



Facility facts & features

Airport Fire Department Fire Station No. 1

When the new Indianapolis airport opens in late 2008, the \$6 million Fire Station No. 1 will be a visible landmark for departing passengers and visitors. Part of the Indianapolis Airport Authority's massive Midfield Project, the facility was built with no local property tax dollars.

Why was a new Airport Fire Department (AFD) station needed? Two important reasons:

1. To meet the needs of the expanding airport complex, and
2. To continue providing the best possible emergency response times for passengers, airline and airport personnel, and members of the local community.

Ground was broken for the facility on December 1, 2006. The building was designed by RQAW and built by R. L. Turner with oversight by Shrewsberry & Associates. Construction management was provided by Garcia Construction.

The station was completed in December of 2007 and formally dedicated on Jan. 18, 2008. It houses six on-duty firefighters and four full-time administrative personnel.

ON THE MAIN LEVEL

- A lobby and reception area for guests. Access to administrative offices, a small conference room, and copy room and filing area is just off the lobby.
- State-of-the-art training room with video-conferencing technology. As a whole, the department averages over 6,200 man-hours of training each year. Individually, AFD personnel spend about two hours of each shift in classroom or hands-on training, averaging 174 hours annually. Mandated by the FAA and the airport, topics include emergency response, OSHA regulations, CPR, personal safety, airport and aircraft familiarization, hazardous material spills and mitigation, decontamination equipment and techniques, fuel and chemical fires, aircraft incidents and runway incursions, terrorism, and structural fires, among others. Training is also required to maintain emergency medical certification. The department also conducts fire extinguisher training sessions for flight attendants and pilots, airline workers, employees, and tenants. CPR and automatic external defibrillator (AED) classes are also offered.
- A large apparatus area more than 100 feet long configured for quickly deploying emergency response equipment. The north end opens directly on the airfield to an adjacent taxiway; the south end opens to landside public areas for the new airport.

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Each piece of apparatus is used for specific operations. AFD equipment includes one heavy rescue truck, one EMS rescue truck, a 100-foot aerial platform truck, two support vehicles (one for extinguishing foam and one for hazardous material decontamination), two support trailers (one for hazmat decontamination and one for disaster supplies), and several command vehicles. All fire trucks are custom-built to AFD specifications.

The apparatus area also includes:

- Storage for equipment and gear
 - EMS equipment and supplies
 - A tank for storing extinguishing foam and a mechanized system for replenishing foam on trucks (a process which was previously performed manually)
 - A turn-out gear work room for routine inspection of hoses, extinguishers, air tanks, masks, ladders, ropes, nozzles, and protective clothing.
- An alarm center and on-duty lieutenant's office is adjacent to the apparatus bay. Across the hall is the on-duty battalion chief's office and bunk with shower.
 - A large, eat-in kitchen with center island, six-burner stove and griddle, ample refrigeration, and spacious food preparation areas. A day-room for reading or watching television and quarter-master's storage are adjacent to the kitchen.

ON THE UPPER LEVEL

- A fitness facility where personnel maintain physical fitness levels required for annual exams
- A small quiet room for studying or reading
- Bunks (small individual sleeping rooms) for each on-duty firefighter
- A men's shower and locker room
- A women's shower and locker room
- Access to the slide pole

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