

Campus LMS: The FDNY Learning Management System

By Firefighter Josh Raeben

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the world. Just as organizations globally have been forced to adapt, the FDNY's training environment has evolved as well, resulting in a paradigm shift to remote learning. The FDNY Learning Management System (LMS), also known as FDNY Campus, has provided Fire, EMS and civilian members with unparalleled access to a broad library of proprietary content developed by FDNY members. Today, access to this material is easier than ever, and the Department is continually producing new, high-quality content and converting existing content into the LMS.

Within the LMS, a trove of training material is available to members, with more being added every day. Training is broken down by categories, including bureaus, boroughs, topics and post-incident reviews, just to name a few. Training marks that were previously taken using other, now-antiquated systems or methods are now easily tracked using the LMS, creating a centralized repository for

training. This includes field training at the Fire Academy, required annual training and new Department initiatives such as lightweight hose. Most courses within the LMS are optional, short-focused learning activities that enhance one's knowledge of a topic.

Fast-Tracking Remote Learning

Before 2020, the Department utilized multiple databases and platforms for tracking and training. The goal in 2020 was to put forth the new Learning Management System. For what was going to take nearly a year, the Department had to fast-track many aspects of remote learning in a matter of weeks due to the COVID pandemic. The Bureau of Training (BOT) prioritized their needs, and the LMS team immediately began working with the various training units to set up their existing training content and video conference capabilities. This included promotional courses like FLSTP, Captains Development and the Chief's Command Course, as well as Haz-Mat courses and courses from other bureaus that were forced to a hybrid or remote platform.

About the FDNY Campus LMS

FDNY Campus is accessed through a web browser at fdnycampus.org or on a mobile device using the SumTotal application in the Android or Apple stores. All content within the LMS is now available on mobile devices any time and anywhere. The FDNY Campus uses the SumTotal Learning Management System for its core application and is supported by the Bureau of Technology Development & Systems (BTDS) and the BOT. For many of you, vaccine registration was your first experience with the LMS, and the Department continually works with SumTotal to enhance and improve user experience within the limits of the system.

The Fire Academy Production Unit (FAPU), as part of the Bureau of Training, is responsible for assisting subject matter experts in the development and production of high-quality, multimedia-enriched training, as well as the management and administration of the LMS.

Vaccine Registration

One recent success story was our



About the Author

Firefighter Josh Raeben has served the FDNY since 2014. He is assigned to Ladder 34 and is detailed to the Fire Academy Production Unit. He holds a Bachelor of Science in information management and technology from Syracuse University and a Master of Science in crisis, emergency and risk management from The George Washington University. He has attended numerous courses at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

REMOTE TACTICAL TRAINING

- FDNY Course: FDNY Webex Meeting Instructional Demo & Mobile Device Mirroring** - START
- FDNY Course: Quick Training Tips - Outriggers** - START
- FDNY Course: Remote Tactical - 15 Minute FAST Pak** - START
- FDNY Course: Remote Tactical - Blitzfire Nozzle** - START
- FDNY Course: Remote Tactical - Canarsie Tenements** - START

ability to leverage the use of the LMS as a vaccine registration scheduler. When we talk about the LMS and its first uses, we must include the collaborative efforts the Department took to ensure a COVID vaccination registration system was up and running. The FDNY had the responsibility to offer and provide vaccinations to its entire workforce in multiple phases. The Fire Academy Production Unit LMS Team—alongside BTDS, Incident Management Team (IMT), Bureau of Health Services (BHS) and other team members—leveraged the LMS to provide a vaccination registration system that allowed active and retired members to schedule the vaccine. As of March 1, this system had successfully registered more than 10,000 members across four locations for the vaccine.

Future Features

There are many possibilities for the

expansion of our use of the LMS. The Department is making FDNY books, procedures, department orders and other departmental information available on the LMS to all members on any device. This will no longer require the user to be on a Fire Department computer/kiosk or network. The Department is committed to providing additional levels of training through the LMS and may supplement with traditional in-person learning.

The Bureau of Training has transitioned the Probationary Firefighter Development program from older platforms to the LMS, and Proby school will now push all information into the LMS, including tracking observational skills that previously used Scantrons.

The new Remote Tactical Training Unit (RTTU) at the Fire Academy has been conducting live training via WebEx to units during scheduled drill periods. This premiere live-video learning experience

produces a large amount of content on a wide variety of topics. The content is then edited to produce high-quality training videos that are posted in the LMS based on the topic presented.

The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the FDNY’s need to adopt new, modernized training platforms. In response, the Bureau of Training rose to the challenge, leveraging new technology to educate FDNY members with increased flexibility. As we shift away from the traditional learning model, FDNY members now have the skills and tools necessary to develop new content for online delivery. As we emerge from the pandemic, the FDNY Bureau of Training will be a leader in the production and delivery of high-quality, remote training content. ■

ALL TASKS LEARN

Refresh Sort By ▾

TOTAL	3 CURRENT	3 ASSIGNED
FDNY COURSE FDNY - Social Media Training REQUIRED	Status Registered	START ▾
FDNY COURSE FDNY Intersection Collision Safety REQUIRED	Status Assigned	START ▾
MEDIA Sumtotal LMS User Guide For FDNY Members	Status Registered	START ▾
FDNY COURSE We Are FDNY - Authentic Trust REQUIRED		START ▾