



OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Important Fire Sprinkler Contractor Licensing Updates Industry Regulatory Changes 2023

Reminder.... Effective January 1, 2023, the language of Section 17 (b) requiring NICET Level III for routine Fire Sprinkler Inspections goes into effect:

Fire Sprinkler Contractor Licensing Act [225 ILCS 317/17 (b) (1)]

“.... on and after January 1, 2023, an appropriate level in NICET certification in Inspection and Testing of Water Based Systems shall be Level III.

Link to NICET Certification Program: <https://www.nicet.org/certification-programs/electrical-and-mechanical-systems/inspection-and-testing-of-water-based-systems/>

Beginning January 1, 2024, any individual that inspects or tests a fire sprinkler system will need a Fire Sprinkler Inspector License issued by the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal.

NFPA - Water Based Inspection, Testing & Maintenance Certification

OSFM has recognized NFPA Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water Based Systems Certification (NFPA-WBITM) as equivalent to NICET Water Based Inspection and Testing Level III as provided in Section 17 of the Fire Sprinkler Contractor Licensing (225 ILCS 317).

NFPA WBITM Certification is now an accepted alternative qualification to perform routine fire sprinkler inspection and testing in Illinois.

See OSFM [Policy FP-ADM-POL-03-22](#) on the OSFM Fire Sprinkler Contractor webpage.

Link to NFPA WBITM program: <https://www.nfpa.org/LearningPaths/WBITM>

Resources for AHJ's / Code Officials / Fire Inspectors / Property Managers

Inspection credentials, including name and certification / journeyman numbers on Fire Sprinkler Inspection reports, may be verified at the following links:

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| NICET Certified Personnel search: | https://nicet.useclarus.com/view/verify/ |
| ASSE Certified Personnel search: | https://forms.iapmo.org/asse/certified/ |
| Chicago Local 281 Contact: | https://sprinklerfitterchicago.org/contact |
| National Local 669 Contact: | https://sprinklerfitters669.org/contact.aspx |
| St. Louis Local 268 Contact: | http://www.sprinklerfitters268.org/contact.aspx |
| NFPA WBITM Contact via email: | adminsvecs@nfpa.org |