



FIRE SERVICE VEHICLE OPERATOR

INITIAL CERTIFICATION PRACTICAL TASK BOOK

NFPA 1010 (2024 EDITION)



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



INTRODUCTION

This task book provides the evaluation tools used during the State Practical Examinations for the skills required to complete the Fire Service Vehicle Operator certification program. The National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) 1010: *Standard on Professional Qualifications for Firefighters* (2024 Edition) standard has specified Job Performance Requirements (JPRs) required by individuals to comply with Chapter 11. JPRs provide an individual completing a task with the necessary data to determine when the task is finished and indicate how well the individual performed.

The Proficiency Log sheets and JPR Skill Sheets contained in this Task Book are to be utilized to document the successful completion of State Practical Examinations related to this certification level. Approved training facilities that already have documentation methods in place that are referenced to the currently approved reference material may incorporate these skill sheets into their program or continue to utilize their own. Approved training facilities may also elect to modify the skill sheets found here to more closely reflect the AHJs current operational practices.

INITIAL STATE CERTIFICATION PREREQUISITES

All rules relating to the Fire Service Vehicle Operator certification can be found in the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR) Section 141.370.

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 Vehicle Operator course consisting of a minimum of 8 instructional hours.
4. Passage of the State Written and State Practical Examinations.
5. Completion of the required NFPA 1010 competency course.
6. Completion of an additional 8 hours of documented driving of the vehicles with differing wheelbases in use by the employing authority having jurisdiction.
7. Additional information related to the module delivery and course requirements can be found in the JCAR rule.

REFERENCE LIST

Below is the list of the approved reference material.

- Pumping and Aerial Apparatus Driver/Operator Handbook, 4th Edition. IFSTA.
- Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator, 4th Edition. Jones & Bartlett.



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



HOW TO USE THIS TASK BOOK

1. The Proficiency Log Sheets list the mandatory JPR skill examinations on which a Fire Service Vehicle Operator candidate shall be tested.
2. Proficiency Log Sheets are utilized to track successful passage of JPR examinations throughout the delivery of an approved Fire Service Vehicle Operator course (in addition to the individual JPR examination pages).
3. JPRs 11.3.2 through 11.3.5 relate to the NFPA 1010 competency course. These JPRs may be completed as a course where all JPRs are completed by the candidate while completing each stage of the course. These JPRs may also be completed independently of each other to accommodate space limitations.
4. Time spent during the completion of JPRs 11.3.2 through 11.3.5 may not be counted towards the 8 hours of additional driver's training.
5. Fire Service Vehicle Operator candidates are permitted two attempts to pass each JPR examination. If the candidate does not pass after the second attempt:
 - a. The candidate shall receive additional training in that topic area.
 - b. The candidate shall be retested on a later date.
 - c. Documentation of all attempts and re-education shall be maintained.



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



PROFICIENCY LOG SHEET (1 of 1)

11.2	Preventive Maintenance				Officer Initials
11.2.1-1	Date		Comments		
11.2.1-2	Date		Comments		
11.2.2	Date		Comments		

11.3	Driving				Officer Initials
11.3.1-1	Date		Comments		
11.3.1-2	Date		Comments		
11.3.2	Date		Comments		
11.3.3	Date		Comments		
11.3.4	Date		Comments		
11.3.5	Date		Comments		
11.3.6	Date		Comments		
11.3.7	Date		Comments		

Instructor Signature

Date

Candidate Signature

Date



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



JOB PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT					
NFPA 1010 2024 Edition 11.2.1-1		TASK: Perform visual and operational checks.			
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The candidate shall perform visual and operational checks on the systems and components specified in the following list, so that the operational status of the vehicle is verified.					
CONDITIONS: The applicant will complete all elements.					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: Given a fire department vehicle, its manufacturer's specifications, and policies and procedures of the jurisdiction.					
Step	Skill	Attempt 1		Attempt 2	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1	The candidate opens the fire apparatus bay door completely.				
2	The candidate walks completely around the fire apparatus.				
3	The candidate ensures all compartment doors are closed, and all exterior-mounted equipment is properly secured.				
4	The candidate removes any debris from the running boards, front bumper, and tailboard.				
5	The candidate checks that the area underneath the fire apparatus is clear of debris.				
6	The candidate checks that the area in front of the fire apparatus is clear and free of debris.				
7	The candidate checks that no personnel are on top of the apparatus.				
Comments:					

