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OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

- 1) Heading of the Part: Requirements for the Participation and Certification of Fire Protection Personnel
- 2) Code Citation: 41 Ill. Adm. Code 141
- 3)

<u>Section Numbers:</u>	<u>Proposed Actions:</u>
141.15	Amendment
141.20	Amendment
141.30	Amendment
141.65	Amendment
141.100	Amendment
141.115	Amendment
141.120	Amendment
141.200	Amendment
141.210	Amendment
141.215	Amendment
141.250	Amendment
141.309	Amendment
141.310	Amendment
141.312	Amendment
141.313	Amendment
141.315	Amendment
141.316	Amendment
141.317	Repealed
141.318	Amendment
141.320	Amendment
141.322	Amendment
141.324	Amendment
141.326	Repealed
141.327	Amendment
141.329	Amendment
141.330	Amendment
141.331	Repealed
141.333	New Section
141.370	Amendment
141.390	Amendment
141.395	Amendment
141.400	Amendment

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- 4) Statutory Authority: Implemented and authorized by Sections 8 and 11 of the Illinois Fire Protection Training Act [50 ILCS 740] and the Peace Officer Fire Investigation Act [20 ILCS 2910].
- 5) A Complete Description of the Subjects and Issues Involved: These proposed rule amendments would revise the application of adopted NFPA standards and editions in OSFM rules that reference individual certification requirements; update and clarify individual certification requirements; add a new certification for Community Risk Reduction Practitioner; streamline the OSFM's administrative process for establishing or revising certification standards; account for the change in the software program supporting certification documentation; make changes to the examination process to account for return to agency-administered exams; require 100% attendance for course completion; eliminate the automatic 90-day grace period for recertification and clarify the process and allowances for extensions on a case-by-case basis; and make other minor updates and clarifications.
- 6) Published studies or reports, and sources of underlying data, used to compose this rulemaking: None
- 7) Will this proposed rulemaking replace an emergency rule currently in effect? No
- 8) Does this rulemaking contain an automatic repeal date? No
- 9) Does this proposed rulemaking contain incorporations by reference? Yes, there are updates of specific NFPA standards. See proposed rules Section 141.20. These standards have been incorporated and are available for public inspection at:

Office of the State Fire Marshal
1035 Stevenson Drive
Springfield, IL 62703
- 10) Are there any other proposed rulemakings pending on this Part? No
- 11) Statement of Statewide Policy Objectives: This proposed rulemaking does not create or enlarge a State mandate, as defined in Section 3(b) of the State Mandates Act [30 ILCS 805/3(b)].

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- 12) Time, Place and Manner in which interested persons may comment on this proposed rulemaking: Persons wishing to comment on this proposed rulemaking may submit comments no later than 45 days after the publication of this Notice to:
- Blake Fawns, Administrative Rules Coordinator
Office of the State Fire Marshal
1035 Stevenson Drive
Springfield, IL 62703
- Phone: (217) 720-2964
SFM.Rules@illinois.gov
- 13) Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis:
- A) Description of the type of small business, not for profit corporations or small municipalities subject to the proposed amendments: This rulemaking may impact small municipalities that elect to participate in the Office of the State Fire Marshal's voluntary certification program.
- B) Description of the proposed reporting, bookkeeping and other procedures required for compliance with the proposed amendments: No additional requirements.
- C) Description of the types of professional skills necessary for compliance: None
- 14) Small Business Economic Impact Analysis: No adverse impact on small businesses is anticipated.
- 15) Regulatory Agenda on which this rulemaking was summarized: July 2026
- 16) Any other information or justification for the proposed rule or amendment that the agency believes would be helpful to the public regarding the proposed rule or amendment. For example, a discussion or analysis of the benefits of the proposed rule or amendment is projected to have on the Illinois public, consumers, investors or other similar groups. None

The full text of the Proposed Amendments begins on the next page:

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TITLE 41: FIRE PROTECTION

CHAPTER I: OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

PART 141

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PARTICIPATION AND CERTIFICATION OF FIRE
PROTECTION PERSONNEL

SUBPART A: GENERAL

Section

141.10	Purpose
141.15	Definitions
141.20	Incorporations by Reference
141.30	Establishing or Revising State Certification Standards
141.40	Requirements for Participation in Training, Certification and Reimbursement (Repealed)
141.50	Appeal Process
141.60	Reciprocity (Repealed)
141.65	Division of Personnel Standards and Education (DPSE) WebAccess Portal

SUBPART B: TRAINING FACILITIES

Section

141.100	Training Facility Approval
141.110	Resources Required for Certification as an Unlimited Training Facility or Regional Training Center (Repealed)
141.115	Course Approval
141.120	Course Equivalency
141.125	Course Approval Standards (Repealed)

SUBPART C: EXAMINATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

Section

141.200	State Examinations
141.205	Testing Facilities and Proctors (Repealed)
141.210	Invalidation of a Candidate's State Written or Practical Examination Scores
141.215	Non-Affiliated Individuals
141.220	Certificates Earned by Bypass Examination (Repealed)
141.230	Examination Procedures for End-of-Course Examinations Not Administered by

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- the Office (Repealed)
141.240 Bypass Examination (Repealed)
141.250 State Certifications
141.255 Invalidation of a Candidate's State Certifications or Recertifications

SUBPART D: CERTIFICATION LEVELS

Section

- 141.300 Firefighter II (Repealed)
141.301 Basic Operations Firefighter
141.302 Airport Firefighter
141.303 Advanced Technician Firefighter
141.304 Firefighter III (Repealed)
141.306 Fire Apparatus Engineer
141.308 Fire Officer I (Repealed)
141.309 Company Fire Officer
141.310 Fire Service Executive Support
141.312 Fire Department Incident Safety Officer
141.313 Fire Department Health and Safety Officer
141.314 Fire Officer II (Repealed)
141.315 Advanced Fire Officer
141.316 Chief Fire Officer
141.317 Fire Department Safety Officer [\(Repealed\)](#)
141.318 Fire Service Instructor I
141.320 Fire Service Instructor II
141.322 Fire Service Instructor III
141.324 Training Program Manager
141.326 Basic Fire Prevention Officer [\(Repealed\)](#)
141.327 Fire Inspector I
141.328 Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention Specialist
141.329 Fire Inspector II
141.330 ~~Public~~ Fire and Life Safety Educator I
141.331 Advanced Fire Prevention Officer [\(Repealed\)](#)
141.332 Public Fire and Life Safety Educator III (Repealed)
[141.333 Community Risk Reduction Practitioner](#)
141.334 Fire Investigator
141.336 Arson Investigator (Repealed)
141.337 State Fire Marshal Arson Investigator Special Agent
141.338 Fire Inspector II and Plan Examiner I (Repealed)

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141.340	Fire Inspector III and Plan Examiner II (Repealed)
141.342	Hazardous Materials Awareness (Repealed)
141.344	Hazardous Materials Operations
141.346	Hazardous Materials Technician
141.348	Hazardous Materials Incident Command (Repealed)
141.350	Technical Rescue Awareness (Repealed)
141.352	Confined Space Operations
141.353	Confined Space Technician
141.354	Trench Operations
141.356	Trench Technician
141.358	Rescue Specialist – Vertical II (Repealed)
141.360	Structural Collapse Operations
141.362	Structural Collapse Technician
141.364	Common Passenger Vehicle Rescue
141.366	Heavy Vehicle Rescue
141.367	Rope Operations
141.368	Motorsports Safety Technician (Repealed)
141.369	High Angle Rope Operations (Repealed)
141.370	Fire Service Vehicle Operator
141.371	Rope Technician
141.372	Surface Water Operations
141.373	Ice Technician (Repealed)
141.374	Swiftwater Technician (Repealed)
141.375	Watercraft Technician
141.376	Dive Technician (Repealed)
141.377	Ice Dive Technician (Repealed)
141.380	Invalidation of Certification (Repealed)
141.385	Rescue Operations (Repealed)
141.386	Rescue Technician (Repealed)
141.390	Recertifications
141.395	Historical Certification Titles

SUBPART E: REIMBURSEMENT

Section	
141.400	Reimbursement
141.405	Prerequisites for Participation for Reimbursement (Repealed)
141.410	Requirements (Repealed)
141.415	Claim Forms (Repealed)

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141.420	Claim Deadline (Repealed)
141.425	Amount of Reimbursement (Repealed)
141.450	Appropriations (Repealed)
141.460	Advanced Training Programs (Repealed)

SUBPART F: FEES

Section

141.500	Fees (Repealed)
141.505	Waiver of Fees (Repealed)

AUTHORITY: Implementing and authorized by Sections 8 and 11 of the Illinois Fire Protection Training Act [50 ILCS 740] and the Peace Officer Fire Investigation Act [20 ILCS 2910].

SOURCE: Adopted at 31 Ill. Reg. 8672, effective June 5, 2007; amended at 33 Ill. Reg. 5780, effective April 2, 2009; amended at 34 Ill. Reg. 8297, effective June 8, 2010; amended at 41 Ill. Reg. 4131, effective March 27, 2017; amended at 41 Ill. Reg. 6594, effective August 1, 2017; amended at 45 Ill. Reg. 11584, effective August 31, 2021; recodified SUBPART C at 46 Ill. Reg. 2775; amended at 47 Ill. Reg. 424, effective January 1, 2023; amended at 48 Ill. Reg. 10877, effective July 11, 2024; amended at 49 Ill. Reg. 15637, effective November 24, 2025; amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____.

SUBPART A: GENERAL

Section 141.15 Definitions

Unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms have the meanings ascribed in this Section:

"Act" means the Illinois Fire Protection Training Act [50 ILCS 740].

"Application for Certification" means the application submitted by the employing fire chief or their designee for a Candidate to receive certification that verifies successful passage of the State Practical Examination and completion of a series of prerequisites for that certification under Subpart D.

"Candidate" means fire service personnel participating in the certification program for the purpose of certification or recertification.

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"Certification" means the official documentation awarded by the Office to eligible fire protection personnel after successful completion of established requirements of this Part.

"Division" ~~or "DPSE"~~ means the Division of Personnel Standards and Education within the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

~~"DPSE WebAccess Portal" or "WebAccess Portal" means the web-based program that shall be utilized by the fire service to participate in the certification programs. The DPSE WebAccess Portal can be accessed at:
<https://webapps.sfm.illinois.gov/PSEPortal/Account/Login>.~~

"Fire Advisory Commission" or "FAC" means the advisory board which is established under the State Fire Marshal Act [20 ILCS 2905/3] to advise the Office in the exercise of its powers and duties.

"Fire Association" means a fire-related association, organization or entity that is represented on the Fire Advisory Commission by a member who serves as an ex-officio member pursuant to Section 3 of the State Fire Marshal Act [20 ILCS 2905/3].

"Fire Brigade" means an organized group of employees at a facility who are knowledgeable, trained and skilled in at least basic firefighting operations, and whose full-time occupation might or might not be the provision of fire suppression and related activities for their employer.

"Fire Department" or "Department" means an organization providing fire suppression, training, fire administration, fire investigation, fire prevention, rescue, executive support and related activities.

"Fire Service", "Fire Service Personnel", "Fire Protection Personnel", "Fire Fighter" or "Firefighter" means a fire department, fire protection district, fire association, training facility, OSFM and the members of these entities who are engaged in fire suppression, training, fire administration, fire investigation, fire prevention, rescue, executive support and related activities, including *individuals who have retired from active fire service duties and are officially affiliated with fire service training, mutual aid, incident command, fire ground operations or staff support* for fire associations.

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"Fire Service Experience" means fire suppression training, fire administration, fire investigation or fire prevention experience in a fire department, including rescue, executive support and related activities.

"Illinois Fire Service Institute" or "IFSI" means the State Fire Academy for the State of Illinois, operated by the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois, pursuant to 110 ILCS 365/2.

"Job Performance Requirements" or "JPRs" means a written statement that describes a specific job task, lists the items necessary to complete the task, and defines measurable or observable outcomes and evaluation areas for the specific task as recognized and defined by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

"Local Governmental Agency" means any local governmental unit or municipal corporation in this State. It does not include the State of Illinois or any office, officer, department, division, bureau, board, commission, or agency of the State except:

a State-controlled university, college, or public community college; or

the Office of the State Fire Marshal. (Section 2(b) of the Act)

"NFPA" means the National Fire Protection Association.

"Non-Affiliated Individual" means an individual who is not and has never been fire service personnel while attending and completing courses allowed under Section 141.215.

"Office" means the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

"Portal" means the web-based program that shall be utilized by the fire service to participate in the certification programs.

"Qualified Instructor" means an individual who possesses certification or certifications required to provide instruction for a specific certification level as listed in Subpart D.

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"Recertification" means the process where a specified certification listed in Section 141.390 may be renewed through the successful completion of the relevant task book or tally sheet and the submission of a new Application for Certification by the employing fire chief or their designee.

"Request for Examination" means the submission of the Request for Examination to the Division from a training facility requesting to schedule a State Written Examination.

"~~Standard~~~~Standards~~" or "~~Standards~~~~Standard~~" means the applicable NFPA standard or standards.

"State Fire Marshal" ~~or "SFM"~~ means the Executive Director of the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

"State Practical Examination" means a Division-approved psychomotor examination.

"State Written Examination" means a Division-approved computer-based or paper examination.

"Successful Completion" of a course means the completion of the course and meeting the requirements of the training facility.

"Tally Sheet" means the digital ~~Division~~~~DPSE~~-provided sheet that may be used by candidates to document JPR completion or points required for recertification as specified in Section 141.390.

"Task Book" means a Division-provided booklet used to evaluate a candidate's performance of skills or work experience required for a specific certification or recertification found in this Part. The task book includes: references to the relevant NFPA Standard and the observable behaviors, activities and tasks that must be met for certification or recertification.

