



N.C. STATE FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

State of North Carolina

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Information Bulletin:

December 10, 2019

NC Fire and Rescue Commission (FRC) – The FRC was transferred to the North Carolina Department of Insurance in October 1985. At that time, the Commissioner of Insurance vowed support of this agency and has since that time supported it with personnel, budget, etc. In July 1989, the Legislature passed a Bill which changed the makeup of the FRC. The Fire Commission became the FRC, with duplicate responsibilities in the area of rescue as was previously held for fire. The Office of State Fire Marshal serves as staff to the FRC.

The areas of responsibility for the FRC lie in numerous areas. The General Statutes (G.S.) that control the operation, selection, and duties of the FRC are found in G.S. 58-78-1; 58-78-5; 58-78-10; 58-78-15; 58-78-20. G.S. 58-78-5 (14b) specifies the following duty of the FRC: *"To establish **voluntary minimum professional qualifications** for all levels of fire service and rescue service personnel, and to issue, deny, suspend, revoke or take similar actions with respect to certifications issued by the Commission of **minimum professional qualifications** established under this subdivision."*

To fulfill the duty specified in G.S. 58-78-5 (14b), the FRC must maintain all North Carolina's certification programs in accordance with the most current **professional qualification** standards. The FRC manages the state's voluntary certification system comprised of 32 subjects, in which more than 100,000 fire and rescue personnel participate. Fourteen certification programs are active including: Fire Fighter, Instructor, Technical Rescuer, Fire and Life Safety Educator, Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator, Emergency Vehicle Driver, Hazardous Materials Responder, Fire/Arson Investigator, Fire Officer, Marine Shipboard Fire Fighter, Airport Fire Fighter, Chief 101, Rapid Intervention Crews, and Wildland.

Effective July 01, 2020, the following programs will be updated as approved by the FRC on October 08, 2019:

- NFPA 1001 (2019) – Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications
- NFPA 1002 (2017) – Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications
- NFPA 1003 (2019) – Standard for Airport Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications
- NFPA 1005 (2019) – Standard for Professional Qualifications for Marine Fire Fighting for Land-Based Fire Fighters
- NFPA 1041 (2019) – Standard for Fire and Emergency Services Instructor Professional Qualifications
- NFPA 1072 (2017) – Standard for Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Response Personnel Professional Qualifications
- NFPA 1407 (2020) – Standard for Training Fire Service Rapid Intervention Crews

There have been a few inquiries regarding the changes to the NFPA 1001 (2019) – Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications program, so additional information is provided below pertaining to this referenced standard.

NFPA 1001, Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications identifies the minimum job performance requirements for career and volunteer firefighters whose duties are primarily structural in nature. Provisions address entrance requirements, Fire Fighter I, and Fire Fighter II.

Revisions make the standard more relevant to today's field. This edition:

- Consolidates general requirements for firefighters into one chapter.
- Adds a new chapter recognizing the role of firefighters in providing emergency medical services at various levels.
- Defines and requires the concept of "field reduction of contaminants" to address chronic exposure to carcinogens.
- Adds defining language and a Job Performance Requirement (JPR) for the behavioral health challenges faced by firefighters -- including recognition of "critical incident stress".

Annex information helps department leaders and trainers understand and apply requirements. This edition:

- A new matrix provides a comprehensive overview of JPRs.
- A new annex section recognizes the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation.

To provide clear and accurate information on changes to the NFPA 1001 (2019) – Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications program, the FRC's Certification Board has compiled the attached document titled: "FF Certification Delivery Options". This document provides a detailed explanation of the program changes, various delivery options, important dates, and the transition option from the old program to the new program. The Certification Board has also created a course crosswalk to assist firefighters with their personal migration from the old program to the new program.

Program adjustments, to all the above referenced programs, will allow more time to concentrate on the application and mastery of the skills. This will provide a better trained firefighter. This is achieved by the firefighter experiencing life-long training and education opportunities within these important accredited certification programs. At the end of a day, the FRC seeks to provide effective and solid accredited certification programs which provide for the safety and well-being of our emergency responders and the citizens they serve.

FF Certification Delivery Options

NFPA 1001, *Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications – 2019 Edition*

This format has taken 21 classes to 13 classes and follows the NFPA 1001 (Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications) 2019 edition. The total amount of hours for this program has increased 46 hours which includes all of Fire Fighter, Emergency Medical Care, Traffic Incident Management Systems (TIMS), Haz-Mat Awareness, Haz-Mat Operations, Haz-Mat Mission Specific Personal Protective Equipment, and Haz-Mat Mission Specific Product Control.

