

Response to Questions on the FY 2012 Budget

Request By: Supervisor Foust

Question: What is the estimated cost for providing an ALS incumbent school for 15 trainees?

Response: The Fire and Rescue Department (FRD) must have, at minimum, 32 percent of providers Advanced Life Support (ALS) certified in order to staff emergency response vehicles. Recruitment of already certified ALS providers has proven challenging in this competitive market and is also hindering FRD's ability to hire a diverse group of recruits. An ALS incumbent school would allow FRD to pursue ALS certification for current employees.

The estimated cost of an ALS incumbent school for 15 paramedics is \$1.5 million. The largest driver of this cost is the overtime required to backfill positions detailed from the field to attend school, as personnel attending school are detailed out of minimum staffing positions for approximately eight months. Other costs include tuition, books, parking, and exam fees.