"Training Facility" means an academy, fire association, fire department, fire protection district, fire brigade, or college located within the State of Illinois and approved by the Division to provide the training for fire protection personnel, as referenced in Section 141.100. "Training Facility" may also include the Office.

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(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.20 Incorporations by Reference

- a) All incorporations by reference in this Section refer to the standards in effect on the date specified and do not include any later editions or amendments.
- b) The following nationally recognized standards published by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) (1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471; www.nfpa.org) are incorporated by reference in this Part:

NFPA 470: Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Standard for Responders (2022)

NFPA 1000: Standard for Fire Service Professional Qualifications Accreditation and Certification Systems (2022)

NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications (2021)

NFPA 1010: Standard on Professional Qualifications for Firefighters (2024)

NFPA 1030: Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Prevention Program Positions (2024) (Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention Specialist)

~~NFPA 1021:~~ ~~Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications (2020)~~

~~NFPA 1031:~~ ~~Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspector and Plan Examiner (2014)~~

NFPA 1033: Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator (2022)

~~NFPA 1041:~~ ~~Standard for Fire and Emergency Services Instructor Professional Qualifications (2019)~~

~~NFPA 1403:~~ ~~Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions (2018)~~

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~~NFPA 1451: Standard for a Fire and Emergency Service Vehicle Operations Training Program (2018)~~

~~NFPA 1521: Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer Professional Qualifications (2020)~~

NFPA 1900: Standard for Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Vehicles, Automotive Fire Apparatus, Wildland Fire Apparatus, and Automotive Ambulances (2024)

~~NFPA 1971: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting (2018)~~

~~NFPA 1981: Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for Emergency Services (2019)~~

NFPA 2500: Standard for Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents and Life Safety Rope and Equipment for Emergency Services (2022)

- c) The following NFPA standards are incorporated by reference through December 31, ~~2026~~2024, to allow for administrative updates by the fire service:

~~NFPA 1001: Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications (2019)~~

~~NFPA 1002: Standard for Fire Apparatus Drive/Operator Professional Qualifications (2017)~~

~~NFPA 1003: Standard for Airport Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications (2019)~~

~~NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications
(2013 Rope and Trench)
(2017 Confined Space and Vehicle and Machinery)
(2021 Structural Collapse, Surface Water and Watercraft)~~

NFPA 1021: Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications (2020)

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NFPA 1031: Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspector and Plan Examiner (2014)

~~NFPA 1035: Standard on Fire and Life Safety Educator, Public Information Officer, Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist, and Youth Firesetter Program Manager Professional Qualifications (2015)~~

NFPA 1041: Standard for Fire and Emergency Services Instructor Professional Qualifications (2019)

~~NFPA 1072: Standard for Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Response Personnel Professional Qualifications (2017)~~

NFPA 1521: Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer Professional Qualifications (2020)

~~NFPA 1901: Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus (2016)~~

NFPA 1971: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting (2018)

NFPA 1981: Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for Emergency Services (2019)

~~NFPA 1983: Standard on Life Safety Rope and Equipment for Emergency Services (2017)~~

- d) The following NFPA standards are incorporated by reference starting January 1, ~~2027~~2025, to allow for administrative updates by the fire service:

~~NFPA 470: Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Standard for Responders (2022)~~

~~NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications (2021)~~

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- ~~NFPA 1010: Standard on Professional Qualifications for Firefighters (2024)~~
- NFPA 1020: Standard for Fire and Emergency Services Instructor, Fire Officer, and Emergency Medical Services Officer Professional Qualifications (2025)
- NFPA 1030: Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Prevention Program Positions (2024) ~~(Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention Specialist)~~
- NFPA 1091: Standard for Traffic Incident Management Personnel Professional Qualifications (2024)
- NFPA 1300: Standard on Community Risk Assessment and Community Risk Reduction Plan Development (2026)
- NFPA 1400: Standard on Fire Service Training (2026)
- NFPA 1550: Standard for Emergency Responder for Health and Safety (2024)
- ~~NFPA 1900: Standard for Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Vehicles, Automotive Fire Apparatus, Wildland Fire Apparatus, and Automotive Ambulances (2024)~~
- NFPA 1970: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural and Proximity Firefighting, Work Apparel, Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for Emergency Services, and Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS) (2025)
- ~~NFPA 2500: Standard for Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents and Life Safety Rope and Equipment for Emergency Services (2022)~~

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.30 Establishing or Revising State Certification Standards

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- a) When the NFPA releases a new or revised Standard related to a certification program, the Division shall determine the impact of the new or revised Standard on current certification requirements ~~and based upon those determinations, will make recommendations regarding certification requirements to the State Fire Marshal. DPSE shall notify members of the Fire Advisory Commission (FAC) of the recommendations.~~
- b) The Division will be responsible for contacting the publishers to determine an estimated publish date for new or revised student and instructor materials and test banks that will reference the new or revised NFPA Standard. The Division will request copies of those referenced materials and test banks when they are released and available.
- c) After receiving the new or revised reference materials and test banks, the Division shall review the materials and test banks to maintain compliance with the most current Standards. ~~This process will be completed within 3 months after the Division receives the new or revised published reference materials and test banks.~~
 - 1) The Division shall be responsible for reviewing the published reference materials and test banks to ensure that the reference materials and test banks meet all the Job Performance Requirements (JPRs) for the new or revised Standards.
 - A) The Division review of the reference materials may include collaboration with fire association members of the Fire Advisory Commission (FAC) and the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) ~~subject matter experts and IFSI Curriculum Staff, initiated by the Division contacting IFSI's Director and Deputy Director.~~
 - B) If the Division determines that the published materials do not fully meet the JPRs for the Standard or Standards, the Division shall develop a plan to adequately address all JPRs. The plan may include contacting fire association members of the FAC and the Illinois Fire Service Institute. ~~IFSI's Director and Deputy Director to request input from IFSI subject matter experts and curriculum staff.~~
 - C) ~~If the Division determines that changes to any level of certification significantly impacts members of a fire association, the Division~~

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~~may, informally and on an ad hoc basis, request input by contacting the affected fire association.~~

- C~~D~~) Notwithstanding specific requests from the Division for input on Standards, IFSI and fire associations may also contact the Division directly to offer input when a new or revised Standard is released.
- 2) Test questions shall be selected exclusively from a test bank, when such a test bank is available.
- A) When a test bank is not available, the Division shall develop a bank of test questions based upon the Division-approved published reference materials and correlated to the JPRs of the applicable Standards.
- B) The Division shall determine the minimum number of test questions needed for each battery of written examinations and accept or develop evolutions for practical examinations to ensure each JPR is referenced.
- C) Only Division-approved test questions and evolutions shall be utilized for the State Written and Practical Examinations.
- D) The Division is responsible for ensuring the security of all approved test questions.
- E) Test questions shall only be reviewed or developed by Office staff unless subject matter experts are required. A signed confidentiality form is required for all subject matter experts who are not Office staff.
- d) The Division will notify the State Fire Marshal and members of the FAC regarding proposed changes to certifications, which~~Division recommendations to the State Fire Marshal (SFM)~~ may include, but are not limited to:
- 1) Level of certifications to be added or revised;
- 2) Titles and editions of reference materials;

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- 3) Written and Practical Examinations;
- 4) Certification requirements;
- 5) Recertification requirements ~~(Task Books)~~;
- 6) Proposed administrative rule changes; and
- 7) Certification transition periods, as needed:
 - A) When a certification is revised by the Office, a transition period may be necessary to allow fire service personnel to complete any remaining unfinished requirements under the current adopted administrative rules of Subpart D for that level of certification; and
 - B) When necessary, recommendations for a transition period will be included as part of the recommended revisions submitted by the Division.
- 8) Pilot courses, as needed:
 - A) When a new certification is created or an existing certification program is significantly revised by the Division, pilot programs may be scheduled as needed to validate new or revised coursework and examinations until the adoption of the new certification by the Office is completed;
 - B) The Division shall determine the criteria for selecting and recommending pilot courses and a pilot course host to the [State Fire Marshal](#) ~~SFM~~. All pilot courses shall be approved by the [State Fire Marshal](#) ~~SFM~~;
 - C) The Division shall be responsible for scheduling the initial pilot courses to ensure that the validation of the pilot courses is completed accurately and efficiently;
 - D) Fire service personnel who complete a pilot course and who meet all requirements of the newly established or revised certification may be eligible to obtain certification for that level; and

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- E) The Office shall bear no responsibility for costs incurred during a pilot course.
- ~~F9)~~ IFSI and fire associations may offer to conduct a pilot course for any new or revised certification that has been approved by the State Fire Marshal~~SFM~~ for inclusion in the certification program.
 - ~~iA)~~ If IFSI or a fire association is selected to host the initial pilot course, they may charge attendees tuition, but the total fees collected for the initial pilot course shall not exceed the reasonable material and equipment costs for that pilot course, as determined by IFSI or the fire association with the State Fire Marshal's~~SFM's~~ approval; and
 - ~~iiB)~~ Fee limitations shall not apply for subsequent offerings of a pilot course conducted by IFSI or the fire associations after the initial pilot course has been validated.
- e) FAC members will be requested to notify their subject matter experts of the proposed changes to certifications.
- f) The Division will accept comments for 30 calendar days after notifying the FAC members.
 - 1) If the Division receives comments regarding the proposed changes to certifications, the Division will review all comments.
 - 2) If the Division does not receive comments within 30 calendar days, the Division will present all proposed changes to certifications to the State Fire Marshal for review, discussion and approval or rejection of proposed changes to certifications.
 - 3) Upon approval of the State Fire Marshal, the Division will initiate the administrative rulemaking process. The FAC will be updated as to developments at the next regularly scheduled FAC meeting.
- e) ~~Once the Division makes determinations and recommendations pertaining to a new or revised Standard, the Division will notify the FAC.~~

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- 1) ~~FAC members will be requested to notify their subject matter experts of the proposed changes to respective certifications.~~
 - 2) ~~The Division will accept comments, concerns, suggestions or questions from FAC members' subject matter experts for 30 days after notifying the FAC:~~
 - A) ~~If the Division receives comments regarding the proposed changes, it shall review all comments and, if deemed necessary by the Division, schedule a meeting with subject matter experts to address their concerns.~~
 - B) ~~If a meeting is scheduled, subject matter experts will be invited and shall have the opportunity to review the proposed changes to the certification or recertification programs. Test questions shall not be reviewed.~~
 - C) ~~If the Division does not receive comments within 30 days, the Division will present all recommendations to SFM for review, discussion and approval or rejection of recommendations.~~
 - 3) ~~Upon approval by the SFM, the topic will be added to the next FAC meeting agenda for final notification of the proposed changes.~~
 - 4) ~~Upon final notification to the FAC, the Division will begin disseminating information regarding the proposed changes and initiate the administrative rulemaking process. The FAC will be updated as to any developments at the next regularly scheduled FAC meeting.~~
- gf) IFSI or members of the FAC representing fire associations may request that the Office adopt a new certification.
- 1) IFSI or a fire association must submit a written request to the [State Fire Marshal](#) ~~SFM~~ requesting the consideration of a new certification. The written request shall include but is not limited to:
 - A) The title and edition of the referenced Standard;

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- B) The title and edition of the referenced publisher material; and
 - C) The title and publisher of the test banks.
- 2) Upon receipt of the written request, the [State Fire Marshal](#)~~SFM~~ will discuss with the Division the anticipated impact of the new certification on the fire service and Office.
- A) If approved, the Division shall contact IFSI or the fire association to begin the establishment of a new certification.
 - B) If approved, the [State Fire Marshal](#)~~SFM~~ shall announce the development of the requested new certification at the next scheduled FAC meeting.
 - C) If denied, the [State Fire Marshal](#)~~SFM~~ shall notify IFSI or the fire association in writing with an explanation of the denied request.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.65 Division of Personnel Standards [and Education](#)~~(DPSE) WebAccess Portal~~

- a) The [portal](#)~~DPSE WebAccess Portal~~ is the web-based program that shall be utilized by the fire service to:
- 1) participate in certification programs;
 - 2) review, revise and submit records; and
 - 3) print examination results and certifications.
- b) Training facilities and fire departments may utilize the [portal](#)~~DPSE WebAccess Portal~~ to update facility and rostered fire service personnel's contact information and to submit certification program required documentation.
- c) Fire service personnel who are employed by a training facility and appear on that training facility's or fire department's roster shall register using the [portal](#)~~DPSE WebAccess Portal~~.

