



# Advocate Network

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by the National Volunteer Fire Council

# Welcome!

The purpose of the Wildland Fire Assessment Program (WFAP) **Advocate Network** is to provide a corps of qualified and skilled lead instructors that can teach the WFAP curriculum and advocate for mitigation and safety in wildfire-prone regions across the U.S.

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[www.nvfc.org/WFAP](http://www.nvfc.org/WFAP)



# About the WFAP

WILDLAND FIRE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

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The NVFC partnered with the U.S. Forest Service to create the Wildland Fire Assessment Program (WFAP) to help fire departments conduct home safety assessments in the wildland urban interface (WUI) and communicate to residents and homeowners the importance of personal property wildfire mitigation efforts.

The WFAP was formed to:

- **Identify** existing resource material for wildland fire pre-planning
- **Develop** training materials and delivery systems (such as outreach materials) designed for volunteer and combination fire departments
- **Train** firefighters or department personnel in wildfire high-risk areas to conduct home assessments in their communities
- **Create** a tracking mechanism to enable data collection and statistical analysis regarding the impact of assessments

The overall goal of WFAP is to provide the tools and materials to teach fire departments how to assess a home, perform pre-fire planning activities, and report on the assessments. The end result is to work towards creating a more fire-adapted community – a community that takes responsibility for its wildfire risk.



# About the NVFC



## The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC):

- Leading nonprofit membership association representing the interests of the volunteer fire, EMS, and rescue services.
- Serves as the voice of the volunteer in the national arena
- Provides critical resources, programs ([LIKE the WFAP](#)), education, and advocacy for first responders across the nation.

[www.nvfc.org](http://www.nvfc.org)

# Goals of the WFAP Advocate Network

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PROMOTE WFAP IN  
THEIR REGION

2

TRAIN VOLUNTEERS  
TO PERFORM HOME  
ASSESSMENTS

3

PROVIDE LOCALIZED  
SUPPORT

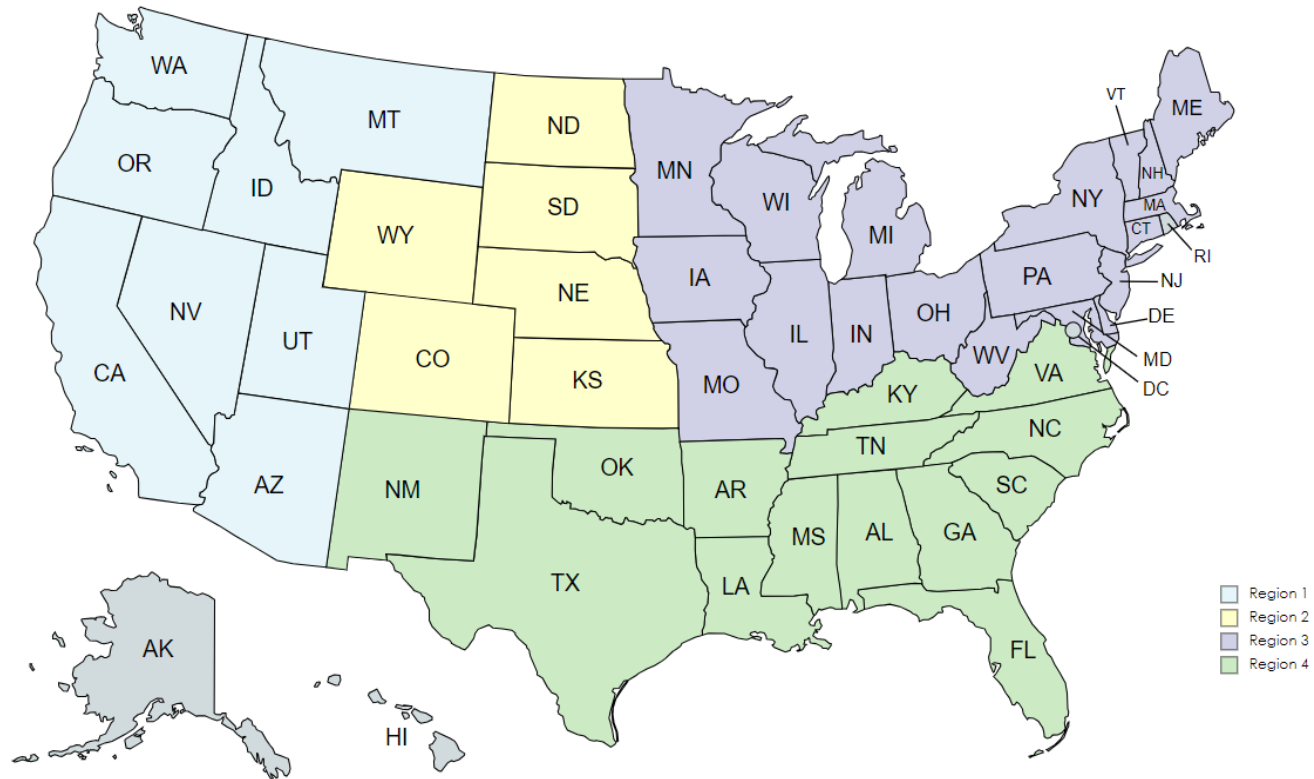
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PROVIDE BEST  
PRACTICES AND  
PROGRAM  
ENHANCEMENT  
RECOMMENDATIONS