Instructor Signature

Date

Candidate Signature

Date



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



JOB PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT					
NFPA 1010 2024 Edition 11.2.1-2		TASK: Perform visual and operational checks.			
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The candidate shall perform visual and operational checks on the systems and components specified in the following list, so that the operational status of the vehicle is verified.					
CONDITIONS: The applicant will complete all elements.					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: Given a fire department vehicle, its manufacturer's specifications, and policies and procedures of the jurisdiction.					
Step	Skill	Attempt 1		Attempt 2	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1	Battery(ies)				
2	Braking system				
3	Coolant system				
4	Electrical system				
5	Fuel				
6	Hydraulic fluids				
7	Oil				
8	Tires				
9	Steering system				
10	Belts				
11	Tools, appliances & equipment				
12	Built-in safety features				
Comments:					

Instructor Signature

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Candidate Signature

Date



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



JOB PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT					
NFPA 1010 2024 Edition 11.2.2		TASK: Document the visual and operational checks.			
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The candidate shall document the visual and operational checks, so that all items are checked for operation and deficiencies are reported.					
CONDITIONS: The applicant will complete all elements.					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: Given maintenance and inspection forms.					
Step	Skill	Attempt 1		Attempt 2	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1	The candidate demonstrates the ability to use tools and equipment.				
2	The candidate demonstrates the ability to complete all related departmental forms.				
Comments:					

Instructor Signature

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Candidate Signature

Date



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



JOB PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT

NFPA 1010
2024 Edition
11.3.1-1

TASK: Operate a fire apparatus.

PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The candidate shall operate a fire apparatus, so that the vehicle is operated in compliance with all applicable state and local laws and departmental rules and regulations.

CONDITIONS: The applicant will complete all elements.

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: Given a vehicle and a predetermined route on a public way that incorporates the maneuvers and features that the driver/operator is expected to encounter during normal operations.

Step	Skill	Attempt 1		Attempt 2	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1	The candidate enters the fire apparatus cab.				
2	The candidate verifies the parking brake is set in the "on" position.				
3	The candidate turns on the battery master disconnect switch.				
4	The candidate checks that the transmission is in the neutral position.				
5	The candidate verifies that any unnecessary electrical loads are turned off before activating the ignition switch.				
6	The candidate engages the ignition switch.				
7	The candidate allows the apparatus to complete the system check sequence.				
8	The candidate engages the starter switch.				
9	The candidate adjusts the seat and mirrors, if necessary.				
10	The candidate checks the gauges: fuel, air pressure, voltmeter & oil pressure.				
11	The candidate ensures that each crew member is wearing a seat belt before moving the fire apparatus.				
12	The candidate checks the compartment-door indicator light, if applicable, to ensure that no compartments are open.				
13	The candidate turns on the headlights.				
14	The candidate allows the engine to warm up before moving the apparatus.				
15	The candidate presses and holds the brakes.				
16	The candidate places the transmission in drive & releases the parking brake.				
17	The candidate drives the fire apparatus out of the fire station at a speed less than 5 mi/h (8 km/h).				
18	The candidate checks to make certain that all pedestrian traffic has stopped.				
19	The candidate closes the fire station door with the remote control.				

Comments:

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Date

Candidate Signature

Date



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



JOB PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT

NFPA 1010
2024 Edition
11.3.1-2

TASK: Shutting down and securing a fire apparatus.

PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The candidate shall operate a fire apparatus, so that the vehicle is operated in compliance with all applicable state and local laws and departmental rules and regulations.

CONDITIONS: The applicant will complete all elements.

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: Given a vehicle and a predetermined route on a public way that incorporates the maneuvers and features that the driver/operator is expected to encounter during normal operations.

Step	Skill	Attempt 1		Attempt 2	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1	The candidate turns off the emergency lights, headlights, and any other electrical loads.				
2	The candidate shifts the transmission into neutral.				
3	The candidate engages the parking brake.				
4	The candidate ensures that the apparatus has adequately cooled down before shutting it off.				
5	The candidate turns the ignition switch to the "off" position.				
6	The candidate turns the battery to the "off" position.				
7	The candidate reconnects any applicable electrical cords and extractor systems.				
8	The candidate replaces, cleans, and repairs any used equipment.				