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- 1) Registration shall be required prior to submission of request for examination and challenging State Written Examinations.
- 2) Fire service personnel have the ability to review their records and print examination results and certifications.
- d) The fire chief shall be responsible for the issuance and revocation of permissions on the [portal](#)~~DPSE WebAccess Portal~~. Fire Department personnel who are granted applicable permissions may act as the fire chief's designee as it pertains to all aspects of the certification programs utilizing the [portal](#)~~DPSE WebAccess Portal~~.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

SUBPART B: TRAINING FACILITIES

Section 141.100 Training Facility Approval

- a) To become a training facility for purposes of conducting training as required by this Part, an application shall be submitted via the [portal](#)~~DPSE WebAccess Portal~~ for review and approval by the Division. Each application shall include a minimum of one Course Approval Application as required in Section 141.115. If a submitted Course Approval is denied, the Training Facility Approval for that course shall be denied.
- b) A training facility shall have adequate resources available for conducting level specific training. Training facility requirements include:
 - 1) For courses at all certification levels:
 - A) Classrooms with adequate environmental control and seating capacity for the anticipated student population;
 - B) Multimedia projection equipment, whiteboards, chalkboards or the like;
 - C) Suitable interior or exterior areas for the performance of practical evolutions;

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- D) Real or simulated props for use during the performance of practical skills evolutions;
 - E) Office-approved reference materials, available to both instructors and students; and
 - F) Ability to provide *training in effective recognition of and responses to stress, trauma and post-traumatic stress experienced by firefighters that is consistent with Section 25 of the Illinois Mental Health First Aid Training Act [405 ILCS 105/25] in a peer setting. [50 ILCS 740/8(d)].*
- 2) For Basic Operations Firefighter and Advanced Technician Firefighter courses:
- A) A training tower of not less than 2 stories in height;
 - B) A smoke and fire room or building suitable for containing, and equipped for simulating, fire atmosphere and conditions;
 - C) Forcible entry and ventilation drill facilities, including a means of providing the student an opportunity to practice opening a variety of doors, windows, roofs, floors and partitions; and
 - D) Facilities for conducting live fire training (by permission and within the restrictions of applicable State and federal entities and in accordance with NFPA 1400~~1403~~), involving the following required scenarios:
 - i) Structural fires;
 - ii) Flammable liquid fires;
 - iii) Liquefied petroleum or natural gas fires; and
 - iv) Vehicle fires.
- 3) For Confined Space Operations, Confined Space Technician, Rope Operations and Rope Technician courses:

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- A) A training structure of not less than 2 stories in height, equipped with suitable engineered anchor points to be used during practical evolutions; and
 - B) Documentation supporting the use and load capacity of the anchor points maintained by the training facility and available to the Division upon request.
- 4) For a Structural Collapse Technician course, there shall be an area suitable for training in extensive shoring operations.
- c) A training facility shall have adequate equipment required to conduct level-specific training. Training facility equipment requirements include:
- 1) For Basic Operations Firefighter and Advanced Technician Firefighter courses:
 - A) A fire apparatus equipped in accordance with ~~Chapters 5 and 6 of NFPA 1901 through December 31, 2024. Starting on and after January 1, 2025, a fire apparatus equipped in accordance with~~ NFPA 1900;
 - B) Rope and webbing suitable for search and rescue operations in accordance ~~with NFPA 1983 through December 31, 2024. Starting on and after January 1, 2025, rope and webbing suitable for search and rescue operations, in accordance~~ with NFPA 2500;
 - C) Protective clothing for each student, in accordance with NFPA ~~1970~~1971;
 - D) Approved Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and one spare cylinder for each student, in accordance with NFPA ~~1970~~1981, which may be supplied by the student; and
 - E) Ability to replicate all learning experiences required for the level specific certification program.

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- 2) For Trench Operations, Trench Technician, Structural Collapse Operations, Structural Collapse Technician, Common Passenger Vehicle Rescue, Heavy Vehicle Rescue, Rope Operations, Rope Technician, Surface Water Operations and Watercraft Technician courses:
 - A) Rope and webbing of assorted lengths and appropriate ancillary equipment, in accordance with ~~NFPA 1983 through December 31, 2024. Starting on and after January 1, 2025, rope and webbing of assorted lengths and appropriate ancillary equipment, in accordance with~~ NFPA 2500; and
 - B) Hand and power equipment to be utilized during the performance of specialized practical evolutions as specified in the relevant NFPA Standard.
- 3) For Hazardous Materials Operations, Hazardous Materials Technician, Confined Space Operations and Confined Space Technician courses:
 - A) Rope and webbing of assorted lengths and appropriate ancillary equipment, in accordance with ~~NFPA 1983 through December 31, 2024, rope and webbing of assorted lengths and appropriate ancillary equipment, in accordance with~~ NFPA 2500;
 - B) Hand and powered equipment to be utilized during the performance of specialized practical evolutions;
 - C) Approved Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and one spare cylinder for each student, in accordance with NFPA ~~1970~~1981, which may be supplied by the student; and
 - D) Personal protective equipment to be utilized during the performance of specialized practical evolutions as specified in the relevant Standard.
- d) A training facility may utilize the resources of another training facility for training under this Part.
- e) Training Facility approvals will be granted on a calendar year basis. A training facility's approval will be valid for up to 5 calendar years from the date of the

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initial approval in conjunction with Course Approvals (See Section 141.115). A new application for Training Facility approval shall be submitted, utilizing the [portal](#)~~DPSE WebAccess Portal~~, prior to December 31 of the calendar year in which it expires. Prior to the expiration date of Training Facility Approval, the Division shall notify the training facility at one year prior and at 90 days prior of the upcoming expiration date.

- f) The Division may monitor, evaluate and review all aspects of training facilities and courses for conformance with the requirements of this Part. (See 50 ILCS 740/8 and 50 ILCS 740/11)
- g) Training facilities not meeting the requirements of this Part shall have their approvals suspended or revoked.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.115 Course Approval

Training facilities wishing to offer courses leading to certification for classroom or web-based delivery shall submit a completed Course Approval Application, utilizing the [portal](#)~~DPSE WebAccess Portal~~, specifying the courses for which the training facility seeks approval.

- a) A Course Approval will be granted to those facilities that possess the specific Training Facility approval as required in Section 141.100.
- b) Training facilities shall submit the Course Approval Application utilizing the [portal](#)~~DPSE WebAccess Portal~~. The appropriate course name shall be selected from the courses offered. The training facility shall have the option of including the State Practical Examinations as part of the course completion roster ~~by checking the box on the application prior to submission~~. When a training facility opts to include the State Practical Examination as part of the Course Approval, the training facility must attest that everyone listed on the course completion roster utilizing the Course Approval has completed and passed the State Practical Examination. A qualified instructor shall be required for each specified course to obtain approval.
- c) Course Approvals will be granted on a calendar year basis. A Course Approval will be valid for up to 5 calendar years from the date of the initial approval in conjunction with Training Facility Approvals. A new Application for Course

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Approval shall be submitted utilizing the ~~portal~~[DPSE WebAccess Portal](#), prior to December 31 of the calendar year in which it expires. Prior to the expiration date of the Course Approval, the Division shall notify the training facility at one year prior and at 90 days prior of the upcoming expiration date.

- d) Training facilities may submit additional courses for course approval within the 5-year cycle. The appropriate Training Facility Approval shall be required for the additional courses. The expiration of the added courses shall remain in conjunction with the original expiration cycle. For example, a Course Approval granted between January 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022 will be approved until December 31, 2026. If a Training Facility received additional course approvals within the 5-year cycle (for example, on March 1, 2024), the additional Course Approvals will also expire on December 31, 2026.
- e) For each approved course, training facilities shall be required to submit a schedule of all courses to be conducted utilizing that Course Approval. The schedule shall be submitted using the ~~portal~~[DPSE WebAccess Portal](#) Event Calendar no less than 2 weeks prior to the first day of the course. The information required consists of the name of the training facility with course approval, title of the approved course, location of the course, dates of classroom instruction, contact name and contact information for the training facility, and if applicable, dates of examination. If the course schedule is not provided in accordance with the requirements of this paragraph, the course completion roster will be denied.
- f) For a training facility to receive Course Approval ~~for the following courses~~, the training facility shall submit required course syllabi and content correlated to the respective Standard as specified in subsection 141.115(g) for review by the Division. The Division's syllabi and content review must be completed and approved before the Course Approval will be processed.
 - 1) ~~Company Fire Officer;~~
 - 2) ~~Advanced Fire Officer;~~
 - 3) ~~Chief Fire Officer;~~
 - 4) ~~Fire Service Executive Support;~~
 - 5) ~~Fire Department Incident Safety Officer;~~

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- ~~6) Fire Department Health and Safety Officer;~~
 - ~~7) Fire Service Instructor I, II, or III;~~
 - ~~8) Training Program Manager;~~
 - ~~9) Fire Inspector I or II;~~
 - ~~10) Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I;~~
 - ~~11) Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention Specialist;~~
 - ~~12) Fire Investigator;~~
 - ~~13) Confined Space Operations or Technician; or~~
 - ~~14) Structural Collapse Operations or Technician.~~
- g) Required information to be submitted to the Division for review includes, but shall not be limited to:
- 1) Title of Course;
 - 2) Prerequisites;
 - 3) Reference Material;
 - 4) Attendance Policy;
 - 5) Pre-Course Assignments;
 - 6) Course Content;
 - 7) Referenced NFPA Standard and JPRs;
 - 8) Course Hours;
 - 9) Daily Agenda; and

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- 10) Qualified Instructors.
- h) If the training facility revises a course curriculum or if the course curriculum is revised due to a change in the applicable standard or administrative rules before the Course Approval cycle has expired, the course syllabi and content correlated to the respective standard shall be resubmitted for approval.
- i) Instructor Requirements
- 1) A certified Instructor I may teach the following courses in which the Instructor I possesses the specified certification:
- A) Basic Operations Firefighter
- B) Hazardous Materials Operations
- C) Fire Service Vehicle Operator
- 2) A certified Instructor II may teach those courses referenced in Subpart D in which the Instructor II possesses the specified certification.
- A) A training facility may allow additional individuals who are:
- i) certified as Instructor I and to the certification level; or
- ii) subject matter experts as determined by the qualified instructor to assist teaching courses that require a certified Instructor II for classroom instruction.
- B) The qualified instructor is responsible for ensuring that all requirements of the course curriculum are taught accurately. The qualified instructor is responsible for all aspects of the course delivery. The qualified instructor is not required to be present during the classroom instruction.
- C) A training facility may allow additional individuals who are certified as Instructor I and to the certification level to assist with

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demonstrating practical evolutions that require a certified Instructor II for practical instruction.

- D) The qualified instructor is responsible for ensuring that all requirements of the practical evolutions are taught accurately. The qualified instructor is responsible for all aspects of the practical examination evaluations. The qualified instructor is required to be present during the practical evolutions and the practical examination evaluations.
- 3) State Practical Examination evolutions shall meet the requirement for student to instructor ratio where specified in Subpart D.
- j) Course completion rosters shall be submitted to the Division by the training facility, utilizing the portal~~DPSE WebAccess Portal~~, listing candidates who successfully completed courses. Candidates must complete 100% of the course requirements of the training facility to be eligible for inclusion on the course completion roster.
- k) The Division may monitor, evaluate and review all aspects of the delivery and record keeping of approved courses for conformance with the requirements of this Part.
- l) Training facilities shall:
- 1) Provide records of each student's 100%~~student attendance (a minimum of 90% attendance is required for each student seeking certification);~~ and each student's evaluation~~student evaluations~~ of the course;
 - 2) Retain training records in accordance with the applicable local government's records retention schedule but, in no case, less than 5 years for training record review purposes; and
 - 3) Retain complete training facility student records of course completion and test scores for at least 5 years for training record review purposes.
- m) Each training facility shall implement and follow an established system of records maintenance for classroom or web-based delivery that shall be retained and provided to the Division upon request for review.

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- 1) Training records shall include at minimum the following:
 - A) Attendance or sign-in sheets;
 - B) JPRs of subjects taught, referenced to the applicable standards;
 - C) Dates and beginning and ending hours trained for each session;
 - D) Total student contact hours;
 - E) Names and signatures of students;
 - F) Names and signatures of instructors;
 - G) Description of how the training was conducted (classroom and practical); and
 - H) Physical location of the training.
- 2) State Practical Examination training records shall contain at minimum the following:
 - A) JPRs of subjects taught, referenced to the applicable standards;
 - B) Date of completion;
 - C) Names and signatures of students; and
 - D) Names and signatures of instructors.
- 3) Computerized or web-based records of training shall include:
 - A) Training records maintained utilizing a computerized or web-based records management system shall be acceptable if users have passwords and access rights.
 - B) Users logging into their own account to track a training session, with their attendance at and completion of the training session

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validated by a Qualified Instructor or fire officer, shall have this entry counted as a digital signature.

- C) Users who have their training sessions logged for them by a Qualified Instructor or fire officer shall be required to review their training records on a scheduled basis via their own account, thereby validating their attendance at and completion of those training sessions.
- n) A training facility must have a system for evaluating the effectiveness of a course taught at that facility.
- o) The Division may revoke Course Approvals if a training facility violates any requirement of Subpart B or Subpart C. In determining whether to revoke, the Division shall consider the seriousness and frequency of the offenses.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.120 Course Equivalency

Course equivalency may be granted to a candidate eligible to participate in the certification programs. Courses which do not have prior Division approval, but which correlate with the content areas of the required courses by meeting the requirements of this Section, the applicable Standard and which conclude with an evaluation of the candidate's retention of course materials may be granted course equivalency status by the Division. This course equivalency status indicates an approval for certification purposes only, not for reimbursement.

