

Online NFIRS Incident Reporting– DEBI Guide

The Data Entry Browser Interface (DEBI) is an easy way to report incidents to NFIRS. Any computer can be used, as long as continual internet access is supplied. No download is required. DEBI and other web-based tools work best with Firefox browser. Do Not Use Google Chrome. Below are instructions on how to report online via DEBI:

Logging In

- To log into DEBI, go to the following website: https://www.usfa.fema.gov/data/nfirs/user_tools/index.html
- Once at the webpage, scroll down to the list of Applications/Tools and click on: “Report Incidents (DEBI)”
- Log-In (the log-in username and password is the same as all other NFIRS applications)

Creating an NFIRS Report

- Once logged-in, click “New Incident” in the green bar
- Enter the Key Information and save
- Open the Basic Module by selecting it from the box on the left
- Depending on how the incident is coded, other modules may appear in the left hand box for completion
- It is important to save every screen. Once you hit “save” your incident is in the system
- If your incident is invalid, an error will show in the left hand box and will ask you to validate
- *The DEBI system has a 30 minute inactive time-out function. If you leave your computer for any amount of time, it is imperative that you save your current report in case of time-out

Incident Search

- To search for an incident, or to see what has been reported, click “Incident Search” in the green bar
- Make sure you FDID is selected
- Enter search parameters. Incidents can be searched by date, address, incident number, etc.
- Click “Search” to see a list of reports in the system

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