Comments:

Instructor Signature

Date

Candidate Signature

Date



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



JOB PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT					
NFPA 1010 2024 Edition 11.3.2	TASK: Back a vehicle from a roadway.				
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The candidate shall back a vehicle from a roadway into an area with restricted spaces on both the right and left sides of the vehicle, so that the vehicle is parked within the restricted areas without needing to stop and pull forward and without striking obstructions.					
CONDITIONS: The applicant will complete all elements.					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: Given a fire apparatus; a spotter to assist the driver in performing the maneuver; and restricted spaces of 12 ft (3.7 m) in width, requiring 90-degree right-hand and left-hand turns from the roadway.					
NOTE: See A.11.3.2 for additional information related to this JPR.					
Step	Skill	Attempt 1		Attempt 2	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1	The candidate positions the rear of the fire apparatus past the dock's opening and at a 90-degree angle to the marker cones.				
2	The candidate ensures that a spotter is correctly positioned behind the fire apparatus and is clearly visible to the driver. If the driver loses visual contact with the spotter, they are to stop movement of the vehicle immediately (this does not constitute a failure for stopping) and resume movement when the driver regains visual contact with the spotter.				
3	The candidate disengages the parking brake, if set.				
4	The candidate shifts the transmission into reverse.				
5	The candidate proceeds in a reverse mode and turns the fire apparatus to align it with the objective.				
6	The candidate continues backing the fire apparatus until it has reached the desired objective, or the spotter signals to stop.				
Comments:					

Instructor Signature

Date

Candidate Signature

Date



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



JOB PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT

NFPA 1010
2024 Edition
11.3.3

TASK: Maneuver a vehicle around obstructions on a roadway.

PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The candidate shall maneuver a vehicle around obstructions on a roadway while moving forward and in reverse, so that the vehicle is maneuvered through the obstructions without stopping to change the direction of travel and without striking the obstructions.

CONDITIONS: The applicant will complete all elements.

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: Given a fire apparatus; a spotter where the spotter assists the driver in performing the maneuver; and a roadway with obstructions.

NOTE: See A.11.3.3 for additional information related to this JPR.

Step	Skill	Attempt 1		Attempt 2	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1	The candidate positions the fire apparatus past the marker cone.				
2	The candidate ensures a spotter is in position at the rear of the fire apparatus.				
3	The candidate places the fire apparatus in reverse.				
4	The candidate proceeds in reverse through the exercise area, to the left of marker cone 1.				
5	The candidate proceeds in reverse through the exercise area, to the right of marker cone 2.				
6	The candidate proceeds in reverse through the exercise area, to the left of marker cone 3.				
7	The candidate positions the front of the fire apparatus past marker cone 3.				
8	The candidate proceeds forward through the exercise area, to the right of marker cone 3.				
9	The candidate proceeds forward through the exercise area, to the left of marker cone 2.				
10	The candidate proceeds forward through the exercise area, to the right of marker cone 1.				
*	Once the rear of the fire apparatus passes marker cone 1, the exercise is complete.				

Comments:

Instructor Signature

Date

Candidate Signature

Date



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



JOB PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT					
NFPA 1010 2024 Edition 11.3.4		TASK: Turn a fire apparatus 180 degrees.			
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The candidate shall turn a fire apparatus 180 degrees within a confined space, so that the vehicle is turned 180 degrees without striking obstructions within the given space.					
CONDITIONS: The applicant will complete all elements.					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: Given a fire apparatus, a spotter for backing up, and an area in which the vehicle cannot perform a U-turn without stopping and backing up.					
NOTE: See A.11.3.4 for additional information related to this JPR.					
Step	Skill	Attempt 1		Attempt 2	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1	The candidate positions the fire apparatus outside the boundary opening.				
2	The candidate proceeds forward through the opening.				
3	The candidate maneuvers the fire apparatus so that it is turned 180 degrees.				
4	The candidate proceeds forward through the opening and out of the set boundary.				
Comments:					

Instructor Signature

Date

Candidate Signature

Date



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



JOB PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT

NFPA 1010
2024 Edition
11.3.5

TASK: Maneuver a fire apparatus in areas with restricted horizontal and vertical clearances.

PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The candidate shall maneuver a fire apparatus in areas with restricted horizontal and vertical clearances, so that the operator judges the ability of the vehicle to pass through the openings and so that no obstructions are struck.

CONDITIONS: The applicant will complete all elements.

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: Given a fire apparatus and a course that requires the operator to move through areas of restricted horizontal and vertical clearances.

NOTE: See A.11.3.5 for additional information related to this JPR.

Step	Skill	Attempt 1		Attempt 2	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1	The candidate positions the fire apparatus at the opening of the diminishing clearance.				
2	The candidate identifies any obstacles that may impede the path of the apparatus or make it impossible to pass due to height restrictions.				
3	The candidate proceeds forward through the lane, avoiding striking any object or cone.				
4	The candidate stops the fire apparatus at the finish line placed at a distance 50 feet beyond the last marker, without any portion of the vehicle protruding beyond this line.				
Comments:					

Instructor Signature

Date

Candidate Signature

Date



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



JOB PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT

NFPA 1010
2024 Edition
11.3.6

TASK: Operate a vehicle using defensive driving techniques.

PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The candidate shall operate a vehicle using defensive driving techniques, so that control of the vehicle is maintained.

CONDITIONS: The applicant will complete all elements.

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: Given an assignment and a fire apparatus.

NOTE: See A.11.3.6 for a log that may be used to track behind-the-wheel driver's training.

Step	Skill	Attempt 1		Attempt 2	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1	The candidate demonstrates the ability to operate passenger restraint devices.				
2	The candidate maintains safe following distances.				
3	The candidate maintains control of the vehicle while accelerating, decelerating, and turning, given road, weather, and traffic conditions.				
4	The candidate operates under adverse environmental or driving surface conditions.				
5	The candidate uses automotive gauges and controls.				

Comments:

Instructor Signature

Date

Candidate Signature

Date



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



JOB PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT					
NFPA 1010 2024 Edition 11.3.7		TASK: Operate fixed systems.			
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The candidate shall operate all fixed systems and equipment on the vehicle not addressed elsewhere in Chapter 11, so that each system or piece of equipment is operated in accordance with the applicable instructions and policies.					
CONDITIONS: The applicant will complete all elements.					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: Given systems and equipment, manufacturer's specifications and instructions, and departmental policies and procedures for the systems and equipment.					
Step	Skill	Attempt 1		Attempt 2	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1	The candidate demonstrates the ability to deploy, energize, and monitor the system or equipment and to recognize and correct system problems.				
Comments:					

Instructor Signature

Date

Candidate Signature

Date



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



A.11.3.2

The alley dock exercise can be used as practice for meeting or in the evaluation of this requirement. This exercise measures a driver's ability to drive past a simulated dock or stall, back the apparatus into the space provided, and make a controlled stop. A dock or stall can be simulated by arranging barricades 40 ft (12.2 m) from a boundary line. These barricades should be 12 ft (3.7 m) apart, and the depth should be the length of the vehicle. The driver should pass the barricades with the dock on the left and then back the apparatus, using a left turn, into the stall. The exercise should then be repeated with the dock on the right side, using a right turn. [See **Figure A.11.3.2(a)**.]

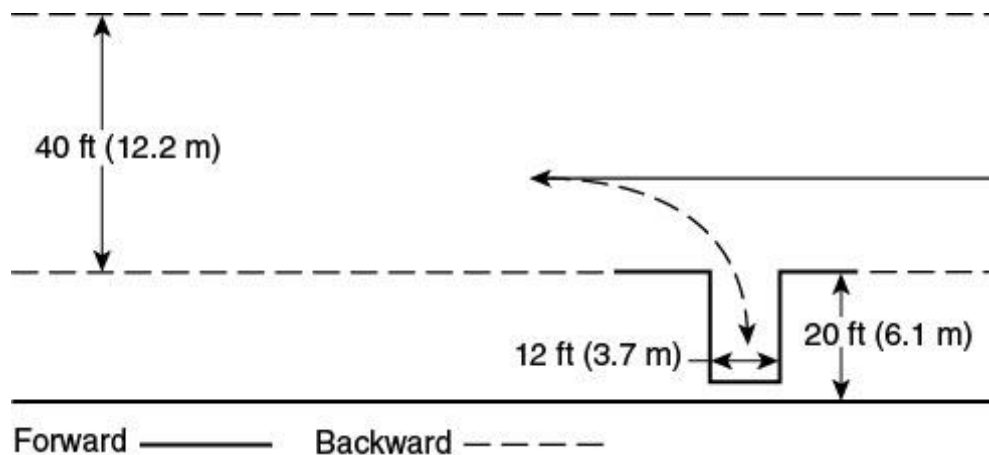


Figure A.11.3.2(a) Alley Dock Exercise.