- a) To request a course equivalency, the candidate shall submit a ~~request letter~~ to the Division requesting course equivalency with attached proof of course completion from the entity where the non-approved course was taken. Proof of course completions shall include the applicable referenced Standard. Course equivalency shall be granted if the course completion documentation references:
 - 1) ~~is compliant with~~ the specific Standard ~~listed~~~~referenced~~ in the current Illinois certification in Subpart D;
 - 2) a previous edition of the specific Standard listed in the current Illinois certification in Subpart D; or

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- 3) an applicable previous Standard for the current Illinois certification in Subpart D.
- b) If the course completion does not include the applicable referenced Standard, it shall be the responsibility of the candidate to obtain a formal letter from the legal or administrative staff of the entity where the non-approved course was taken, stating the applicable Standard that was referenced for the specific course. College catalog descriptions are not sufficient documentation for review.
- c) The Division may require the individual to submit additional documentation to ensure the course completion referenced an applicable Standard before approving the course equivalency.
- db) When a course is granted course equivalency, the candidate will be allowed to challenge the State Written and Practical Examinations in accordance with the requirements of Section 141.200.~~one-time. If passed on the first attempt and all certification prerequisites are met, the candidate will then be eligible for certification. Failure of either the State Written or Practical Examination will invalidate the course equivalency status and require the candidate to successfully complete a Division-approved certification course prior to challenging the State Written and Practical Examination a second time.~~

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

SUBPART C: EXAMINATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

Section 141.200 State Examinations

- a) State Written Examinations shall be developed and provided by the Division and administered by approved Division personnel~~testing facilities. The battery of State Written Examinations to be given shall be determined by the Division.~~
- b) The battery of State Written Examinations to be given shall be developed by the Division utilizing generated exams from approved referenced test banks.
- 1) The Division will establish test sites.~~The Office may approve vendors to proctor State Written Examinations following established State procurement rules.~~

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- 2) Test sites requesting approval to host State Written Examinations shall possess sufficient facilities to offer the State Written Examinations.
- A) Adequate Wi-Fi connection availability to sustain the anticipated number of candidates at the test site.
 - B) Classrooms, lecture rooms, and municipal or fire department training rooms with adequate seating and space available for the anticipated number of candidates at the test site.
 - C) Chairs and desks or tables shall be provided by the test site.
 - D) The room in which the State Written Examination is to be given shall be a room customarily used for quiet activities and not subject to loud noise or other activities nearby that may interfere with taking the State Written Examination.
 - E) Candidates must be spaced to ensure that they cannot readily observe another candidate's answers.
 - F) The room shall have adequate lighting, ventilation, and an appropriate testing atmosphere.
- 3) The following specifications for the test site and the administration of the State Written Examination must be adhered to:
- A) There shall be a proctor assigned by the Division. The Division may assign additional proctors to a test site due to the number of candidates scheduled to test.
 - B) Candidates not present in the room at the time the proctor starts the State Written Examination will be disqualified from taking the State Written Examination on that test date.
 - C) Information that could pertain to State Written Examination content shall not be readily visible in the testing room.
 - D) A table and chair must be provided for use by the proctor.

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- E) The test site must have toilet facilities in close proximity to the testing room.
- F) All candidates must be in clear view of the proctor.
- G) The test site must have temperature control and the testing room shall be at a reasonable ambient temperature.
- 42) When challenging a State Written Examination, candidates shall follow established rules and guidelines set forth by the Division personnel ~~vendor~~ proctoring the State Written Examinations.

 - A) The Office shall allow ~~pay, one time only, for~~ a candidate one opportunity to challenge a State Written Examination of a specific level at no charge.
 - B) If a candidate fails the State Written Examination or fails to appear for their scheduled examination, it shall be the responsibility of the candidate or fire department to pay for additional opportunities to challenge the State Written Examination of the specific level.

 - i) Cost for an additional opportunity to challenge the State Written Examination of the specific level is \$59 plus processing fees per opportunity.
 - ii) Proof of payment must be received by the Division prior to the Division scheduling the candidate for a test date.
- 53) Fire service-related State Written Examinations require a 70% overall passing rate. In the case of State Written Modular Examinations, a 70% overall passing rate for each module is required.
- 64) State Written Examination results shall be posted to the candidate's records and made available by accessing the portal ~~DPSE WebAccess Portal~~. The Division shall maintain these scores and may use them internally for statistical or employment purposes.
- 75) Procedure to Request State Written Examination

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- A) The training facility or fire department shall submit the completed Request for Examination utilizing the ~~portal~~DPSE WebAccess Portal.
- B) The Request for Examination attests that each candidate has the required~~a~~ documented learning experience in each of the subject areas of the State Written Examination requested. It shall be the responsibility of the candidate's employing fire chief, or their designee, to verify completion of all prerequisites for Requests for Examination submitted to the Division.
- C) The Request for Examination and payment, if applicable, shall be submitted using the portal no less than 2 weeks prior to the requested test date.
- DE) A Request for Examination includes:
- i) Name of training facility or fire department submitting Request for Examination;
 - ii) Name of State Written Examination;
 - iii) Name of publisher of reference materials for the level-specific course;
 - iv~~iii~~) Training facility with proper Course Approval;
 - v~~iv~~) Fire Chief or Director's name;
 - vi~~v~~) Name of Qualified Instructor;
 - vii~~vi~~) Names of candidates; and
 - viii~~vii~~) Requested test~~Test start~~ date and test site.
- ED) The candidate must be registered on the ~~portal~~DPSE WebAccess Portal with a valid e-mail address ~~as required in Section 141.65~~.
- FE) When a Request for Examination is approved by the Division, a

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confirmation e-mail will be sent to the candidate's registered e-mail ~~address from the vendor~~ with the test date, test site, instructions, and examination requirements. ~~The candidate has 45 days after the test start date to schedule their examination date. The test start date shall be submitted as part of the Request for Examination.~~

GF) Candidates challenging the State Written Examinations shall meet one of the following employment requirements and be at least 18 years of age:

- i) Engaged in firefighting in an organized Illinois fire department in accordance with the Act and attested by the candidate's employing fire chief;
- ii) Employed by a local governmental agency;
- iii) Employed by an Illinois fire brigade;
- iv) Employed by the Office; or
- v) Individuals who have retired from active fire service duties and are officially affiliated with fire service training, mutual aid, incident command, fire ground operations or staff support for fire associations.

HG) Candidates who have not met minimum requirements for a State Written Examination shall not be examined.

I) On the test date:

- i) The proctor will not be permitted to discuss the content of the State Written Examination or answer questions referencing content of the State Written Examination.
- ii) No one will be permitted to enter once the State Written Examination has started.
- iii) Candidates are not permitted to have notes or reference material in their possession.

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- iv) Candidates are not allowed to have electronic devices including, but not limited to, calculators, portable radios, cell phones, smart watches, tablets, etc. at the test site during the State Written Examination.
- v) There will be no scheduled breaks during the State Written Examination. No one will be allowed to leave the room before completing the State Written Examination except with the approval of the proctor, and then only one at a time.
- vi) The State Written Examination will begin after the proctor has read the instructions, at which time all discussion will cease. During the State Written Examination, candidates will not be permitted to speak to each other.
- vii) Each candidate will receive an approved electronic device to access their State Written Examination and a sheet of paper that contains the candidate's name, the candidate's SFMID, and an examination access code.
 - This sheet of paper may also be used as scratch paper during the State Written Examination.
 - If additional scratch paper is requested, the first sheet will have to be returned prior to receiving an additional sheet.
 - This sheet and any additional sheets of scratch paper must be returned to the proctor with the electronic device when the candidate has completed the State Written Examination.
- viii) Any candidate without an examination access code will not be allowed to take the State Written Examination.
- ix) Prior to beginning the State Written Examination, the proctor shall have all candidates provide a valid federal or

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state-issued photo identification. The proctor will check each candidate's identification before providing the candidate with their examination access code and electronic device.

J) The Division will record results for all State Written Examinations.

- i) The candidate will be notified of tentative pass/fail at the end of the State Written Examination. This result will be pending confirmation and recording by the Division.
- ii) The candidate's State Written Examination results will be made available on their portal account.
- iii) Following the completion of the test date, the proctor shall notify the Division which candidates failed to sit for their scheduled State Written Examination and shall destroy all unused examination access codes.

KH) Reasonable modifications to the practices or procedures for proctoring State Written Examinations, in accordance with the federal regulations implementing Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (28 CFR 35), shall be permitted upon the Office's receipt, review and approval of a written request from the candidate requesting the specific accommodations. Formal documentation supporting the modification or accommodation sought shall accompany the written request. The ~~proctor~~vendor shall be notified by the Division of the approval, including the name of the candidate, the accommodations approved and the specific OSFM identification number for the candidate.

- ~~6) The Office and IFSI, pursuant to the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act [5 ILCS 22] and in accordance with the Civil Administrative Code [20 ILCS 5/5-655], entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement, in furtherance of the certification program, which allows IFSI end of course examinations that pertain to certifications to be reviewed and approved as equivalent to the State Written Examinations. Candidates who complete the approved equivalent IFSI examinations and requirements are not required to challenge and pass the State Written Examinations. The~~

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~~Intergovernmental Agreement will be reviewed and revised as necessary.~~

~~8~~7) Re-examination of State Written Examinations

- A) No candidate shall be re-examined without further documented learning experiences in each of the failed subject areas.
- B) There shall be no limits set by the Division for the number of times a candidate may take the State Written Examination, ~~except when the State Written Examinations are allowed under Section 141.120.~~

~~c~~b) State Practical Examinations shall be developed and provided by the Division.

- 1) The test site shall have toilet facilities in proximity of the area.
- 2) A Qualified Instructor is required to sign documentation confirming passage of the State Practical Examinations~~practical examinations.~~
- 3) A training facility may allow additional individuals who are certified as Instructor I and to the certification level to assist with demonstrating practical evolutions that require a certified Instructor II for practical instruction.~~For all certification courses that require a Qualified Instructor, at minimum, additional instructors must be certified as Instructor I and to the certification level when evaluating practical examinations.~~
- 4) All candidates shall be in clear view of the Qualified Instructor or an additional instructor that meets the requirements of subsection ~~(c)(b)~~(3) during the practical evolutions and the practical examination evaluation.
- 5) The qualified instructor is responsible for ensuring that all requirements of the practical evolutions are taught accurately. The qualified instructor is responsible for all aspects of the practical examination evaluations. The qualified instructor is required to be present during the practical evolutions and the practical examination evaluations.
- ~~6~~5) The proctor shall not be permitted to discuss or answer inquiries regarding skills required for the State Practical Examination.
- ~~7~~6) State Practical Examination results shall be posted to the candidate's

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records and made available by accessing the [portal](#)~~DPSE Web Access Portal~~. The Division shall maintain these results and may use them internally for statistical or employment purposes.

- A) Candidates challenging the State Practical Examinations shall meet one of the following employment requirements and be at least 18 years of age:
- i) Engaged in firefighting in an organized Illinois fire department in accordance with the Act and attested by the candidate's employing fire chief;
 - ii) Employed by a local governmental agency;
 - iii) Employed by an Illinois fire brigade;
 - iv) Employed by the Office; or
 - v) Individuals who have retired from active fire service duties and are officially affiliated with fire service training, mutual aid, incident command, fire ground operations or staff support for fire associations.
- B) Candidates who have not met minimum requirement for a State Practical Examination shall not be examined, nor shall candidates who are ill or obviously under the influence of drugs or alcohol. In making the determination of drug or alcohol impairment, the Division shall consider, but is not limited to, observation of demeanor, slurred speech, odor of alcohol, general behavior and other considerations that may aid in making the determination.
- 87) State Practical Examinations required by the Division for all certifications other than Basic Operations Firefighter are valid for 12 months. If a candidate has not passed the State Written Examination within 12 months after passing the State Practical Examination, the candidate must retake the State Practical Examination. State Practical Examinations for Basic Operations Firefighter are valid for 5 years. If a candidate does not pass the State Written Examination for Basic Operations Firefighter within 5 years after passing the State Practical Examination, the candidate must

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retake the State Practical Examination.

- 8) ~~The passing rate of all State Practical Examinations shall be 100% and it shall be the responsibility of the qualified instructor to follow the Division's administrative rules and assure accuracy of the skills.~~
- 9) One hundred percent (100%) of all practical JPR skills shall be taught and demonstrated by a qualified instructor. Each student must complete at 100% accuracy each JPR skill identified within the Division-supplied materials for State Practical Examination.
- 109) If firefighters from a given fire department experience excessive or repeated failures of a State Written or Practical Examination, the fire chief and appropriate officers of the department are encouraged to contact the Office for assistance.
- 1110) Non-affiliated individuals may not challenge any State Written or Practical Examinations except as permitted under Section 141.215.
- 1211) The Office may extend deadlines for requirements of this Section for good cause shown (e.g., military deployments, medical leaves, ~~personal emergencies~~, Acts of God or natural disasters, Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, etc.).

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.210 Invalidation of a Candidate's State Written or Practical Examination Scores

- a) During a State Written Examination, if the proctor observes or~~vendor~~ finds evidence of a candidate cheating or violating any requirements of this Part, the proctor~~vendor~~ shall immediately end the candidate's examination and confiscate any unauthorized note or reference materials. Evidence of cheating may include the following or similar activities:
- 1) Looking at unauthorized notes or reference materials;
 - 2) Obviously looking directly at another candidate's answers;

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- 3) Talking during the examination;
 - 4) Suspicious behavior relevant to alcohol or drug abuse;~~or~~
 - 5) Failing to follow the proctor's~~vendor's~~ instructions prior to or during the examination; ~~or~~
 - 6) Accessing a prohibited electronic device including, but not limited to, a smartwatch, calculator, or cell phone.
- b) The proctor~~vendor~~ shall submit a written report of the facts involved in the incident and include any confiscated materials to the Division~~Office~~.
- c) Confiscated materials shall be retained by the Division.
- d) When the Division determines that the evidence presented by the proctor~~vendor~~ is credible, the candidate's State Written Examination score shall be invalidated and a written notification shall be sent to the candidate and employing chief, which shall include:
- 1) A description of the incident;
 - 2) Notification that the State Written Examination score was invalidated; and
 - 3) A notice that the candidate is not permitted to challenge a State Written Examination for 120 days.
- e) The Division will review training records of training facilities and fire service personnel. In the course of reviewing training records, a candidate's State Written or Practical Examination scores shall be invalidated for causes including:
- 1) A State Practical Examination score was awarded based upon erroneous documentation in training records or erroneous documentation submitted to the Division;
 - 2) The training facility fails to maintain or produce the required training records;
 - 3) The instructor was not qualified at the appropriate certification level;

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- 4) The training facility did not possess valid training facility or course approval; or
- 5) Other factors indicating a failure to meet the required examination standards.
- f) When the Division determines that evidence involved requires the invalidation of a candidate's State Written or Practical Examination score, the candidate's State Written or Practical Examination score shall be invalidated and a written notification shall be sent to the candidate, the candidate's employing chief and training facility, if applicable, which shall include:
 - 1) Description of the incident; and
 - 2) Notification that the State Written or Practical Examination scores were invalidated.
- g) Any candidate whose State Written or Practical Examinations scores are invalidated may request a hearing in accordance with Section 141.50.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.215 Non-Affiliated Individuals

- a) Notwithstanding the other requirements of this Part, this Section establishes the process, effective January 1, 2023, for the Division to recognize non-affiliated individuals who complete select, approved courses, pass select State Written and Practical Examinations, and, upon becoming engaged as fire service personnel, have an opportunity to obtain Basic Operations Firefighter and Hazardous Materials Operations certifications.
 - 1) The Division will recognize course completion by non-affiliated individuals who complete an approved course for Basic Operations Firefighter or Hazardous Materials Operations.
 - 2) The Division will allow non-affiliated individuals the opportunity to challenge the State Written Examinations for Basic Operations Firefighter and Hazardous Materials Operations courses.

