Dear Future Wildland Firefighter:

I am pleased that you have decided to take the first step in training to become a wildland firefighter.  You are joining a dedicated group of individuals that work hard to ensure the integrity of our natural areas and the safety of our citizens.  Many of you are already doing this as members of volunteer and career fire departments.  I hope this training adds useful information to your  repertoire.

For years, S-130/S-190 has been the basic training necessary to become a wildland firefighter and  was required to participate on most federal and state wildfire suppression and prescribed fire incidents.  The training was  always conducted in the classroom with limited field experience. Times are changing and it is now  possible to do much of the study online.

**These on-line classes can take about 40 hours to complete successfully so getting started early is a good idea.**

To become a qualified wildland firefighter, applicants need to complete classes which are approved by the National Wildfire Coordination Group.  These classes have also been endorsed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) of the Department of Homeland Security.  The purpose of these classes is to assure a standard level of training for competence and safety.  This course of study consists of four online classes (ICS-700, ICS-100, S-130, and S-190).  100, 700, and 190 can all be completed in their entirety online. S-130 requires an instructor-led field day to fully complete, and it must be led by a recognized instructor.

As you take these course, print off copies of all certificates of completion, or emails of "congratulations, you have successfully completed….". Some times the system provides those but there is a delay in getting the actual certificate.  Verification of completing all four online classes is required to participate in the field day. Prior students report that it does take 30-40 hours to complete the online portion, so plan accordingly.

Field days are scheduled periodically around the state as there is a need. If there is a group of at least ten folks who have completed the online portion and need a field day, we can schedule them for any department or group interested.

Completing these classes and the physical fitness Pack Test (a 3 mile hike with a 45 pound pack, in 45 minutes or less) means that the student will be eligible  to receive a "red card" from the Kansas Forest Service.  There is no guarantee that organizations or agencies will need new firefighters or add qualified  students to their "red card" roster.

Online Course Guidance:
[Note: If asked, enable Pop-ups if they are blocked on your computer.]

1. Start by taking the two NIMS Classes, if you have not already had them.  If you have certificates or verification of prior NIMS training, you have met this step already.
   a. Go to https://training.fema.gov/nims/
   b. Click on ICS-100, Introduction to ICS for Operational First Responders (Q462)
      Then click "online course" on the right
   c. When finished, do the same for ICS-700, Introduction to the national incident command system.

2. Set aside enough time to fully complete each module or you will have to redo the entire module again.  **Make sure you are connected to a printer.**
   a. Each course is broken up into various modules with a test at the end of each module.
   b. Upon completion of a module "Challenge Review" with a passing grade, you should print your Certificate of Completion for the module.   Also print your certificate of completion for the course when done.  [NOTE – Online-records of completion for the modules and courses do not always seem to show up if you go back later.]
   c. Feel free to take notes during your courses to review from.

      number that you got with your National Fire Academy Account (if you got one) or use your SS number.

3. Go to https://apps.usfa.fema.gov/nfacourses/catalog/details/10623
   a. The system will require you to set up a user account first.  Save your information for future reference.
   b. S-190  or Q900(found in catalog in NFA online account) (Takes about 6 hours to complete) Found under Wildland.
      i. Take S-190 before you take S-130.
      ii. For the monitoring fire behavior (S-190) the "Look Up, Down, and Around" module use the online form of the  Incident Response Pocket Guide http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/pubs/nfes1077/nfes1077.pdf
   c. When completed, go to https://apps.usfa.fema.gov/nfacourses/catalog/details/10622 to take S-130.  You should not need to re-register, just use the account you created above.
Alternate:  https://apps.usfa.fema.gov/nfacourses/catalog/search?forget=1&courseKeywords=s-130 should give you links to sign up for both 130 and 190, OR go to:
https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/training-courses/s-190/course-delivery and scroll down near the bottom there's a link for "link to online training logon". And this link would be the same but for S-130: https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/training-courses/s-130/course-delivery

4. The last module of S-130 (Fire Exercise Day or Performance Day) requires up to 8 hours of field fire  exercises.

- Several of the online courses are also located on the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) training website: http://training.nwcg.gov/index.html

**Online course further information, Please read the following**

NWCG Online courses are currently not compatible with:

- o MAC OS
- o Firefox Internet Browser
- o Mozilla Internet Browser
- Please use a Windows Based PC and only access the online training with Internet Explorer 6.0 (or higher).

- **A known issue that will cause the deletion of module tracking/completion data is when the Internet Explorer (IE) Microsoft browser "x" in the top right corner of the window is used to exit the content window, all module tracking data is deleted and not recorded in the Learning Management System (LMS). This is an IE Microsoft Security Feature which cannot be hard-coded out of the courseware. Users must utilize the "exit" or "next" buttons in the content screen to ensure that module tracking data is successfully recorded to the LMS.**

- If you have trouble with the S-130 or S-190 classes online, **CALL THE HELP DESK** at the number listed on the class material. They can help you adjust settings. The courses use outdated software and there are compatibility issues until they get updated.

- Helpful online reference publications
  - o Incident Response Pocket Guide (930KB): http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/pubs/nfes1077/nfes1077.pdf
  - o Fitness and work capacity: http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/pubs/pms304-2.pdf
  - o Glossary of Wildland terminology (824KB); http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/pubs/glossary/pms205.pdf
  - o Wildland Fire Incident Management Field Guide 1.3MB (replaces the Fireline Handbook) http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/pubs/pms210.pdf