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



A.11.3.2

The apparatus station parking maneuver can also be used as practice for meeting or in the evaluation of this requirement. This exercise measures the driver's ability to back the apparatus into a fire station to park or to back the apparatus down a street to reverse the direction of travel. An engine bay can be simulated by allowing for a 20 ft (6.1 m) minimum setback from a street 30 ft (9 m) wide, with a set of barricades at the end of the setback, spaced 12 ft (3.7 m) apart to simulate the garage door. The setback from the street should be determined by the testing agency to ensure that the distances reflect those encountered by the apparatus driver during the normal course of duties. A marker placed on the ground should indicate to the operator the proper position of the left front tire of the vehicle once stopped and parked. A straight line can be provided to assist the operator while backing the apparatus, facilitating the use of vehicle mirrors. The minimum depth distance is determined by the total length of the vehicle. [See **Figure A.11.3.2(b)**.]

Note that for large vehicles, such as ARFF apparatus, this course might need to be modified.

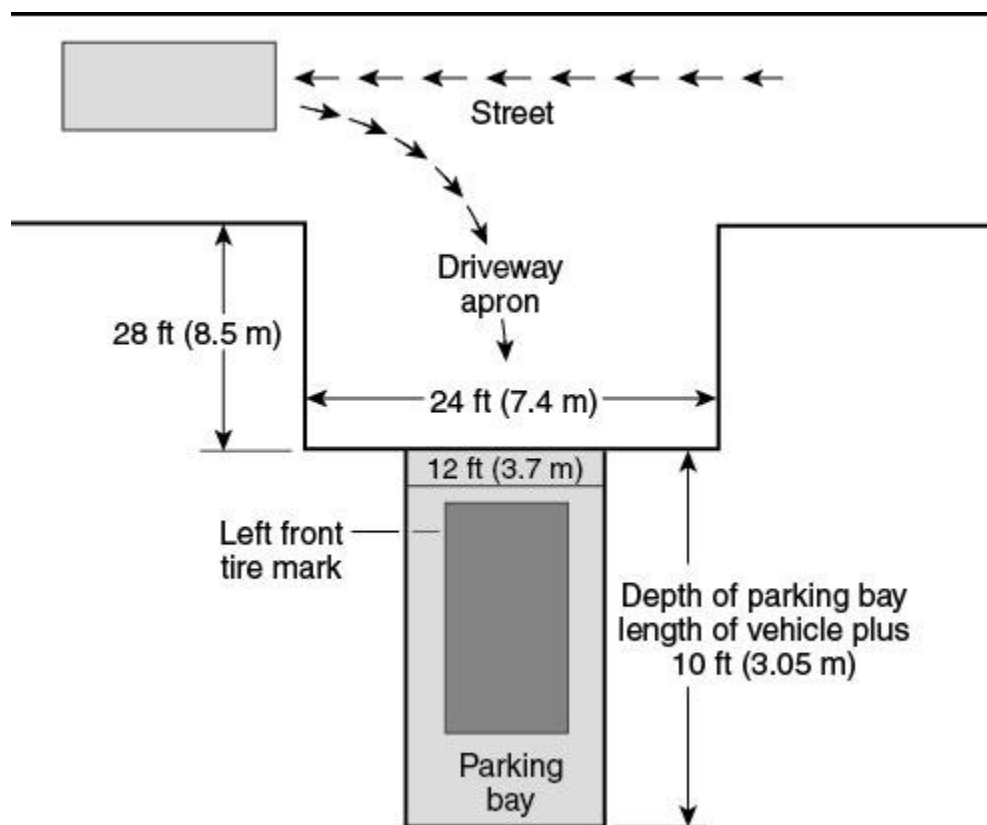


Figure A.11.3.2(b) Station Parking Procedure Drill.



