



Officer Development Conference

**ODC 2026**

July 13-16, 2026 | Columbus

## Call for Presentations Details

ODC: The Officer Development Conference offers a unique, intimate learning experience for Ohio's fire service leaders. It provides emergency responders from across the state and beyond a chance to attend valuable classroom training and exchange ideas and best practices with peers and industry leaders. Through keynote presentations and breakout sessions, the event covers important topics like first responder health, safety, leadership, tactical operations, and related areas. To create this learning opportunity, we invite educational proposals that will help advance the industry. Proposals should:

- Be developed by the proposed instructor, or be delivered by an authorized representative of the course developer.
- Explore timely and relevant topics important to fire service leaders from a wide variety of ranks and department structures.
- Be informed by sound learning principles, including well-defined learning objectives.
- Demonstrate innovative strategies.
- Challenge attendees to think of new solutions and leave with clear action items.
- Facilitate knowledge transfer and development of new competencies.
- Stimulate and provoke discussion, reflection, and audience engagement.

### **About the Proposal Review and Session Selection Process**

We aim to be inclusive when reviewing session proposals, inviting submissions from across the country to include diverse voices and perspectives, ensuring that conference content is timely, relevant, and tailored to our attendees' needs. We recognize that many excellent ideas are shared at the local, regional, and state levels, and we encourage all interested and qualified instructors to apply. All complete proposals are reviewed by the OFCA's Education Committee.

## **Key Dates**

- Call for Presentations closes: Friday, October 31, 2025
- Conference session notifications: Friday, December 19, 2025
- Lodging & travel requirements due: Friday, February 20, 2026
- Headshots due: Monday, March 9, 2026
- Materials for Conference App due: Friday, May 22, 2026
- ODC 2026: July 13-16, 2026

## **Audience**

- 250+ attendees from across Ohio and several other states
- Current and emerging leaders in the fire and emergency services
- Attendees represent all department types
- Job titles include all ranks, including chief and company officers, training officers, and senior firefighters
- Attendees' years of experience range from 0-40+ years

## **Suggested Topics**

ODC 2026 will include keynote and breakout sessions targeting chief and company-level officers. The following topics are identified as key for 2026; additional topics are also welcome.

- Leadership
- Safety, Health & Wellness
- Strategy & Tactics
- Innovative Programs or Practices
- Community Paramedicine
- Company Operations or Management
- Community Risk Reduction