Instructors and students are allotted more instructional time by combining some of the courses. We have begun to require 100% skills testing in all accredited certification programs since the 2013 re-writes of the Fire Fighter Program (NFPA 1001-2013). With that, the amount of time needed to teach the programs has increased across all accredited certification program areas. However, most of the accredited certification programs have not yet seen any increases in course hours as we planned to allocate the new hour requirements upon the next re-write cycle instead of changing all accredited certification programs mid-cycle.

The 100% skill testing is imperative to maximize the learning experience while presenting a creditable program for North Carolina's emergency responders. The current focus is geared towards passing the test and getting the students through the skills within the allotted time. Tremendous resources are afforded to this effort across all accredited certification programs. Most departments, however, would prefer the students be able to learn the hands-on applications. Application skills are crucial in life and death situations faced by our emergency responders, not just passing a written test. The 2019 Fire Fighter program adjustments will allow more time to concentrate on the application and mastery of the skills. This will provide a better trained firefighter. This is achieved by the firefighter experiencing life-long training and education opportunities within this important accredited certification program.

The combining of courses allows students to become more engaged in the subject matter rather than rapidly moving through topics to meet the target hours; all while allowing the instructor the most flexibility within these various courses. Furthermore, we can keep the hours more manageable than if we continue to maintain individual subjects in the FF program area. The 2019 Firefighter program must adjust to remain compliant with the current version of NFPA 1001. The program design exceeds the standard requirements while keeping the contact hours as low as possible. Other options of program design were researched; however, those options would increase the total contact hours to the Fire Fighter programs by well over 100-hours.

FF Certification Delivery Options

NFPA 1001, *Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications – 2019 Edition*

Finally, changes were also needed/required to match up with the textbook and skills testing. This helps both the student's and the program's credibility. At the end of a day, the NC Fire and Rescue Commission seeks to provide effective and solid accredited certification programs which provide for the safety and well-being of our emergency responders and the citizens they serve.

FF certification delivery options are:

1. Courses Option – There are a total of 13 courses for Fire Fighter (students will also need to complete HM Ops, TIMS, and EMC to reach FF certification).
 - a. Delivery Agencies are strongly encouraged to offer the courses in order – start by offering FIP 3040, then FIP 3041, etc.
 - b. There are new skills books for each course which require 100% completion.
 - c. There will be a written test at the end of each course based solely on the information within that course.
 - d. One retest can be completed if candidate is unsuccessful with the first written exam.

New Courses – 2019 Standard (Effective Date: July 1, 2020):

Course ID	Course Title	Cert Y/N	START DATE
FIP3040	FF General and Comm (FF 2019)	Y	July 1, 2020
FIP3041	FF Fireground Ops 1 (FF 2019)	Y	July 1, 2020
FIP3042	FF Fireground Ops 2 (FF 2019)	Y	July 1, 2020
FIP3043	FF Fireground Ops 3 (FF 2019)	Y	July 1, 2020
FIP3044	FF Fireground Ops 4 (FF 2019)	Y	July 1, 2020
FIP3045	FF Fireground Ops 5 (FF 2019)	Y	July 1, 2020
FIP3046	FF Fireground Ops 6 (FF 2019)	Y	July 1, 2020
FIP3047	FF Fireground Ops 7 (FF 2019)	Y	July 1, 2020
FIP3048	FF Fireground Ops 8 (FF 2019)	Y	July 1, 2020
FIP3049	FF Fireground Ops 9 (FF 2019)	Y	July 1, 2020
FIP3050	FF Rescue Ops 1 (FF 2019)	Y	July 1, 2020
FIP3051	FF FLSE Initiatives (FF 2019)	Y	July 1, 2020
FIP3052	FF Mayday/Safety & Survival	Y	July 1, 2020

FF Certification Delivery Options

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2. Block Option – FIP 3031, 3032, and 3033
 - a. Delivery Agencies are strongly encouraged to offer the courses in order – start by offering FIP 3031, then FIP 3032, and the FIP 3033.
 - b. *This option will also require FIP 3049 FF Fireground Ops 9 (FF 2019); which is Fire Control.*
 - c. There are new skills books for each block which require 100% completion.
 - d. There will be a written test at the end of each Block based solely on the information within that Block.
 - e. One retest can be completed if candidate is unsuccessful with the first written exam.

New Blocks – 2019 Standard (Effective Date: July 1, 2020):

Course ID	Course Title	Cert Y/N	START DATE
FIP3031	Firefighter 2019 – Block 01	Y	July 1, 2020
FIP3032	Firefighter 2019 – Block 02	Y	July 1, 2020
FIP3033	Firefighter 2019 – Block 03	Y	July 1, 2020

Course ID	Course Title	Cert Y/N	START DATE
FIP3049	FF Fireground Ops 9 (FF 2019)	Y	July 1, 2020

3. Series Option – FIP 3030
 - a. Candidates would take all courses under a single FIP number (this will **ONLY** include the Firefighter curriculum).
 - b. New skill books will be available for the series and requires 100% completion.
 - c. There will be one test administered at the end of the curriculum.
 - d. One retest can be completed if the candidate is unsuccessful.
 - e. Candidates who are unsuccessful after the second attempt **SHALL NOT** receive credit for any portion of the series.

