



Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Safety for Emergency Responders

Course information sheet

Course duration 4 hours | Online

Course overview

This four-hour online course introduces electrical and battery hazards encountered at electric and hybrid vehicle incidents. Responders practice recognizing vehicle systems, finding vehicle-specific emergency response information, assessing the scene, and coordinating actions within their assigned roles. Examples include damaged high-voltage components, unexpected movement, battery thermal runaway, fire, rescue access, towing, and storage.

Who should attend

Firefighters, emergency medical personnel, law enforcement officers, roadside assistance personnel, tow and recovery operators, and supervisors who may respond to electric or hybrid vehicle incidents.

Learning outcomes

- Identify electric, hybrid, and plug-in hybrid vehicles and locate the vehicle-specific emergency response guide or rescue sheet.
- Recognize high-voltage components, damaged conductors, unexpected vehicle movement, battery damage, thermal runaway, and delayed re-ignition indicators.
- Describe scene size-up, vehicle stabilization, exclusion, communication, and escalation steps appropriate to the responder's role.
- Use a vehicle-specific guide to discuss shutdown, access, cut zones, towing, and storage precautions without assuming the high-voltage battery is de-energized.
- Distinguish actions for fire suppression personnel from precautions for EMS, law enforcement, roadside assistance, and tow operators.
- Apply the course concepts to a representative incident and explain when to obtain specialized assistance.

Topics covered

Electrical injury basics; EV and hybrid identification; high-voltage system locations; rescue sheets and emergency response guides; incident size-up and vehicle stabilization; damaged battery and thermal runaway warning signs; fire response considerations by role; extrication and cut-zone awareness; towing, recovery, and storage precautions; incident scenarios.

Format and scope

Online instructor-led presentation, guided discussion, and case scenarios. Participants receive a certificate of completion. No live high-voltage testing, vehicle disassembly, fire suppression practice, or hands-on qualification is included. Responders follow their agency procedures and the applicable vehicle-specific guide; equipment-specific operations require separate training and authorization.

Course inquiries 509-396-3008 | ElecTrain.com