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- 3) The Division will recognize a non-affiliated individual's passage of State Practical Examinations upon completion of an approved course from a training facility for Basic Operations Firefighter and Hazardous Materials Operations.
 - 4) Non-affiliated individuals who pass the State Written and Practical Examinations for Basic Operations Firefighter and Hazardous Materials Operations shall be issued a Recognition of Completion.
 - 5) Non-affiliated individuals who have been issued a Recognition of Completion and subsequently become engaged as fire service personnel may receive certification from the Office for Basic Operations Firefighter and Hazardous Materials Operations if requirements under Subpart D are met.
- b) A training facility may add non-affiliated individuals to their roster utilizing the ~~portal~~[DPSE WebAccess Portal](#) for the purpose of submitting course completions and Requests for Examination as described in this Section.
- 1) Information required to be added on the ~~portal~~[DPSE WebAccess Portal](#) shall include the non-affiliated individual's:
 - A) Name;
 - B) Address;
 - C) Date of birth; [and](#)
 - ~~D) Last 8 digits of their driver's license;~~
 - ~~D~~[E](#)) Status as "non-affiliated"; ~~and~~
 - ~~F) Other optional statistical data at the discretion of the training facility.~~
 - 2) A training facility submitting course completions for non-affiliated individuals will be limited to submitting course completions for Basic Operations Firefighter and Hazardous Materials Operations and shall not

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submit course completions for non-affiliated individuals for any other courses.

- 3) The training facility may submit Requests for Examinations for Basic Operations Firefighter or Hazardous Materials Operations State Written Examinations for non-affiliated individuals who have completed an approved course for Basic Operations Firefighter or Hazardous Materials Operations, respectively, on the ~~DPSE WebAccess~~ portal. To submit a Request for Examination, a training facility shall follow the process of Section 141.200(b)(7)(a)(5)(A) through (C) except that the verification required by 141.200(b)(7)(B)(a)(5)(B) shall be provided by the training facility.
 - 4) A non-affiliated individual must be at least 18 years of age prior to challenging a State Written Examination.
- c) Non-affiliated individuals shall be allowed to register on the ~~portal DPSE WebAccess Portal~~ to access their records. Registration using a valid email address shall be required prior to submission of request for examination and challenging State Written Examinations.
 - d) When a Request for Examination is approved, a confirmation e-mail will be sent to the non-affiliated individual's registered e-mail ~~from the vendor with instructions and examination requirements. The non-affiliated individual has 45 days after the test start date to schedule their examination date. The test start date shall be submitted as part of the Request for Examination.~~
 - e) When challenging a State Written Examination, a non-affiliated individual shall follow established rules and guidelines set forth by the ~~proctor vendor proctoring the State Written Examination.~~
 - f) A non-affiliated individual is responsible for paying costs for State Written Examinations.
 - g) A non-affiliated individual shall be permitted reasonable modifications for Basic Operations Firefighter and Hazardous Materials Operations State Written Examinations in accordance with Section 141.200(b)(7)(K)(a)(5)(H).
 - h) The Division will recognize a non-affiliated individual's passage of State

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Practical Examinations upon completion of an approved course from a training facility for Basic Operations Firefighter and Hazardous Materials Operations, as follows:

- 1) The non-affiliated individual must be at least 18 years of age prior to challenging a State Practical Examination.
 - 2) State Practical Examinations for Basic Operations Firefighter are valid for 5 years. If a non-affiliated individual does not pass the State Written Examination within 5 years after passing the State Practical Examination, the non-affiliated individual must retake the State Practical Examination.
 - 3) State Practical Examinations for Hazardous Materials Operations are valid for 12 months. If a non-affiliated individual does not pass the State Written Examination within 12 months after passing the State Practical Examination, the non-affiliated individual must retake the State Practical Examination.
 - 4) If a non-affiliated individual passes the respective State Written Examination within the required practical examination time limit, a passed practical examination will remain valid with no expiration deadline.
- i) In order to challenge a State Written Examination or State Practical Examination, a non-affiliated individual must meet the minimum requirements set forth in Section 141.200, except for the requirement to be engaged as fire service personnel. A non-affiliated individual who does not meet the minimum requirements set forth in Section 141.200 (except for the requirement to be engaged as fire service personnel) shall not be allowed to challenge a State Written Examination or State Practical Examination.
 - j) A non-affiliated individual who is ill or obviously under the influence of drugs or alcohol may not challenge the State Written Examination or State Practical Examination. In making the determination of drug or alcohol impairment, the Division shall consider, but is not limited to, observation of demeanor, slurred speech, odor of alcohol, general behavior and other considerations that may aid in making the determination.

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- k) A non-affiliated individual shall be required to achieve a passing score for State Written and Practical Examinations for Basic Operations Firefighter and Hazardous Materials Operations equivalent to those set forth in Section 141.200.
- l) State Written Examination results shall be posted to the non-affiliated individual's records and made available by accessing the [portal](#) ~~DPSE Web Access Portal~~. The Division shall maintain these scores and shall use them internally for statistical or employment purposes.
- m) No non-affiliated individual shall be re-examined without further documented learning experiences in each of the failed subject areas. There is no limit set by the Division for the number of times a non-affiliated individual may take the State Written Examination.
- n) Where an additional requirement not specified in this Section 141.215 applies to candidates for State Written and Practical Examinations under Section 141.200, non-affiliated individuals shall also be subject to such requirement, except if that requirement is to be engaged as fire service personnel.
- o) A non-affiliated individual shall be subject to Section 141.210, except that notification required under that Section to be provided to the chief shall not be provided.
- p) The Division shall issue a Recognition of Completion to a non-affiliated individual who completes approved Basic Operations Firefighter and Hazardous Materials Operations courses and passes the respective State Written and Practical Examinations according to this Section. The Recognition of Completion shall, at minimum:
 - 1) Recognize that the non-affiliated individual has completed select courses and passed select State Written and Practical Examinations;
 - 2) List all referenced standards applicable to the courses completed; and
 - 3) Specify that the recognition is not equivalent to a certification.
- q) A non-affiliated individual who becomes engaged as fire service personnel at any time during the process of courses and State Written and Practical

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Examinations allowed under this Section prior to receiving a Recognition of Completion may use completed courses or passed State Written and Practical Examinations in pursuit of certification, provided they meet requirements under this Part.

- r) A non-affiliated individual shall not receive a certification.
- s) When a non-affiliated individual who has received a Recognition of Completion subsequently engages as fire service personnel, the fire chief may submit, via the [portal](#) ~~DPSE WebAccess Portal~~, an Application for Certification for both Basic Operations Firefighter and Hazardous Materials Operations, in accordance with Sections 141.301 and 141.344.
- t) The process outlined in Section 141.255 for the invalidation of State certifications shall apply to the invalidation of a non-affiliated individual's Recognition of Completion, except that the notification required under that section to be provided to the fire chief shall be provided to the non-affiliated individual.
- u) The Office shall not reimburse any costs related to course completion, including tuition and fees, or examination of a non-affiliated individual. No non-affiliated individual, fire service personnel or local governmental agency may make claims for reimbursement or receive reimbursement for any cost related to course completion, including tuition and fees, or examination of any non-affiliated individual. If a non-affiliated individual becomes engaged as fire service personnel, any course that commenced prior to engagement as fire service personnel shall be ineligible for reimbursement.
- v) The Office may extend deadlines for requirements of this Section for good cause shown (e.g., military deployments, medical leaves, ~~personal emergencies~~, Acts of God or natural disasters, Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, etc.).

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.250 State Certifications

- a) Qualified candidates for certification shall be at least 18 years of age and meet one of the following employment prerequisites:

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- 1) Engaged in firefighting in an organized Illinois fire department in accordance with the Act and attested by the candidate's employing fire chief;
 - 2) Employed by a local governmental agency;
 - 3) Employed by a fire brigade;
 - 4) Employee of the Office; or
 - 5) Individuals who have retired from active fire service duties and are officially affiliated with fire service training, mutual aid, incident command, fire ground operations, or staff support for fire associations.
- b) Certifications shall be granted when all requirements for that level are met as provided in Subpart D. It shall be the responsibility of the candidate's employing chief, or their designee, to verify and attest completion of all prerequisites set out in Subpart D prior to submitting an Application for Certification to the Division, utilizing the [portal](#)~~DPSE WebAccess Portal~~.
- c) Employing departments of candidates receiving certification shall be sent electronic notification of the certification from the Division. The candidate can view and print their certification by utilizing the [portal](#)~~DPSE WebAccess Portal~~.
- d) The certification program does not recognize certification levels as ranks due to the inconsistency of rank structures utilized by fire departments throughout the State.
- e) Refer to Section 141.395 for clarification on how to utilize ~~historical~~~~obsolete~~ certifications as prerequisites for certifications and instructor qualifications.
- f) The Office may extend deadlines for requirements of Subpart D for good cause shown (e.g., military deployments, medical leaves, Acts of God or natural disasters, Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, etc.).

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

SUBPART D: CERTIFICATION LEVELS

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Section 141.309 Company Fire Officer

- a) An Illinois Company Fire Officer certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA ~~1020~~1021.
- b) Prerequisites
 - 1) Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel, as attested by the employing fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;
 - 2) Current certification as Advanced Technician Firefighter;
 - 3) Current certification as Fire Service Instructor I;
 - 4) Successful completion of a Company Fire Officer course following the described phases of education:
 - A) Phase 1: Background and foundational information can be taught via on-line learning management systems or in the classroom, consisting of a minimum of 40 instructional hours; and
 - B) Phase 2: Practical applications and information review shall be completed in a traditional classroom setting. This section shall be completed in class to achieve student interaction with the complex management situations that Company Fire Officers encounter. This phase consists of a minimum of 80 instructional hours.
 - 5) Passage of the State Written Examination:
 - A) Once a candidate has successfully completed Phases 1 and 2 of an approved Company Fire Officer course, the candidate may challenge the State Written Examination.
 - B) The State Written Examination must be passed within one year after completion of Phase 2 of an approved Company Fire Officer course. ~~If the State Written Examination is not passed within one year after the completion of Phase 2 of an approved Company Fire Officer course, the candidate will be required to retake Phases 1 and 2 prior to receiving certification.~~

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- 6) Phase 3: Upon successful completion of Company Fire Officer Phases 1 and 2, and passage of the State Written Examination, the candidate will have a maximum of 3 years to complete the Company Fire Officer Task Book (Task Book), supplied by the Division.
- A) The completed Task Book shall be verified by a certified Company Fire Officer.
- B) The qualified instructor and employing fire chief shall document the completion of the Task Book.
- ~~C) If the Task Book is not completed within 3 years, the candidate shall be required to retake all Phases prior to certification.~~
- C~~D~~) All tasks in the Task Book must be completed after the candidate's passage of the State Written Examination. Any tasks completed in the Task Book prior to passage of the State Written Examination shall not be counted towards the completion of the Task Book.
- 7) If the State Written Examination is not passed within one year after completion of Phase 2 of an approved Company Fire Officer course, or if the Task Book is not completed within 3 years from passage of the State Written Examination, the candidate's State Written Examination test results will be invalidated. The candidate will be required to retake Phases 1 and 2, pass the State Written Examination and restart the Task Book after the date on which the State Written Examination is passed.
- 8~~7~~) Minimum~~Documentation of a minimum~~ of 4 cumulative years of fire service experience; and
- 9~~8~~) Application for Certification.
- c) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing fire department.
- d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor II and Company Fire Officer.

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- e) Fire department or individual reimbursement may be available for training costs for Company Fire Officer as provided in Subpart E.
- f) The course as set forth in Section 141.115 and the training facility as set forth in Section 141.100 must be approved by the Division.
- g) Credit for an equivalent course will be approved by the Division when the equivalent course meets the requirements of Section 141.120.
- h) Exception to Prerequisites. If a candidate was previously certified as Fire Officer I, and meets the requirements of subsections (b)(1), (2), (3), ~~(8)(7)~~, and ~~(9)(8)~~, then the candidate must pass the Company Fire Officer State Written Examination and complete the Task Book to be issued a Company Fire Officer certification.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.310 Fire Service Executive Support

- a) An Illinois Fire Service Executive Support certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA ~~1020~~~~1021~~.
- b) Prerequisites
 - 1) Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel, as attested by the employing fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;
 - 2) Successful completion of the Fire Service Executive Support courses consisting of a minimum of 104 instructional hours;
 - 3) Passage of the State Written and Practical Examinations;
 - 4) Minimum~~Documentation of a minimum~~ of 3 cumulative years of fire service experience; and
 - 5) Application for Certification.
- c) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing fire department.