# Regions

Baseline of regional representation

Subject to change based on number of Advocates and availability





# Advocate Roles and Responsibilities

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Create awareness of the WFAP, its mission, opportunities, and benefits for departments and communities



Serve as the initial POC for their state/region



Identify and perform assessments and implement the program locally



Facilitate promotion and marketing of the program in their region



Participate in quarterly Advocate calls and information sharing



Volunteer position; however, Advocates are provided a stipend and travel reimbursement for approved trainings

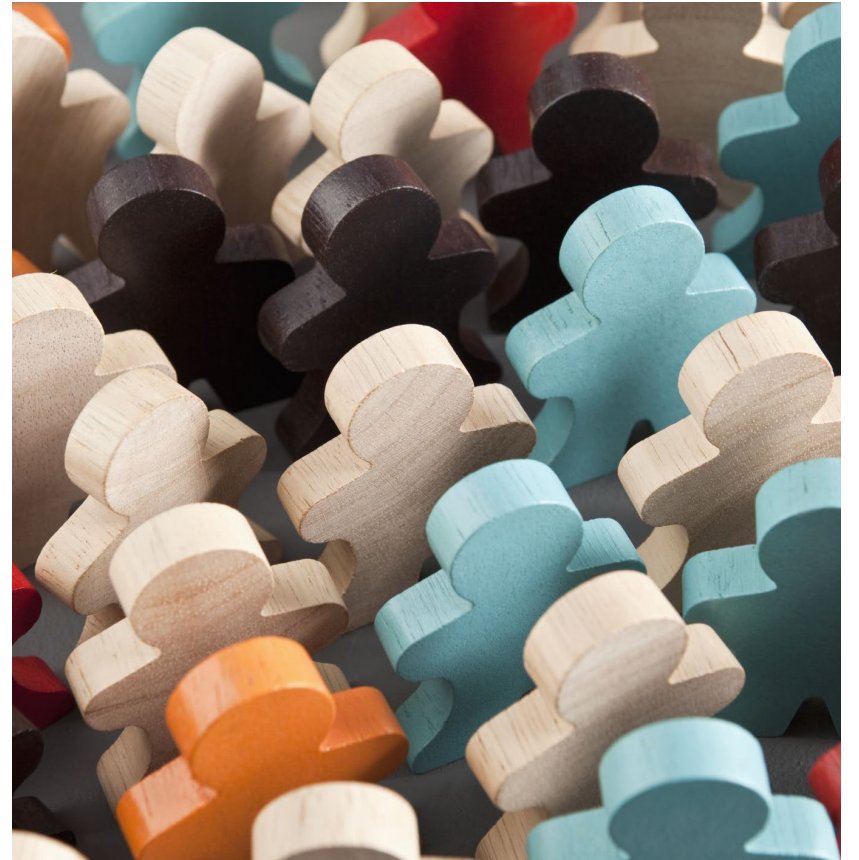
# Criteria and Selection

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- Anyone interested in joining the Network must fill out the SME application:

<https://nvfc.wufoo.com/forms/subject-matter-expert-application>

- Ideal candidates:
  - Have a **wildland** background
  - Have a **volunteer** background
  - Are comfortable **teaching** and **interacting** with students
  - Can commit and are available for the role
- Designated Advocates are selected by the National Volunteer Fire Council's Wildland Committee





# Supporting Resources



2024 in-person meeting/training



Quarterly calls and real-time information sharing



Talking Points



Sample Outreach Tools (social media, forms)



Maintenance

# Support and Success



TRAININGS  
(TARGET UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES)



POST COURSE EVALUATIONS



INFORMATION SHARING FOR FEEDBACK,  
IDEAS, BEST PRACTICES, STRATEGIES,  
LESSONS LEARNED

# Questions?

**Contact Lori Shirley**  
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