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



A.11.3.3

The serpentine exercise can be used as practice for meeting or in the evaluation of this requirement. This exercise measures a driver's ability to steer the apparatus in close limits without stopping. The exercise should be conducted with the apparatus moving first backward, then forward. The course or path of travel for this exercise can be established by placing a minimum of three markers, each spaced between 30 ft (9 m) and 38 ft (12 m) apart, in a line. The spacing of the markers should be based on the wheelbase of the vehicle used. Adequate space must be provided on each side of the markers for the apparatus to move without impediment. The driver should drive the apparatus along the left side of the markers in a straight line and stop just beyond the last marker. The driver then should begin the exercise by backing between the markers by passing to the left of marker No. 1, to the right of marker No. 2, and to the left of marker No. 3. At this point, the driver should stop the vehicle and then drive it forward between the markers by passing to the right of marker No. 3, to the left of marker No. 2, and to the right of marker No. 1. (See **Figure A.11.3.3**.)

Note that for large vehicles, such as ARFF apparatus, this course might need to be modified.

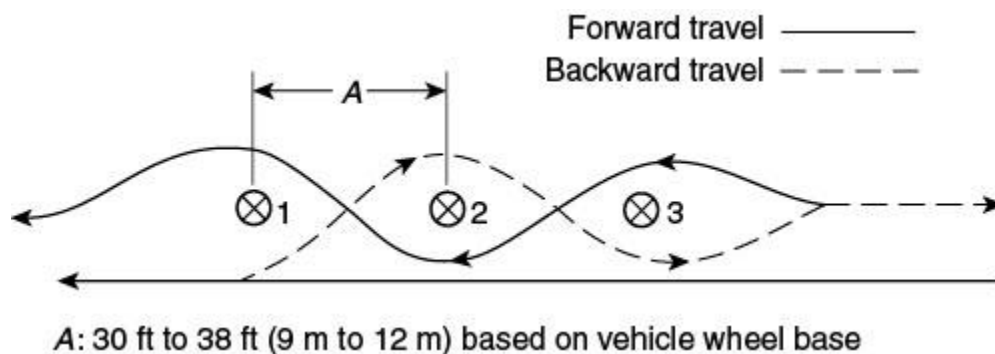


Figure A.11.3.3 Serpentine Exercise.



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



A.11.3.4

The confined space turnaround can be used as practice for meeting or in the evaluation of this requirement. This exercise measures the driver's ability to turn the vehicle around in a confined space without striking obstacles. The turn is accomplished within an area 50 ft $\times$ 100 ft (15.24 m $\times$ 30.5 m). The driver moves into the area from a 12 ft (3.7 m) opening in the center of one of the 50 ft (15.24 m) legs, turns the vehicle 180 degrees, and returns through the opening. There is no limitation on the number of times the driver must maneuver the vehicle to accomplish this exercise, but no portion of the vehicle should extend over the boundary lines of the space. (See **Figure A.11.3.4.**)

Note that for large vehicles, such as ARFF apparatus, this course might need to be modified.

