and interactive participation.

Course Duration and Location

The online course takes up to 4 hours to complete. The face to face training delivery requires 4.5 hours to complete and it may be delivered in your workplace, or at a RFS training facility.

Course Content

- The essential elements required for a wild fire to burn, and how these elements relate to extinguishment.
- Factors that affect wild fire behaviour.
- Basic wild fire suppression strategies and tactics.
- Common risks of a wild fire affected workplace and the precautions to be taken to reduce these risks.
- Options available to protect personnel from the hazards of an approaching fire.
- How personnel working at an incident are organised and communicate with one another.
- Procedures for gaining access to a fire ground.
- The course material is specific to NSW. Training requirements for other States and Territories should be confirmed with the relevant emergency services organisation.

Assessment and Accreditation

Assessment comprises of a theory exam.

All participants who successfully complete this course will receive an RFS credential certificate certifying that they have received the appropriate training to enter onto an NSW active fire ground under specified conditions. The credential certificate is valid for three (3) years at which time re-certification is required.

Conditions for Entry to a NSW Fire Ground

- This credential must be produced as it certifies that the bearer has completed an accredited bush fire awareness course that provides them with an understanding of required safe working practices on a fire ground.
- A person is required to wear full personal protective equipment at all times while on a fire ground.
- This credential does not entitle the bearer to unrestricted access to any fire ground. The Incident Controller is responsible for determining whether to restrict access to an area based on safety considerations, unless a crime scene is declared at which point the NSW Police assume responsibility.
- At all times the bearer acknowledges that they enter the fire ground at their own risk and that the RFS takes no responsibility for their actions or any injuries or damage sustained while on the fire ground.