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- d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Executive Support.
- e) Fire department or individual reimbursement may be available for training costs for Fire Service Executive Support as provided in Subpart E.
- f) The course as set forth in Section 141.115 and the training facility as set forth in Section 141.100 must be approved by the Division.
- g) Credit for an equivalent course will be approved by the Division when the equivalent course meets the requirements of Section 141.120.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.312 Fire Department Incident Safety Officer

- a) An Illinois Fire Department Incident Safety Officer certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA ~~1550~~¹⁵²¹.
- b) Prerequisites
 - 1) Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel, as attested by the employing fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;
 - 2) Current certification as Company Fire Officer;
 - 3) Successful completion of a Fire Department Incident Safety Officer course consisting of a minimum of 40 instructional hours;
 - 4) Passage of the State Written Examination; and
 - 5) Application for Certification.
- c) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing fire department.
- d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor II and Fire Department Incident Safety Officer.

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- e) Fire department or individual reimbursement may be available for training costs for Fire Department Incident Safety Officer as provided in Subpart E.
- f) The course as set forth in Section 141.115 and the training facility as set forth in Section 141.100 must be approved by the Division.
- g) Credit for equivalent courses will be approved by the Division when the equivalent course meets the requirements of Section 141.120.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.313 Fire Department Health and Safety Officer

- a) An Illinois Fire Department Health and Safety Officer shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA ~~1550~~¹⁵²¹.
- b) Prerequisites
 - 1) Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel, as attested by the employing fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;
 - 2) Current certification as Company Fire Officer;
 - 3) Successful completion of a Fire Department Health and Safety Officer course consisting of a minimum of 40 instructional hours;
 - 4) Passage of the State Written Examination; and
 - 5) Application for Certification.
- c) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing fire department.
- d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor II and Fire Department Health and Safety Officer.
- e) Fire department or individual reimbursement may be available for training costs for Fire Department Health and Safety Officer as provided in Subpart E.

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- f) The course as set forth in Section 141.115 and the training facility as set forth in Section 141.100 must be approved by the Division.
- g) Credit for equivalent courses will be approved by the Division when the equivalent course meets the requirements of Section 141.120.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.315 Advanced Fire Officer

- a) An Illinois Advanced Fire Officer certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA ~~1020~~¹⁰²¹.
- b) Prerequisites
 - 1) Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel, as attested by the employing fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;
 - 2) Current certification as a Company Fire Officer;
 - 3) Current certification as Fire Department Incident Safety Officer;
 - 4) Current certification as Fire Service Instructor II;
 - 5) Completion of the NIMS 800 course;
 - 6) Successful completion of an Advanced Fire Officer course following the described phases of education:
 - A) Phase 1: Background and foundational information can be taught via on-line learning management systems or in the classroom, consisting of a minimum of 40 instructional hours; and
 - B) Phase 2: Practical applications and information review shall be completed in a traditional classroom setting. This section shall be completed in class to achieve student interaction with the complex management situations that Advanced Fire Officers encounter. This phase consists of a minimum of 80 instructional hours.

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- 7) Passage of the State Written Examination:
- A) Once a candidate has successfully completed Phases 1 and 2 of an approved Advanced Fire Officer course, the candidate may challenge the State Written Examination.
 - B) The State Written Examination must be passed within one year after completion of Phase 2 of an approved Advanced Fire Officer course. ~~If the State Written Examination is not passed within one year after completion of Phase 2 of an approved Advanced Fire Officer course, the candidate must retake Phases 1 and 2 prior to receiving certification.~~
- 8) Phase 3: Upon successful completion of Advanced Fire Officer Phases 1 and 2 and passage of the State Written Examination, the candidate will have a maximum of 3 years to complete the Advanced Fire Officer Task Book (Task Book) supplied by the Division.
- A) The completed Task Book shall be verified by a certified Advanced Fire Officer.
 - B) The qualified instructor and employing fire chief shall document the completion of the Task Book.
 - ~~C) If the Task Book is not completed within 3 years, the candidate shall be required to retake all Phases prior to certification.~~
 - C~~D~~) All tasks in the Task Book must be completed after the candidate's passage of the State Written Examination. Any tasks completed in the Task Book prior to passage of the State Written Examination shall not be counted towards the completion of the Task Book.
- 9) If the State Written Examination is not passed within one year after completion of Phase 2 of an approved Advanced Fire Officer course, or if the Task Book is not completed within 3 years from passage of the State Written Examination, the candidate's State Written Examination test results will be invalidated. The candidate will be required to retake Phases 1 and 2, pass the State Written Examination and restart the Task Book after the date on which the State Written Examination is passed.

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109) ~~Minimum Documentation of a minimum~~ of 5 cumulative years of fire service experience; and

11~~10~~) Application for Certification.

- c) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing fire department.
- d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor II and Advanced Fire Officer.
- e) Fire department or individual reimbursement may be available for training costs for Advanced Fire Officer as provided in Subpart E.
- f) The course as set forth in Section 141.115 and the training facility as set forth in Section 141.100 must be approved by the Division.
- g) Credit for equivalent courses will be approved by the Division when the equivalent course meets the requirements of Section 141.120.
- h) Exception to Prerequisites. If a candidate was previously certified as Fire Officer II, and meets the requirements of subsections (b)(1) through (5), (10)~~(9)~~ and (11)~~(10)~~, then the candidate must pass the Advanced Fire Officer State Written Examination and complete the Task Book to be issued an Advanced Fire Officer certification.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.316 Chief Fire Officer

- a) An Illinois Chief Fire Officer certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA 1020~~1021~~.
- b) Prerequisites
 - 1) Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel, as attested by the employing fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;

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- 2) Currently hold a position at the managerial or administrative level;
- 3) Current certification as an Advanced Fire Officer;
- 4) Completion of the NIMS 300 and 400 Command and General Staff courses;
- 5) Minimum~~Documentation of a minimum~~ of 10 cumulative years of fire service experience;
- 6) Submission of the Chief Fire Officer application supplied by the Division, including:
 - A) Resume;
 - B) Organizational chart of their fire department;
 - C) Copy of the candidate's highest degree or transcripts;
 - D) Copy of the candidate's Advanced Fire Officer certification;
 - E) Copies of the candidate's NIMS 300 and 400 or Command and General Staff course completions;
 - F) Three letters of reference, one being from their immediate supervisor;
 - G) Minimum~~Documentation of a minimum~~ of 10 cumulative years of fire service experience; and
 - H) Signed statement of attestation by the fire chief or, in the case of the applicant being the fire chief, the supervisor of the fire chief (such as Mayor, President of Trustees or similar official).
- 7) Successful completion of an approved Chief Fire Officer course following these phases of education:
 - A) Phase 1: Background and foundational information can be taught via online learning management systems or in the classroom,

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consisting of a minimum of 200 instructional hours; and

- B) Phase 2: Practical applications and information review shall be completed in a traditional classroom setting. This section shall be completed in class to achieve student interaction with the complex management situations that Chief Fire Officers encounter. This phase consists of a minimum of 100 instructional hours.
- 8) Passage of the State Written Examination;
- A) Once a candidate has successfully completed Phases 1 and 2 of an approved Chief Fire Officer course, the candidate may challenge the State Written Examination;
 - B) The State Written Examination shall be passed within one year after completion of Phase 2 of an approved Chief Fire Officer course. If the State Written Examination is not passed within one year after completion of Phase 2 of an approved Chief Fire Officer course, the candidate shall be required to retake Phases 1 and 2 prior to receiving certification;
- 9) Phase 3: Submission of a completed Task Book for certification. The task book for certification shall be signed by the fire chief or, in the case of the applicant being the fire chief, the supervisor of the fire chief (such as Mayor, President of Trustees or similar official). The candidate shall have a maximum of 3 years from date of passage of the State Written Examination to complete the Chief Fire Officer Task Book supplied by the Division;
- 10) For Full Certification, a candidate must meet all requirements ~~of~~ⁱⁿ NFPA ~~1020~~¹⁰²¹ for Fire Officer III and Fire Officer IV ~~and the requirements~~ identified in the current Task Book. If all requirements are not met for Fire Officer IV, the candidate will be issued a Provisional Certification; and
- 11) For Provisional Certification, at a minimum, a candidate must meet ~~all~~ requirements ~~of~~ⁱⁿ NFPA ~~1020~~¹⁰²¹ for Fire Officer III ~~and requirements~~ identified in the current Task Book. ~~;~~ and

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- ~~12) Candidates who have completed a Chief Fire Officer course prior to January 1, 2022, and have not received Full Certification by December 31, 2025, must complete a new course prior to applying for or receiving Full Certification at the Chief Fire Officer level.~~
- c) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing fire department.
- d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor II and Chief Fire Officer.
- e) Fire department or individual reimbursement may be available for training costs for Chief Fire Officer as provided in Subpart E.
- f) The course as set forth in Section 141.115 and the training facility as set forth in Section 141.100 must be approved by the Division.
- g) Credit for an equivalent course will be approved by the Division when the equivalent course meets the requirements of Section 141.120.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.317 Fire Department Safety Officer (Repealed)

- ~~a) An Illinois Fire Department Safety Officer certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA 1521.~~
- ~~b) Prerequisites~~
- ~~1) Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel, as attested by the employing fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;~~
- ~~2) Current certification as Fire Department Incident Safety Officer;~~
- ~~3) Current certification as Fire Department Health and Safety Officer; and~~
- ~~4) Application for Certification.~~

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- e) ~~Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing fire department.~~
- d) ~~A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor II and Fire Department Safety Officer.~~
- e) ~~Credit for an equivalent course will be approved by the Division when the equivalent course meets the requirements of Section 141.120.~~

(Source: Repealed at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.318 Fire Service Instructor I

- a) An Illinois Fire Service Instructor I certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA ~~1020~~1041.
- b) Prerequisites
 - 1) Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel, as attested by the employing fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;
 - 2) Current certification as Basic Operations Firefighter;
 - 3) Successful completion of a Fire Service Instructor I course consisting of a minimum of 40 instructional hours;
 - 4) Passage of the State Written and Practical Examinations;
 - 5) Minimum~~Documentation of a minimum~~ of 3 cumulative years of fire service experience; and
 - 6) Application for Certification.
- c) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing fire department.
- d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor II.
- e) Fire department or individual reimbursement may be available for training costs

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for a Fire Service Instructor I as provided in Subpart E.

- f) The course as set forth in Section 141.115 and training facility as set forth in Section 141.100 must be approved by the Division.
- g) Credit for equivalent courses will be approved by the Division when the equivalent course meets the requirements of Section 141.120.
- h) Fire service personnel that provide proof of a valid and current Professional Educator License issued pursuant to Article 21B of the School Code [105 ILCS 5], and in compliance with any rules adopted by the State Board of Education regarding licensure, shall be deemed to have successfully completed the Fire Service Instructor I and II course and passed the State Written and Practical Examinations for Fire Service Instructor I and II. Fire service personnel must submit to the Division, in writing, a request to update training records and attach proof of the Professional Educator License. Once confirmed by the Division, the fire service personnel's training records will be updated.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.320 Fire Service Instructor II

- a) An Illinois Fire Service Instructor II certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA ~~1041~~ 1020.
- b) Prerequisites
 - 1) Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel, as attested by the employing fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;
 - 2) Current certification as Advanced Technician Firefighter;
 - 3) Current certification as Fire Service Instructor I;
 - 4) Successful completion of a Fire Service Instructor II course consisting of a minimum of 40 instructional hours;
 - 5) Passage of the State Written and Practical Examinations;

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- 6) ~~Minimum Documentation of a minimum~~ of 5 cumulative years of fire service experience; and
- 7) Application for Certification.
- c) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing fire department.
- d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor II.
- e) Fire Department or individual reimbursement may be available for training costs for Fire Service Instructor II as provided in Subpart E.
- f) The course as set forth in Section 141.115 and the training facility as set forth in Section 141.100 must be approved by the Division.
- g) Credit for an equivalent course will be approved by the Division when the equivalent course meets the requirements of Section 141.120.
- h) Fire service personnel that provide proof of a valid and current Professional Educator License issued pursuant to Article 21B of the School Code [105 ILCS 5], and in compliance with any rules adopted by the State Board of Education regarding licensure, shall be deemed to have successfully completed the Fire Service Instructor I and II course and passed the State Written and Practical Examinations for Fire Service Instructor I and II. Fire service personnel must submit to the Division, in writing, a request to update training records and attach proof of the Professional Educator License. Once confirmed by the Division, the fire service personnel's training records will be updated.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.322 Fire Service Instructor III

- a) An Illinois Fire Service Instructor III certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA ~~1041~~ 1020.
- b) Prerequisites
 - 1) Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel, as attested by the

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employing fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;

- 2) Current Certification as Fire Service Instructor II;
 - 3) Successful completion of a Fire Service Instructor III course consisting of a minimum of 40 instructional hours;
 - 4) Passage of the State Written and Practical Examinations;
 - 5) ~~Minimum Documentation of a minimum~~ of 3 cumulative years of experience as a ~~certified~~ Fire Service Instructor; and
 - 6) Application for Certification.
- c) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing fire department.
 - d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor III.
 - e) Fire department or individual reimbursement may be available for training costs for Fire Service Instructor III as provided in Subpart E.
 - f) The course as set forth in Section 141.115 and the training facility as set forth in Section 141.100 must be approved by the Division.
 - g) Credit for an equivalent course will be approved by the Division when the equivalent course meets the requirements of Section 141.120.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.324 Training Program Manager

- a) An Illinois Training Program Manager certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA ~~1020~~~~1041~~.
- b) Prerequisites
 - 1) Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel, as attested by the employing fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;

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- 2) Current certification as Fire Service Instructor II;
 - 3) Successful completion of a Training Program Manager course consisting of a minimum of 24 instructional hours;
 - 4) Passage of the State Written Examinations;
 - 5) ~~Minimum~~Documentation of a minimum of 3 cumulative years of experience beginning from Fire Service Instructor II certification date; and
 - 6) Application for Certification.
- c) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing fire department.
 - d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor II and Training Program Manager.
 - e) Fire department or individual reimbursement may be available for training costs for Training Program Manager as provided in Subpart E.
 - f) The course as set forth in Section 141.115 and the training facility as set forth in Section 141.100 must be approved by the Division.
 - g) Credit for an equivalent course will be approved by the Division when the equivalent course meets the requirements of Section 141.120.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.326 Basic Fire Prevention Officer (Repealed)

- a) ~~An Illinois Basic Fire Prevention Officer certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA 1031.~~
- b) ~~Prerequisites~~
 - 1) ~~Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel or employed by a local governmental agency, as attested by the fire chief of the candidate seeking~~

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~~certification;~~

- ~~2) Current Certification as Fire Inspector I;~~
 - ~~3) Current Certification as Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I;~~
 - ~~4) Documentation of a minimum of 2 cumulative years of fire prevention activities; and~~
 - ~~5) Application for Certification.~~
- ~~e) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing fire department.~~
 - ~~d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor II and Basic Fire Prevention Officer.~~

(Source: Repealed at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.327 Fire Inspector I

- a) An Illinois Fire Inspector I certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA ~~1030~~1031.
- b) Prerequisites
 - 1) Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel or employed by a local governmental agency, as attested by the fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;
 - 2) Successful completion of a Fire Inspector I course consisting of a minimum of 40 instructional hours;
 - 3) Passage of the State Written and Practical Examinations;
 - 4) Minimum~~Documentation of a minimum~~ of one cumulative year of fire prevention and inspection activity; and
 - 5) Application for Certification.

