State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas

Certification Program Overview

We will address:
• Certification Board
• Available Certifications
• Individual Requirements
• Minimum Training Standards
• Department Participation Status
Certification Board

- Board Zone Representatives represent the departments in their geographic areas. Only the office staff are from Austin.
- Meetings are open to the public and held at least three times annually (January, June, July).
- Your best, local contact regarding certification issues.
- Full roster is available from the website.

Current Available Certifications

- Certification Coordinator
- Fire Fighting
  - NFPA 1403: Introductory
  - NFPA 1001: Firefighter I & II
  - Master Firefighter
  - NFPA 1051: Wildland Fire Fighting
- Education
  - NFPA 1041: Instructor I, II, & III
  - NFPA 1035: Public Fire Educator I & II
Current Available Certifications

Investigation/Prevention
- NFPA 921: Fire/Arson Investigator
- NFPA 1031: Fire Inspector

Management/Supervision
- NFPA 1021: Fire Officer I & II
- NFPA 1521: Incident Safety Officer
- NFPA 1035: Public Information Officer

Current Available Certifications

Operations
- NFPA 1002: Driver/Operator

Support
- NFPA 1061: Telecommunicator I & II
- NFPA 1584: Support Staff

Current Available Certifications

Rescue
- Vehicle Extrication Technician I - III
- Technical Rescue Apprentice
- Wilderness Rescue Technician I & II
- Rope Rescue Technician I & II

Under review to be updated to current NFPA 1006/1670 standards.
Current Available Certifications

- Firefighter certifications require written and skill assessments effective January 1, 2015.
- Full list of objectives posted to website.
- SFFMA Online will undergo a major overhaul the beginning of February including objective realignment.

Current Available Certifications

- The Certification Board adjusts the Firefighter Program continually as NFPA updates the 1001 standard.
  2. Regular updates every four years afterwards.
- All other NFPA standards are on their own review cycle and the Certification Board will update as necessary.

Individual Requirements

- “Active Firefighter” = an individual at least 18 years of age, who completes a minimum of 20 clock hours of training (including continuing education).
- Must maintain individual membership in SFFMA.
- Individuals under 18 can still train with and their training tracked by the department. If they meet all requirements when they turn 18 can immediately file for certification along with membership.
Minimum Training Standards

1. NFPA
2. TCFP
3. IFSAC/ProBoard
4. Non-IFSAC or ProBoard states

Minimum Training Standards

- Must meet objectives of program
- Any course taught by:
  1) A local fire department
  2) Accredited college or university
  3) State or federal agency (with approval of Fire Chief and Coordinator)
- Any course taught by SFFMA or TCFP-certified Instructor I or higher

Minimum Training Standards

NFPA

- The SFFMA Firefighter Program currently matches NFPA 1001.
- NFPA 1001: Firefighter I certificate credits toward objectives for Introductory and Firefighter I.
- NFPA 1001: Firefighter II certificate credits toward objectives for Firefighter II.
Minimum Training Standards
TCFP

- TCFP Academy completion certificate credits toward objectives for Introductory, Firefighter I, and Firefighter II.
- TCFP exam (documented with official TCFP letter or Basic certificate) accepted in place of SFFMA exams.

Minimum Training Standards
IFSAC/ProBoard

- Exam (documented with IFSAC or ProBoard seal on certificate) is accepted in place of SFFMA exams.

Minimum Training Standards
Non-IFSAC or ProBoard states

- May be accepted if verifiable documentation is provided with the application for Certification Board review.
Minimum Training Standards
Non-IFSAC or ProBoard states

• It is the responsibility of the department’s Certification Coordinator to gather verification documentation before submitting to Austin office for processing.

Factors that determine participation:
1. Department and individual membership current
2. Coordinator status current
   • provisional period not expired
   • workshop attendance current
3. Progress Report filed

Department Participation Status

Factors that determine participation:
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Department Participation Status

Department and Individual membership current

• One-year period (Jan 01 – Dec 31)
• Initially invoiced in November
• Department dues based on population served as of last census

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population Served</th>
<th>Dues Rate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 – 1,750</td>
<td>$ 95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,751 – 5,000</td>
<td>$135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,001 – 10,000</td>
<td>$155</td>
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<tr>
<td>10,001 – 20,000</td>
<td>$175</td>
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<tr>
<td>20,001 – 30,000</td>
<td>$195</td>
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<tr>
<td>30,001 – 40,000</td>
<td>$220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40,000+</td>
<td>$245</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Department Participation Status
Department and individual membership current

- Individual dues separate from dept. dues
- $30 per person, per year
- Transfer with individual
- Flat $30 reinstatement fee instead of all back dues to cover gap in membership

Department Participation Status
Department and individual membership current

Dual membership
Individuals can volunteer with multiple departments.
Pick a primary department to:
- pay membership dues
- report all training

Department Participation Status
Coordinator status current

- Appointed by the Fire Chief with application
- CANNOT be the Fire Chief
- Current individual SFFMA membership
- Must participate in Certification Program
Coordinator status current

- Full certification requires both:
  1) SFFMA Firefighter I and
  2) Instructional coursework
- Without both, can be provisional for five years
- Austin staff removes provisional status upon completion of minimum requirements
- New application/fee not required

Department Participation Status

Coordinator status current

- All Coordinators required to attend workshop
  Full Coordinator: every two years
  Provisional Coordinator: every year (first must be in person)
- Applicants recommended to attend workshop prior to submitting application
- Fire Chief recommended to attend every three years

Department Participation Status

Coordinator status current

- Certification Workshop attendance does not remove provisional status.
- Reinstate former full Coordinators with written notification from Fire Chief
Progress Report filed

- Due by January 31, every year
- Flat $25 late fee if REPORT not received by deadline
- Training summary must report all completed Firefighter objectives
- Include all completed objectives regardless of certification level
- Fax or e-mail the signature page

Department Participation Status
Progress Report filed

- Include reporting year SFFMA members only.
- “I have a brand new individual for 2015, but he won’t show up on the 2014 report.”
  1) The Austin staff cannot accept reports for individuals who were not SFFMA members during the reporting year.
  2) New SFFMA members receive full credit as previous training on the report submitted the following year.

Department Participation Status
Information Requests

- ESD board members can request an update on the participation status of their contracted departments at any time.
- E-mail a request to certification@sffma.org
- We will provide a list showing participation status of each department as well as any areas that might need to be addressed.