New Series – 2019 Standard (Effective Date: July 1, 2020):

Course ID	Course Title	Cert Y/N	START DATE
FIP3030	FF 2019 – Firefighter Series	Y	July 1, 2020

FF Certification Delivery Options

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Transition of Firefighter (NFPA 1001-2013 program to the NFPA 1001-2019 program):

1. The 2013 edition will remain “as is”, including Individual course name, descriptions, and FIP numbers, until **December 31, 2021**. This version will not be amended.

Courses to Obsolete – Statement to be added to the course descriptions:

Current Course ID	Current Course Title	END DATE	Note
FIP3001	Orientation & Safety	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3003	Alarms & Communications	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3004	Fire Behavior	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3005	Portable Extinguishers	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3006	Personal Protective Equipment	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3007	Forcible Entry	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3008	Ventilation	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3009	Ropes	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3010	Ladders	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3011	Fire Hose, Streams & Appliance	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3012	Foam Fire Streams	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3013	Fire Control	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3014	Loss Control	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3016	Emergency Medical Care	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3017	Rescue	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3018	Water Supplies	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3019	Sprinklers	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3021	Fire & Life Safety Preparedness	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3022	Building Construction	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3024	Health & Wellness	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3025	Safety & Survival	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022
FIP3026	Mayday	Dec. 31, 2021	Do not use for any course scheduled on or after 1/1/2022

FF Certification Delivery Options
NFPA 1001, *Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications* – 2019 Edition

2. The Certification Board has created a “credit crossover matrix” from FF-2013 to FF-2019. The credit crossover matrix is attached.

Fire Fighter (Chapter 05 and 06) NFPA 1001-2013		Fire Fighter (Chapter 04 and 05) NFPA 1001-2019
FIP 3001 (Orientation & Safety) FIP 3003 (Alarms & Communications)	>>>>	FIP 3040 FF General and Comm (FF 2019)
FIP 3001 (Orientation & Safety) FIP 3024 (Health & Wellness)	>>>>	FIP 3041 FF Fireground Ops 1 (FF 2019)
FIP 3006 (Personal Protective Equipment)	>>>>	FIP 3042 FF Fireground Ops 2 (FF 2019)
FIP 3004 (Fire Behavior) FIP 3005 (Portable Extinguishers) FIP 3022 (Building Construction)	>>>>	FIP 3043 FF Fireground Ops 3 (FF 2019)
FIP 3007 (Forcible Entry) FIP 3014 (Loss Control)	>>>>	FIP 3044 FF Fireground Ops 4 (FF 2019)
FIP 3010 (Ladders) FIP 3008 (Ventilation)	>>>>	FIP 3045 FF Fireground Ops 5 (FF 2019)
FIP 3017 (Rescue) FIP 3009 (Ropes)	>>>>	FIP 3046 FF Fireground Ops 6 (FF 2019)
FIP 3018 (Water Supplies)	>>>>	FIP 3047 FF Fireground Ops 7 (FF 2019)
FIP 3011 (Fire Hose, Streams & Appliance) FIP 3012 (Foam Fire Streams)	>>>>	FIP 3048 FF Fireground Ops 8 (FF 2019)
FIP 3013 (Fire Control)	>>>>	FIP 3049 FF Fireground Ops 9 (FF 2019)
FIP 3017 (Rescue) FIP 3009 (Ropes)	>>>>	FIP 3050 FF Rescue Ops 1 (FF 2019)
FIP 3003 (Alarms & Communications) FIP 3019 (Sprinklers) FIP 3021 (Fire & Life Safety Preparedness)	>>>>	FIP 3051 FF FLSE Initiatives (FF 2019)
FIP 3025 (Safety & Survival) FIP 3026 (Mayday)	>>>>	FIP 3052 FF Mayday / Safety & Survival
FIP 3016 (Emergency Medical Care)	>>>>	FIP 7001 FF/TR Emergency Medical Care

Note: >>>> = one-way crossover from NFPA 1001-2013 to NFPA 1001-2019

Textbook: Fundamentals of Fire Fighter Skills and Hazardous Materials Response (Fourth Edition)
ISBN: 9781284151336 | © 2019 | 1360 pages; *or*

NC Vol Fire Fighter Hazardous Materials & First Aid Bundle ISBN: 9781284207552

