## **Preparing Students to Be Fire Smart through Online Education**

Data collected from 10,000 course completions of Be Fire Smart<sup>™</sup> College Edition, an online course by AliveTek and the Center for Campus Fire Safety, indicates student education can work.

Few thoughts keep college administrators up at night like worries of fires in residence halls. From burning candles, to overloaded outlets for every piece of technology known to man, to Medusa lights, to flags or tapestries hanging from the ceiling or fire suppression system, to cooking Mac & Cheese without water, students unknowingly endanger the health and safety of themselves and their peers.

In a recent study, more than 10,000 enrolled college students were asked when the last time was that they had any kind of fire safety training. Almost half indicated it was before entering college life\*.



10,000 college students completed a survey after taking the course, Be Fire Smart<sup>™</sup>.

We spoke with Leonard Sancilio, PhD, Dean of Students at State University of New York at Geneseo, to get his view. "For many of us, visions of Seton Hall never stray too far from our thoughts" he said. "We know in attempts to make concrete-blocked rooms homey and comfortable students buy comforts to bring with them. Fire safety education is a must for everyone living on- and off-campus. Reaching students before they even step foot on our campus goes a long way toward raising awareness, educating, and increasing the safety of our students" he said. "We use Be Fire Smart<sup>™</sup> College Edition online course, developed in conjunction with the Center for Campus Fire Safety (CCFS) as a part of a larger awareness and education effort, which helps do just that," he added.

Survey data from the same study shows that education is effective in empowering students to take action. After taking the fire safety course, students felt they were better equipped to handle a fire safety situation if confronted by one and more inclined to take action to prevent fires in their college housing\*.



While it takes time and effort to train students for the possibility of a fire on-campus or off-campus, this survey data seems to indicate that it is well worth it.

To learn more about how you can implement fire safety education on your campus, visit us at <a href="https://prevent.zone/">https://prevent.zone/</a>.

About the Author: Sandy Mills-Alford is the President and CEO of AliveTek, Inc. and creator of Prevent.Zone. As an eLearning consultant and implementation specialist, she leads a team of web developers and instructional designers who help universities and corporations distribute and measure online learning. Contact Sandy at info@alivetek.com.