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- c) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing department.
- d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor II and Fire Inspector I.
- e) Fire department or individual reimbursement may be available for training costs for Fire Inspector I as provided in Subpart E.
- f) The course as set forth in Section 141.115 and the training facility as set forth in Section 141.100 must be approved by the Division.
- g) Credit for an equivalent course will be approved by the Division when the equivalent course meets the requirements of Section 141.120.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.329 Fire Inspector II

- a) An Illinois Fire Inspector II certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA 1030~~1031~~.
- b) Prerequisites
 - 1) Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel or employed by a local governmental agency, as attested by the fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;
 - 2) Current certification as Fire Inspector I;
 - 3) Successful completion of a Fire Inspector II course consisting of a minimum of 40 instructional hours;
 - 4) Passage of the State Written and Practical Examinations;
 - 5) Minimum~~Documentation of a minimum~~ of 3 cumulative years of fire prevention and inspection activity; and

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- 6) Application for Certification.
- c) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing department.
- d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor II and Fire Inspector II.
- e) Fire department or individual reimbursement may be available for training costs for Fire Inspector II as provided in Subpart E.
- f) The course as set forth in Section 141.115 and the training facility as set forth in Section 141.100 must be approved by the Division.
- g) Credit for an equivalent course will be approved by the Division when the equivalent course meets the requirements of Section 141.120.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.330 ~~Public~~ Fire and Life Safety Educator I

- a) An Illinois ~~Public~~ Fire and Life Safety Educator I certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA 1030~~1031~~.
- b) Prerequisites
 - 1) Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel or employed by a local governmental agency, as attested by the fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;
 - 2) Successful completion of a ~~Public~~ Fire and Life Safety Educator I course consisting of a minimum of 32 instructional hours;
 - 3) Passage of the State Written and Practical Examinations;
 - 4) Minimum~~Documentation of a minimum~~ of one cumulative year of fire prevention experience; and
 - 5) Application for Certification.

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- c) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing department.
- d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor II and ~~Public~~ Fire and Life Safety Educator I.
- e) Fire department or individual reimbursement may be available for training costs for ~~Public~~ Fire and Life Safety Educator I as provided in Subpart E.
- f) The course as set forth in Section 141.115 and the training facility as set forth in Section 141.100 must be approved by the Division.
- g) Credit for an equivalent course will be approved by the Division when the equivalent course meets the requirements of Section 141.120.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.331 Advanced Fire Prevention Officer (Repealed)

- a) ~~An Illinois Advanced Fire Prevention Officer certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA 1031.~~
- b) ~~Prerequisites~~
 - 1) ~~Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel or employed by a local governmental agency, as attested by the fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;~~
 - 2) ~~Current certification as Basic Fire Prevention Officer;~~
 - 3) ~~Current certification as Fire Inspector II;~~
 - 4) ~~Current certification as Public and Life Safety Educator I;~~
 - 5) ~~Successful completion of an approved Plans Examiner course;~~
 - 6) ~~Documentation of a minimum of 4 cumulative years of experience in fire prevention activities; and~~

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- ~~7) Application for Certification.~~
- ~~c) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing department.~~
- ~~d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor II and Advanced Fire Prevention Officer.~~

(Source: Repealed at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.333 Community Risk Reduction Practitioner

- a) An Illinois Community Risk Reduction Practitioner certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA 1300.
- b) Prerequisites
- 1) Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel or employed by a local governmental agency, as attested by the fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;
 - 2) Successful completion of a Community Risk Reduction Practitioner course consisting of a minimum of 16 instructional hours;
 - 3) Passage of the State Written Examination. The State Written Examination must be passed within one year after the completion of an approved Community Risk Reduction Practitioner course. If the State Written Examination is not passed within one year after the completion of an approved Community Risk Reduction Practitioner course, the candidate will be required to retake an approved Community Risk Reduction Practitioner course prior to receiving certification;
 - 4) Submission of a completed Task Book for certification. Upon successful completion of a Community Risk Reduction Practitioner course and passage of the State Written Examination, the candidate will have a maximum of 6 months to complete the Community Risk Reduction Practitioner Task Book (Task Book).

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- A) The completed Task Book shall be verified by a certified Community Risk Reduction Practitioner.
- B) The qualified instructor and fire chief shall document the completion of the Task Book.
- C) If the Task Book is not completed within 6 months, the candidate shall be required to retake an approved Community Risk Reduction Practitioner course and retake and pass the State Written Exam prior to certification.
- 5) Application for Certification.
- c) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing department.
- d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor II and Community Risk Reduction Practitioner.
- e) Fire department or individual reimbursement may be available for training costs for Community Risk Reduction Practitioner as provided in Subpart E.
- f) The course as set forth in Section 141.115 and the training facility as set forth in Section 141.100 must be approved by the Division.
- g) Credit for an equivalent course will be approved by the Division when the equivalent course meets the requirements of Section 141.120.

(Source: Added at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.370 Fire Service Vehicle Operator

- a) An Illinois Fire Service Vehicle Operator certification shall meet or exceed the qualifications identified in NFPA 1010.
- b) Prerequisites
 - 1) Engagement as Illinois fire protection personnel, as attested by the employing fire chief of the candidate seeking certification;

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- 2) Current certification as Basic Operations Firefighter;
 - 3) Successful completion of a Fire Service Vehicle Operator course consisting of a minimum of 8 instructional hours;
 - 4) Passage of the State Written and Practical Examinations;
 - 5) Completion [and submission](#) of the required NFPA 1010 competency course [utilizing the portal](#);
 - 6) Completion [and submission utilizing the portal](#) of an additional 8 hours of documented driving of the vehicles with differing wheelbases in use by the employing authority having jurisdiction; and
 - 7) Application for Certification.
- c) Training documentation shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training records at the employing fire department.
 - d) A qualified instructor for this level must be certified as Fire Service Instructor I and Fire Service Vehicle Operator. There shall be at least one instructor for every 6 students during State Practical Examination evolutions.
 - e) Fire department or individual reimbursement may be available for training costs for Fire Service Vehicle Operator as provided in Subpart E.
 - f) The course as set forth in Section 141.115 and the training facility as set forth in Section 141.100 must be approved by the Division.
 - g) Credit for an equivalent course will be approved by the Division when the equivalent course meets the requirements of Section 141.120.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 141.390 Recertifications

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- a) The goal of the recertification process shall be to ensure continued demonstration of knowledge and skill proficiency in given areas of certification for Illinois fire service personnel.
- b) All referenced recertifications in this Section shall be specific to certifications attained from the Office.
- c) Any certification that requires a recertification shall remain valid if the recertification requirements are not completed, but shall not be considered current. Certifications that are not considered current shall be ineligible to be used as a prerequisite to obtain a higher level of certification.
- d) Certifications that require recertification are:
 - 1) Fire Investigator
 - 2) Fire Apparatus Engineer
 - 3) Company Fire Officer
 - 4) Fire Department Incident Safety Officer
 - 5) Fire Department Health and Safety Officer
 - 6) Advanced Fire Officer
 - 7) Chief Fire Officer
 - 8) Community Risk Reduction Practitioner~~Fire Department Safety Officer~~
 - 9) Fire Service Instructor I
 - 10) Fire Service Instructor II
 - 11) Fire Service Instructor III
 - 12) Training Program Manager
 - 13) Fire Inspector I

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- 14) Fire Inspector II
- 15) ~~Public~~ Fire and Life Safety Educator I
- 16) Hazardous Materials Operations
- 17) Hazardous Materials Technician
- 18) Confined Space Operations
- 19) Confined Space Technician
- 20) Trench Operations
- 21) Trench Technician
- 22) Structural Collapse Operations
- 23) Structural Collapse Technician
- 24) Common Passenger Vehicle Rescue
- 25) Heavy Vehicle Rescue
- 26) Rope Operations
- 27) Fire Service Vehicle Operator
- 28) Rope Technician
- e) ~~Level-specific certifications issued on or before January 1, 2022 will no longer be considered current on December 31, 2025, except for Fire Investigator, which is referenced further within this Section.~~
- f) ~~Certifications issued on or after January 1, 2022 will no longer be considered current 4 years after their issuance date.~~
- eg) Recertification process ~~for all levels except Fire Investigator:~~

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- 1) Certifications shall remain current for 4 years after their issuance date, recertification date, or the date on which the certification is made current. For example:
 - A) A certification obtained for the first time on January 1, 2026 will remain current until January 1, 2030.
 - ~~B) If the certification is recertified prior to the end of the 90-day grace period, it will remain current until January 1, 2034.~~
 - ~~B~~C) If the certification is not recertified prior to the recertification date~~end of the 90-day grace period~~, it is no longer current. If the recertification requirements are subsequently completed, for example, on July 15, 2030, the certification is made current on that date and will remain current until July 15, 2034.
- 2) Applicants for recertification must hold a current level-specific certification issued by the Office.
- 3) Applicants for recertification must complete recertification training that follows the level-specific job performance requirements ("JPRs") in the relevant NFPA Standard within the previous 4-year certification period:
 - A) Documentation of successful recertification training may be demonstrated by completing the level-specific Recertification Task Book (Task Book).
 - B) If an applicant or fire department opts not to utilize the Task Book, documentation of successful recertification training shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's training record. Training records utilized for recertification documentation, at a minimum, shall include the components listed on the Task Book Proficiency Log Sheets.
 - C) Applicants for Fire Investigator recertification only may opt to utilize a tally sheet totaling 100 points over the 4-year period based on the point system on the tally sheet used by the Division. Point dissemination shall be determined by the Division.

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- 4) Application for recertification:
- A) The employing fire department must submit an application for recertification for their fire service personnel.~~If utilizing the Task Book, the Proficiency Log Sheets shall be uploaded using the DPSE WebAccess Portal.~~
 - ~~B) If not utilizing the Task Book, a completion report meeting the same criteria of the Proficiency Log Sheets shall be uploaded using the DPSE WebAccess Portal.~~
 - ~~C) In lieu of uploading either the Proficiency Log Sheets or completion report, recertification completion data shall be manually entered in the DPSE WebAccess Portal.~~
 - B~~D~~) The application for recertification cannot be submitted more than 12 months prior to the date upon which certification is no longer considered current.
 - C~~E~~) Training used in one certification cycle cannot be used towards recertification in another certification cycle.
- 5) The Division shall send notification to the fire service personnel~~employing fire department~~ at one year and at 90-days prior to the date that fire service personnel's certification will no longer be considered current.
- 6) ~~The Office shall grant each candidate a 90-day grace period to complete the recertification requirements to maintain certification in the established recertification cycle.~~ If recertification is not completed by the end of the recertification cycle~~90-day grace period~~, the candidate's certification will be considered not current. The candidate may return the status of the certification to current by completing an approved level-specific course. When the certification status is returned to current, a new recertification cycle will begin.
- 7) When submitting for recertification, the fire chief must attest that all the requirements of this Section are met and affirms that:

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- A) The candidate seeking recertification is engaged as Illinois fire protection personnel.
 - B) Training documentation for recertification shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's fire department training records and is available for review by the Division upon request.
 - C) The submission of the application ~~and Proficiency Log Sheets or completion report~~ is true and accurate to the best of their knowledge.
- 8) Fire service personnel who possess the highest level of certification within specific disciplines and who desire that certification to remain current, shall ~~only~~ be required to submit an application for recertification for each level ~~recertify at the highest level. Once recertified at the highest level, all lower level recertifications shall automatically be processed and approved.~~
- h) ~~Recertification Process for Fire Investigator.~~
- 1) ~~Certifications shall remain current for 4 years after their issuance date, recertification date, or the date on which the certification is made current. For example:~~
 - A) ~~A certification obtained for the first time on January 1, 2026 will remain current until January 1, 2030.~~
 - B) ~~If the certification is recertified prior to the end of the 90-day grace period, it will remain current until January 1, 2034.~~
 - C) ~~If the certification is not recertified prior to the end of the 90-day grace period, it is no longer current. If the recertification requirements are subsequently completed, for example, on July 15, 2030, the certification is made current on that date and will remain current until July 15, 2034.~~
 - 2) ~~Applicants for recertification must hold a current Office level-specific certification.~~