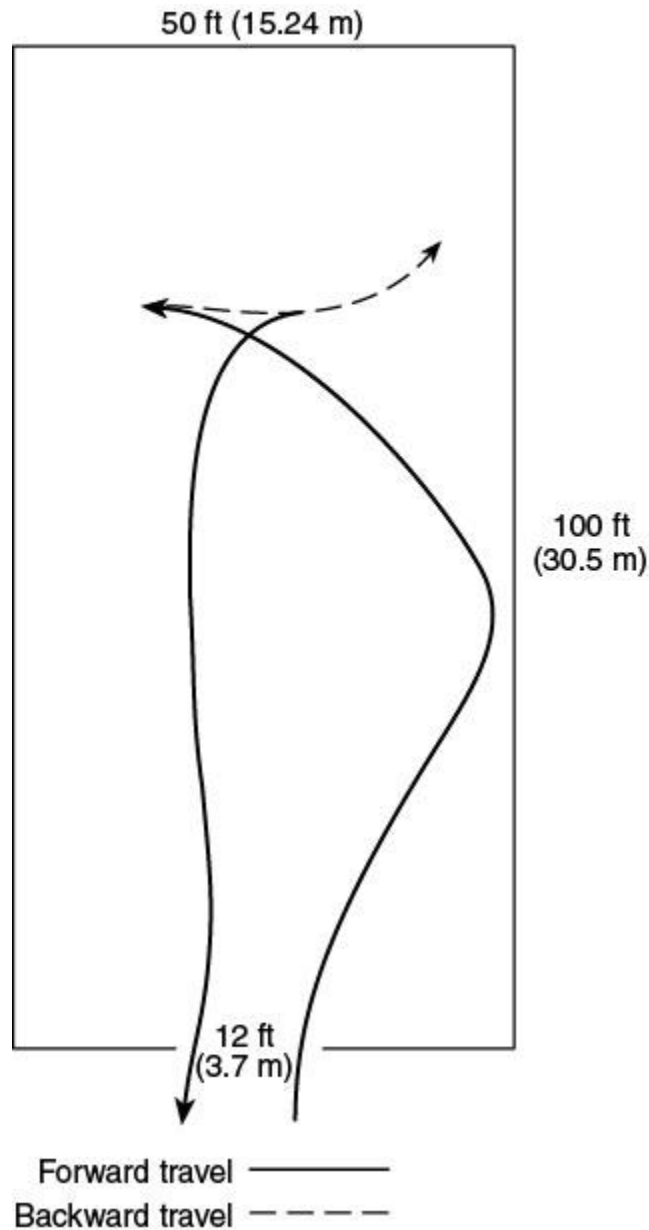


Figure A.11.3.4 Confined Space Turnaround.



Fire Service Vehicle Operator



A.11.3.5

The diminishing clearance exercise can be used as practice for meeting or in the evaluation of this requirement. This exercise measures a driver's ability to steer the apparatus in a straight line, to judge distances from wheel to object, and to stop at a finish line. The speed at which a driver should operate the apparatus is optional, but it should be great enough to necessitate quick judgment. The course for this exercise is created by arranging two rows of markers to form a lane 75 ft (22.9 m) long. The lane varies in width from the vehicle width plus 16 in. (41 cm) to a diminishing clearance of the vehicle width plus 4 in. (10.2 cm). The driver should maneuver the apparatus through this lane without touching the markers. The vehicle should be stopped at a finish line 50 ft (15.24 m) beyond the last marker. No portion of the vehicle should protrude beyond this line. Vertical clearance judgment should be evaluated using a prop with a crossbar that is adjustable, based on the vehicle height. During the evaluation, the driver should drive forward and back through the prop with the crossbar at several differing heights, including one that is lower than the top of the vehicle. The prop should not be struck. The intent of the vertical clearance judgment is for proper identification of the furthestmost point in the form of the apparatus. In situations where the apparatus is gaining entry to roadways or limited-height areas, the driver/operator must allow appropriate space ahead of the apparatus to avoid striking objects or to avoid extending apparatus into traffic lanes. (See **Figure A.11.3.5**.)

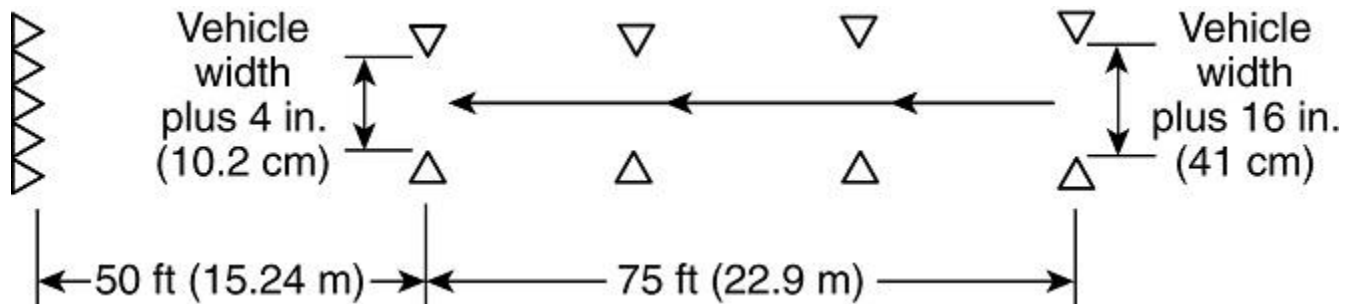


Figure A.11.3.5 Diminishing Clearance Exercise.

Page 20 of 20