



## Division of Personnel Standards and Education Proposed Administrative Rule Changes Fact Sheet

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is proposing changes to the Part 141 administrative rules that affect the certification programs.

### **Changes the Fire Service and Training Facilities can expect from this Rulemaking:**

- Update NFPA Standard editions for certification programs.
- Update definitions.
- Establish a process to revise and add state certifications.
- Establish and clarify the utilization of the DPSE WebAccess Portal.
- Eliminate Provisional and Unlimited Facility Approvals; Replace them with new Training Facility requirements per course; Training Facility approvals will need to be completed every 5 years in conjunction with Course Approvals.
- Clarify that the Division may monitor, evaluate, and review all aspects of delivery and record keeping of Training Facility and Course Approvals, as well as testing and certification processes.
- Clarify Course Approval procedures and add new Course Approval procedures for specific courses that require curriculum review.
- Increase student attendance to a minimum of 90%.
- Clarify record keeping and training record requirements.
- Clarify instructor certification requirements.
- Clarify computerized/web-based records of training.
- Clarify requirements for both State Written and Practical Examinations; Clarify that State Practical Examinations are valid for 12 months (including Advanced Technician Firefighter), except that Basic Operations Firefighter State Practical Examinations are valid for five years.
- Clarify the process for requesting examinations.

- Clarify the process for invalidation of State Written and Practical Examinations, Certifications and Recertifications.
- Establish process to recognize non-affiliated individuals who complete select approved courses, pass select State Written and Practical Examinations and upon becoming engaged as a fire service personnel allow those individuals the opportunity to obtain Basic Operations Firefighter and Hazardous Materials Operations certifications.

### **Changes to Certification Requirements:**

- Add minimum required course hours.
- Add the required instructor-to-student ratio for State Practical Examination evolutions.
- *Basic Operations Firefighter:* Add opioids, mental health, and resiliency requirements for certification; Add list of subject areas per module.
- *Airport Firefighter:* Add Advanced Technician Firefighter as a prerequisite.
- *Advanced Technician Firefighter:* Remove module delivery; Revise experience requirement to one-year documented fire service experience beginning from the Basic Operations Firefighter certification date and minimum of 3 years documented fire service experience.
- *Fire Apparatus Engineer:* Add Fire Service Vehicle Operator as a prerequisite; Remove driver's license requirement.
- *Chief Fire Officer:* Add NIMS 300 and 400 course completions; Clarify application requirements; Clarify certification requirements; Clarify course completion requirements within each Phase, Include time restrictions to pass State Written Examination and complete Task Book; Clarify requirements for Full and Provisional certifications.
- *Training Program Manager:* Change experience requirement to 3 years documented fire service experience beginning from Fire Service Instructor II certification date; Change to course hours from 40 to 24 instructional hours.
- *Advanced Fire Prevention Officer:* Add Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I certification as prerequisite.
- *Hazardous Materials Incident Command:* Repealed.
- *Rescue Specialist – Confined Space:* Replace Certification to Confined Space Operations with revised requirements.

- *Confined Space Technician*: New certification.
- *Trench Operations*: Add Rope Operations as a prerequisite.
- *Trench Technician*: Change to course hours from 40 to 32 instructional hours.
- *Structural Collapse Operations*: Add Rope Operations certification as a prerequisite.
- *Structural Collapse Technician*: Remove Rope Operations and Hazardous Materials Operations certifications as prerequisites.
- *Vehicle and Machinery Technician*: Remove Hazardous Materials Operations certification as a prerequisite.
- *Fire Service Vehicle Operator*: Clarify number of hours required for classroom and driving validation.
- *Water Operations*: Replace Certification to Surface Water Operations with revised requirements.
- *Rescue Operations*: New certification for a candidate who possesses current certifications for all levels of Rescue Operations.
- *Rescue Technician*: New certification for a candidate who possesses current certifications for all levels of Rescue Technician.

### **Claims for Reimbursement:**

- Combine all rules and regulations pertaining to claims for reimbursement to one section to remove duplicate information and to ensure consistency.
- Allow Illinois Fire Service Institute course registration fees to be submitted for claims for reimbursement.
- Include NFIRS compliance requirement.

### **Contact Us:**

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