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- 3) ~~Applicants for recertification shall complete recertification training that follows the established course objectives identified in NFPA 1033, totaling 100 points over the 4-year period, based on the point system on the tally sheet used by the Division. Point dissemination shall be determined by the Division.~~
- 4) ~~Application for recertification:~~
 - A) ~~If utilizing the Division-supplied Recertification Tally Sheet, the Tally Sheet shall be uploaded using the DPSE WebAccess Portal.~~
 - B) ~~If not utilizing the Division-supplied Recertification Tally Sheet, a completion report meeting the same criteria of the Tally Sheet shall be uploaded using the DPSE WebAccess Portal.~~
 - C) ~~In lieu of uploading either the Tally Sheet or completion report, recertification completion data shall be manually entered using the DPSE WebAccess Portal.~~
 - D) ~~The application for recertification cannot be submitted more than 12 months prior to the date upon which certification is no longer considered current.~~
- 5) ~~The Division shall send notification to the employing fire department at one year and at 90 days prior to the date that fire service personnel's certification shall no longer be considered current.~~
- 6) ~~The Office shall grant each candidate a 90-day grace period to complete the recertification requirements to maintain certification in the established recertification cycle. If recertification is not completed by the end of the 90-day grace period, the candidate's certification will be considered not current. The candidate may return the status of the certification to current by completing an approved Fire Investigator course. When the certification status is returned to current, a new recertification cycle will begin.~~
- 7) ~~When submitting an application for recertification, the chief attests that all the requirements of this Section are met and affirms that:~~

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- ~~A) The candidate seeking recertification is employed by a local governmental agency or the Office.~~
- ~~B) Training documentation for recertification shall be maintained in the fire service personnel's department training records and available for review by the Division upon request.~~
- ~~C) The submission of the application and Tally Sheet or completion report is true and accurate to the best of their knowledge.~~
- f) When all recertification requirements are met, a new certificate will be available on the portal~~DPSE Web Access Portal~~.
- g) The Office may extend deadlines for requirements of this Section for 90 days for good cause shown (e.g., military deployments, medical leaves, ~~personal emergencies~~, Acts of God or natural disasters, Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamations, etc.).

 - 1) To request an extension for good cause, the Fire Chief must submit in writing the request for the extension on behalf of the candidate.
 - 2) The request must include the date range the candidate was unable to obtain training, including the beginning date and the return date on which the candidate was able to obtain training.
 - 3) The request must include the explanation to be considered for the extension for good cause. Failure to complete the training requirements for a recertification by the deadline shall not be considered good cause shown.
 - 4) Upon receiving the request, the Division will review and determine whether to approve the request. The Division will notify the Fire Chief whether the request is approved or denied.

 - A) If approved, the candidate's recertification dates will be revised.
 - B) If denied, the candidate's recertification dates will not be revised.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

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Section 141.395 Historical Certification Titles

- a) The Division reserves the right to acknowledge historical certification titles as equivalent to current certification titles, to be utilized for instructor qualifications and as prerequisites for fire service personnel to transition to a current certification title.
 - 1) Firefighter II certification shall be allowed as a prerequisite for certification and instructor qualifications that requires Basic Operations Firefighter certification. Fire Service personnel who possess a Firefighter II certification can transition and obtain a Basic Operations Firefighter certification by completing the additional requirements for certification. The Firefighter II certification shall be equivalent for the course completion and State Written and Practical Examinations towards Basic Operations Firefighter Certification.
 - 2) Firefighter III certification shall be allowed as a prerequisite for certification and instructor qualifications that requires Advanced Technician Firefighter certification. Fire Service personnel who possess a Firefighter III certification can transition and obtain an Advanced Technician Firefighter certification by completing the additional requirements for certification. The Firefighter III certification shall be equivalent for the course completion and State Written and Practical Examinations towards Advanced Technician Firefighter Certification.
 - 3) Fire Officer I certification shall be allowed as a prerequisite for certification and instructor qualifications that requires Company Fire Officer certification.
 - 4) Fire Officer II certification shall be allowed as a prerequisite for certification and instructor qualifications that requires Advanced Fire Officer certification.
 - 5) Fire Prevention Officer certification shall be equivalent to Basic Fire Prevention Officer and shall be allowed as a prerequisite for certification and instructor qualifications for Fire Inspector I.
 - 6) Fire Inspector II and Plans Examiner I shall be equivalent to Advanced Fire Prevention Officer.

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- 7) Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist shall be equivalent to Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist. Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention Specialist shall be equivalent to Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist and Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist.
- 8) Hazardous Materials First Responder-Operations shall be equivalent to Hazardous Materials Operations.
- 9) The combined certifications of Hazardous Materials Technician A and Hazardous Materials Technician B shall be equivalent to Hazardous Materials Technician.
- 10) Rescue Specialist-Confined Space shall be equivalent to Confined Space Operations.
- 11) Rescue Specialist-Vertical I shall be equivalent to Rope Operations.
- 12) Rescue Specialist-Trench shall be equivalent to Trench Operations.
- 13) Water Operations shall be equivalent to Surface Water Operations.
- 14) Vehicle and Machinery Operations shall be equivalent to Common Passenger Vehicle Rescue.
- 15) Vehicle and Machinery Technician shall be equivalent to Heavy Vehicle Rescue.
- 16) Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I shall be equivalent to Fire and Life Safety Educator I.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

SUBPART E: REIMBURSEMENT

Section 141.400 Reimbursement

- a) Prerequisites

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- 1) *All local governmental agencies and individuals may elect to participate in the training programs.* All local governmental agencies and fire service personnel may elect to participate in the Division's certification programs. Local governmental agencies and fire service personnel may elect to participate *for certification only or for certification and reimbursement for training expenses* as described in the Illinois Fire Protection Training Act [50 ILCS 740]. (Section 9 of the Act)
- 2) Local governmental agencies and fire service personnel may participate in all aspects of the Division's certification programs without passage of a local governmental ordinance. Proof of passage of a local governmental ordinance shall be required, however, to qualify local governmental agencies and fire service personnel to receive reimbursement.
- 3) *To be eligible to receive reimbursement for training* under the Act, the local governmental agency shall comply with the following requirements:
 - A) The local governmental agency *shall require by ordinance* completion of a *basic level course approved by the Office, and the passage of the State test for certification at the basic level within the probationary period as established by the local governmental agency.* A local governmental agency will not receive reimbursement for training if the ordinance does not state the length of the probationary period or if the length of the probationary period does not comply with Section 10-1-7.1(c) of the Illinois Municipal Code [65 ILCS 5/10-1-7.1(c)] or Section 16.06(b) of the Fire Protection District Act [70 ILCS 705/1606(b)], as applicable. *A certified copy of the Ordinance must be on file with the Office.* (Section 9 of the Act). A local governmental agency will not receive reimbursement for training that occurs prior to the completion of this requirement.
 - i) Volunteer or paid-on-call fire service personnel may receive reimbursement for basic level training completed *beyond their probationary period, if the basic level training is completed within 3 years from the date of initial engagement as fire service personnel.*
 - ii) Local governmental agencies that request reimbursement

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and file a certified copy of the required ordinance with the Division shall be eligible for reimbursement starting on the date a copy of the ordinance is received by the Division. Reimbursement may only be made for courses that commence on or after the date the Division receives a certified copy of the ordinance.

- iii) *Failure to complete the basic training and certification within the required period will render that individual and local governmental agency ineligible for reimbursement funding for basic training for that individual in the calendar year in which his probationary period ends. The individual may later become certified without reimbursement. (Section 9 of the Act)*
- B) The local governmental agency shall agree to abide by the requirements of this Part governing the training of fire service personnel.
- C) The fire department must submit incident reports to the U.S. Fire Administration reporting system for all months of the calendar year in which reimbursement is claimed. The fire department must be compliant in their incident reporting no later than April 15th of the calendar year in which claims for reimbursement are submitted. No reimbursement shall be provided if the fire department is not compliant in their incident reporting.
- D) Course completions must be submitted on the [portal](#) ~~DPSE WebAccess-Portal~~ by the training facility by deadline for the submission for claims for reimbursement under this Section.
- E) The Division shall reimburse only one time for a course completion of a level-specific course. The Division will reimburse for the same level-specific course repeated by fire service personnel if the course completion by that fire service personnel was not previously reimbursed.
- ~~F) The fire service personnel for which reimbursement is claimed must have prerequisite certifications which are required under level~~

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~~specific certification prerequisites referenced in Subpart D prior to the beginning date of the course to be eligible for submission of claims for reimbursement.~~

- 4) Failure to satisfy the requirements of subsection (a)(3) will result in denial of the claims for reimbursement.

b) Claims

- 1) Annually, the Office shall electronically send eligible local governmental agencies the current Funding Document specifying details to submit for reimbursement. The Funding Document shall include the courses eligible for reimbursement. A claim for reimbursement is permitted only once per course per fire service personnel.
- 2) The Office shall reimburse up to 50% of the following costs incurred by eligible local governmental agencies or fire service personnel:
 - A) Salary. Salary is the sum actually paid by the local governmental agency for fire service personnel while attending courses. Salary does not include a local governmental agency's contributions to insurance and pension programs but does include contributions deducted from the fire service personnel's salary for insurance and retirement.
 - i) The formula for computing fire service personnel's hourly salary is: yearly salary at the time of the training divided by the number of hours for which the fire service personnel is paid. It is acknowledged that hourly shifts may vary from 40 to 56 or more hours per week. In such instances, the formula should be adjusted to most accurately reflect the above definition.
 - ii) Variation in fire service personnel salary or between fire service personnel of equal grade must be explained.
 - B) Tuition and registration fees. An invoice or a paid receipt from a training facility shall be submitted through the [portal](#) ~~DPSE WebAccess Portal~~.

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- C) Meals. Cost reimbursement for meals shall not exceed \$100 per day and is only allowed for those fire service personnel who utilized lodging.
- D) Transportation costs. Cost reimbursement for transportation shall not exceed the calculated amount in accordance with requirements of this Section. Computations for such costs shall be submitted through the [portal](#) ~~DPSE WebAccess Portal~~.
 - i) Cost reimbursement claims for transportation shall be calculated using the auto mileage rate established under 5 U.S.C. 5707(b)(2)(A)(i) in effect on April 1st of the year in which training occurred.
 - ii) A round trip shall be calculated as twice the distance from the address of the employing department to the training location.
 - iii) If the course is offered on consecutive days (e.g., Monday through Thursday, or Saturday and Sunday) and overnight lodging is used, the Office shall reimburse for only one round trip per consecutive day period (e.g., 6 round trips for a course offered on 6 weekends or one round trip for a 5-day course).
 - iv) If a course is offered on consecutive days (e.g., Monday through Thursday, or Saturday and Sunday), and overnight lodging is not used, the Office shall reimburse for round trip costs for each day.
 - v) If the course is offered on non-consecutive days (e.g., Monday and Wednesday evenings), the Office shall reimburse round trip transportation costs for each day.
 - vi) Reimbursement for mileage shall only be provided for one person when 2 or more persons travel together. No duplicative claims for reimbursement of mileage shall be made for persons traveling together.

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- E) Lodging. Lodging cost reimbursement shall be exclusively for the cost of the room and shall be set at the rate established under 5 U.S.C. 5702(a)(1)(B) in effect on April 1st of the year in which training occurred. A paid receipt shall be submitted through the [portal](#)~~DPSE Web Access Portal~~.
- 3) Fire service personnel who elect to participate for reimbursement may submit claims for reimbursement directly to the Division for expenses incurred for the calendar year in which reimbursement is claimed. Reimbursement for fire service personnel shall be limited to tuition and registration fees, mileage, lodging and meals. Such reimbursement shall be limited to out-of-pocket expenses not paid or reimbursed, in whole or in part, by the local governmental agency. Reimbursable expenses shall be subject to the reimbursement amounts and rates allowed in this Section.
- 4) In the event that the appropriation for reimbursement for training is insufficient to meet all claims for reimbursement at the 50% level, all claims for reimbursement shall be reduced proportionately and paid in the same proportion.
- 5) *No more than 50% of the reimbursements distributed to local governmental agencies in any fiscal year shall be distributed to local governmental agencies of more than 500,000 persons.* (Section 10 of the Act)
- 6) Local governmental agencies shall submit claims for reimbursement using the [portal](#)~~DPSE Web Access Portal~~. Paper claims submitted for reimbursement will not be processed and will be considered denied. The claims for reimbursement must be attested by the fire chief through the [portal](#)~~DPSE Web Access Portal~~. All claims for reimbursement, applicable documentation, and fire chief's attestation must be submitted before the deadline specified in subsection (b)(7).
- 7) For a calendar year (January 1-December 31), the deadline for the submission of claims for reimbursement shall be the final day of February of the following year.
- A) In the event that final day of February falls on a Saturday or

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Sunday, the deadline for the submission of the claims shall be the next business day.

- B) Any claims for reimbursement, applicable documentation, or fire chief's attestation submitted after the deadline are considered invalid and will be denied.
- 8) Reimbursement that was awarded based upon erroneous documentation in fire service personnel training records or erroneous documentation submitted to the Division shall be repaid to the Office in the amount of reimbursement received for which the fire department or fire service personnel was ineligible.
- 9) Reimbursement for training costs is limited to the amounts authorized in this Section, or the amount requested, whichever is less.

(Source: Amended at 50 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)