Montana State University Fire Services Training School

WHO WE ARE

The Montana State University Fire Services Training School (FSTS) is **responsible for training local firefighters, and bringing our services to communities across Montana**. Our team includes six field trainers who are highly experienced and travel over 180,000 miles annually to deliver training. Our training is primarily hands-on, utilizing local equipment to meet specific community needs. We operate numerous mobile training props available to any fire department, and our firefighter certifications are accredited by two bodies and recognized internationally.

WHO WE SERVE

Our mission is to protect the lives, property, infrastructure, and environment of every community in Montana. With 400 fire departments and 10,000 firefighters, 93 percent of whom are volunteers, we respond 24/7, 365 days a year to assist Montanans in dangerous, chaotic environments. Our partners are local government-affiliated departments providing low-cost, high-impact government service.

OUR IMPACT

Our training and outreach programs reach over 7,500 fire service personnel. An impressive 96 percent of our clientele agree that our training enhances their ability to protect their community and perform their duties as responders. We positively impact fire services in 75 percent of Montana's counties, fostering relationships between fire departments, local, and state agencies to promote cooperation and mutual aid. **Since 2025, there has been a 320 percent increase in firefighters obtaining our internationally accredited certifications.**

The funding we receive is reinvested into communities to enhance firefighter safety and emergency preparedness. Additionally, we have influenced the development of over a dozen local fire department training facilities, and our training and certifications help reduce fire insurance costs for Montanans.

We estimate **for every $1 allocated to FSTS, local governments save $6.**