This course provides the emergency responder with the knowledge to respond to releases or potential releases of hazardous substances as part of the initial response at the site. The knowledge acquired should enable the responder to contain the release and prevent exposures of the hazardous substance. Practical exercises and teamwork are included in this course.

Upon completion, the student should be able to demonstrate competency in knowledge of the basic hazard and risk assessment techniques; selection and use of proper personal protective equipment; understanding of basic hazardous material terms, basic control, containment, and/or confinement operations within the capabilities of the resources and personal protective equipment available within the unit; implementation of basic decontamination procedures; and understanding of relevant standards, operating procedures, and termination procedures. This course meets the needs of emergency responders for OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120, EPA 40 CFR Part 311, and NFPA 472.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be recommended to take the Hazardous Materials Operations examination offered by the Louisiana Firefighter and Emergency Responder Certification Program.

The Hazardous Materials Operations certification examination is offered by the Firefighter and Emergency Responder Certification Program to the students who successfully complete the course. This is optional and will be given at the conclusion of the course.

Certification Prerequisites:
The Student must be certified in Hazardous Materials Awareness from the Louisiana Firefighter Certification Program or another agency accredited by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) or ProBoard. Students must pass the practical skills assessment given in order to take the written exam.

Certification Fees:
There is a separate charge for taking the certification exam; it is not included in the course fees. Details of the certification process and examination material can be found under the certification tab on the main page of the website.