



Part 141 Update Fact Sheet September 2021

OSFM's certification program is voluntary. As we promote the participation of the fire service, our certification program meets the NFPA standards.

Rule Changes Adopted, August 31, 2021:

- **Allow for a "restart" to the previously established recertification dates**, (does not apply to Fire/Arson Investigator) to begin January 2022, with a due date of December 2025. (DPSE Records Updated Accordingly)
- An individual **does not "lose" their initial certification**. The only consequence for not recertifying is the certification will not be eligible as a prerequisite for a higher level of certification.
- Includes the option to use Recertification Task Books (RTBs) developed by the Division. The RTBs can be completed via in-house training and experience during actual calls. The RTBs eliminate the hour/point system (does not apply to Fire/Arson Investigator).
- Allows an individual to recertify at the highest certification within specific disciplines and automatically recertify at the lower levels.
- Includes additional levels of certification that require recertification. This does not include Basic Operations Firefighter/Advanced Technician Firefighter.
- If recertification is not completed within 90-days after the expiration date, the individual will be required to complete a new RTB beginning after the recertification cycle date. The individual will have an additional 9 months to complete the new RTB to retain the original recertification cycle. If not completed within 9 months, the individual will be required to complete an approved course to obtain the recertification, which will start a new recertification cycle. This does not include passage of a state written examination, but the individual will be required to complete all course requirements established by the training facility which may include passage of an end of course examination.
- An individual is not allowed to use duplicate training/experience between recertification cycles.
- Fire/Arson Investigator recertification cycles are granted a one-year extension to complete recertification requirements. (DPSE Records Updated Accordingly)
- Allows an individual who possesses both Fire/Arson Investigator certifications to recertify at one level and automatically be recertified at the other.
- An individual who possesses both Fire/Arson Investigator certifications and submits for recertification will have their recertification due dates changed to the latter date so recertification will be due at the same time for consistency.
- Applications for recertification cannot be submitted sooner than 12-months prior to the expiration date.
- The Office may waive the requirements or extend deadlines that pertain to the certification program for good cause shown.



OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS STATE FIRE MARSHAL

JB Pritzker, Governor
Matt Perez, State Fire Marshal

OSFM is in the process of releasing a Vector (Target) Solutions enterprise system to be available to every fire department in the State. This system is designed to assist with the required training documentation for recertification.

- For Company Fire Officer certification, removed the requirement of proof of course completion submission prior to challenging state written examinations and clarified if the State Written Examination is not passed within one year after completion of Phase 2, the individual will be required to retake Phases 1 and 2 prior to receiving certification.
- For Company Fire Officer, clarified that the individual is required to complete Phases 1 and 2 and pass the State Written Examination before beginning the Phase 3 Task Book.
- Clarified if the Company Fire Officer Task Book is not completed within three years, the individual will be required to retake all Phases prior to receiving certification.
- Addition of NIMS 800 course completion required for Advanced Fire Officer certification.
- For Advanced Fire Officer certification, removed the requirement of proof of course completion submission prior to challenging state written examinations and clarified if the State Written Examination is not passed within one year after completion of Phase 2, the individual will be required to retake Phases 1 and 2 prior to receiving certification.
- For Advanced Fire Officer certification, clarified that the individual is required to complete Phases 1 and 2 and pass the State Written Examination before beginning the Phase 3 Task Book.
- Clarified if the Advanced Fire Officer Task Book is not completed within three years, the individual will be required to retake all Phases prior to receiving certification.
- Fire Investigator Certification available for all local government employees.
- Title changed to Hazardous Materials Operations.
- For Hazardous Materials Operations and Rope Operations, clarified instructor requirements for practical evolutions to include at least one instructor for every 6 students.
- New section clarifying State certification minimum requirements.
- New section clarifying the use of Historical Certification Titles as equivalent or as prerequisites for current certifications.