



EASTERN AREA COORDINATING GROUP

Date: June 11th, 2020
 To: Eastern Area Interagency Wildland Fire Community
 From: Eastern Area Coordinating Group
 Subject: Eastern Area Priority Trainee Program – Availability Stating

A new Priority Trainee (PT) self-statusing process has been created to address current problems with IROC not being able to provide correct PT availability reports. This new process will ensure that the GATR can appropriately status PT requests with the National Geographical Area Training Representative.

How the Priority Trainee Program Works:

The Eastern Area Coordination Center’s (EACC) [Training web page](#) has information regarding the Priority Trainee program and the list of the current year’s Eastern Area Priority Trainees.

Priority Trainee Availability:

When fire activity begins increasing, the GATR will ask for submission of priority trainee availability. When available, PTs will notify their dispatch centers to set their IROC resource status as “Available – GACC”.

New Self-status Available Process:

PTs will set their availability using the [Eastern Area Priority Trainee Availability Form](#) located on the EACC website in Training page, under [FY2020 Priority Trainee Availability List](#) on the upper left corner of page.

The GATR will seek to place PTs after they have declared their availability for the Priority Program. If a PT accepts an order for a position other than their priority trainee position during this time, they will be removed from their rated position on the Priority Trainee list and placed at the bottom of the position list.

PTs need to notify their dispatch center they are no longer available for a Priority Trainee assignment. They can set their resource status to “Unavailable”, “Available – National” or “Available – Local” and available “State”. This will remove the PT from the EAPTP’s availability status list. In-addition PTs will need to reset their availability to unavailable in the [Eastern Area Priority Trainee Availability Form](#).



Priority trainees are responsible for the following:

1. Declaring availability to their dispatch office or training officer and checking to make sure they are listed on the "[Available Priority Trainee](#)" list. This report will be posted on the EACC Trainee web page.
2. Ensure their IROC status is "available - GACC" when they declare availability.
3. Post their availability to the new self-statusing page
4. If availability changes make sure the PT notifies their dispatch office, the GATR, and makes changes to the self-statusing to unavailable.

For additional questions, contact:

Darlene Hall, Eastern Area Geographic Area Training Representative (GATR), 414-297-3456 or darlene.hall@usda.gov or

Scott Swendsen, Alternate Eastern Area Priority Trainee point-of-contact, 303-968-5353, scott.swendsen@usda.gov .

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas Brady". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Chair, Eastern Area Coordinating Group