

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES and POLICY AND PROCEDURES



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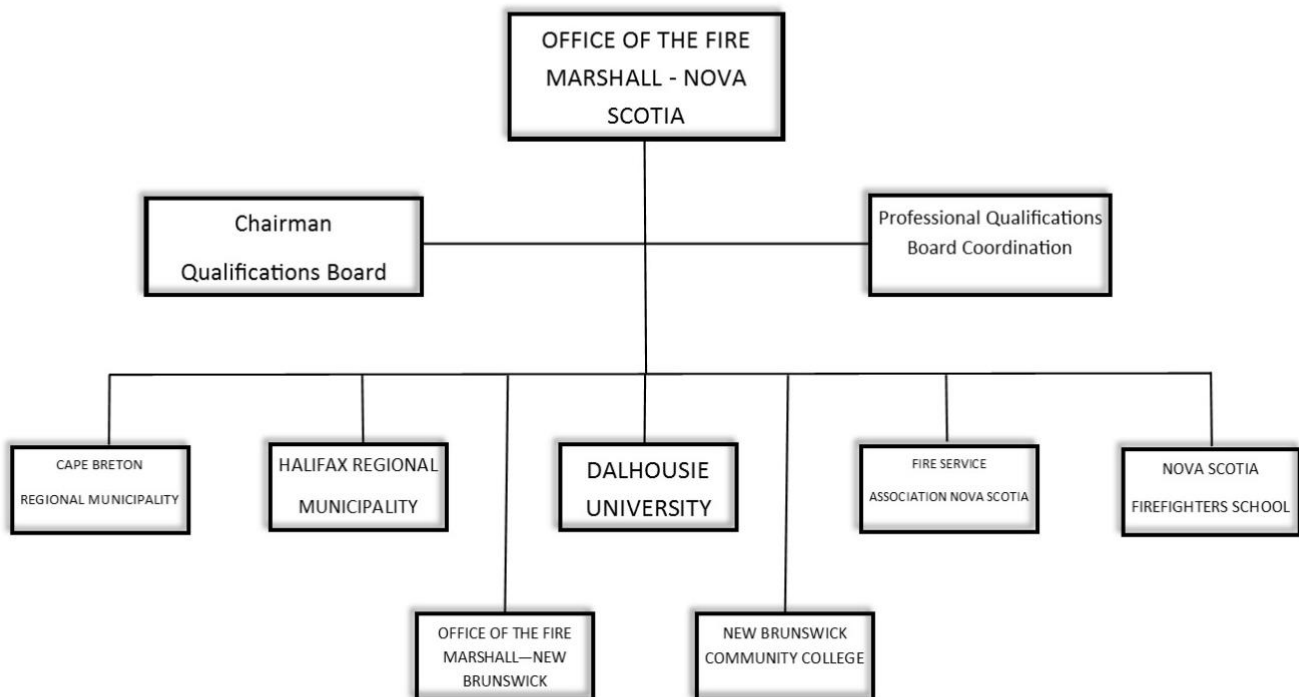
Table of Contents

Roles and Responsibilities	5
Purpose.....	5
Office of the Fire Marshal (OFM)	5
Chair Qualifications Board	5
Professional Qualification Board Coordinator.....	5
Member Entities.....	6
Training Divisions	6
PART II - POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	7
Section 1 General.....	7
Section 2 Definitions.....	8
Section 3 Not Allocated.....	11
Section 4 Rationale	12
Section 5 Mission and Goals.....	13
Section 6 Certification Requirements	14
Section 7 Examinations.....	16
Section 8 Examination Scheduling	20
Section 9 Proctor/Evaluator	21
Section 10 Examinations Grading/Scoring/Appeals.....	23
Section 11 Issuing Certification.....	25
Section 12 Re-certification	26
Section 13 Revocation/Suspension/Annulment/Denial of Certification.....	27
Section 14 Procedures for Evocation/Suspension/Annulment/	28
Denial of Certification	28
Section 15 Reciprocity	29
Section 16 Special Certificate and Awards.....	30
EXPLANATORY NOTES	31
Proctors	31
Selection Criteria for Proctors	31
Certification Examination Application.....	32
Proctor Instructions for Written Exam.....	35
Procedures for Practical Skills Examiner/Proctor.....	36
Manipulative Skill Test Grading Policy	37

Instructions for Completing Manipulative Skill Test Sheet	37
Proctors Instructions for Written Exam	38
Guideline Standards	43
FIREFIGHTER I - TEST SPECIFICATIONS	44
FIREFIGHTER II - TEST SPECIFICATIONS.....	45
HAZMAT AWARENESS - TEST SPECIFICATIONS	46
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OPERATION (Ch 5, 6.2 & 6.6) - TEST SPECIFICATIONS.....	47
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OPERATIONS (Ch 5 & 6.3) - TEST SPECIFICATIONS	48
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OPERATIONS (Ch 5 & 6.4) - TEST SPECIFICATIONS	49
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OPERATIONS (Ch 5 & 6.5) - TEST SPECIFICATIONS	50
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OPERATIONS (Ch 5 & 6.7) - TEST SPECIFICATIONS	51
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OPERATIONS (Ch 5 & 6.8) - TEST SPECIFICATIONS	52
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OPERATIONS (Ch 5 & 6.9) - TEST SPECIFICATIONS	53
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TECHNICAN - TEST SPECIFICATIONS	54
FIRE OFFICER I - TEST SPECIFICATIONS	55
FIRE OFFICER 2 - TEST SPECIFICATIONS.....	56
FIRE OFFICER 3 - TEST SPECIFICATIONS.....	57
FIRE OFFICER 4 - TEST SPECIFICATIONS.....	57
INSTRUCTOR 1 - TEST SPECIFICATIONS.....	58
INSTRUCTOR II - TEST SPECIFICATIONS	59
FIRE INSPECTOR I - TEST SPECIFICATIONS	60
FIRE INVESTIGATOR - TEST SPECIFICATIONS.....	61
INDUSRTRIAL INCIPIENT TEST SPECIFICATIONS	62
INDUSRTRIAL ADVANCED EXTERIOR TEST SPECIFICATIONS	63
INDUSRTRIAL INTERIOR TEST SPECIFICATIONS.....	64

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NOVA SCOTIA FIRE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS BOARD



Roles and Responsibilities

Purpose

The purpose of defining the *Roles and Responsibilities* for the Nova Scotia Fire Service Professional Qualifications Board (NSFSPQB) is to maximize our resource base to ensure a timely response to the needs of the Nova Scotia and/or New Brunswick Fire Service.

Office of the Fire Marshal (OFM)

The OFM has the overall responsibility for the certification process. This includes the selection and maintenance of courses for accreditation; scheduling and administration of testing; record keeping; and providing a meeting place for the Board.

This will be accomplished through the assistance and cooperation of the NSFSPQB; OFM staff and staff of the partnering agencies as identified herein.

Chair Qualifications Board

The Chair works under the direction of the Board. The Chair acts as a primary liaison between the Board and the accreditation bodies, IFSAC and PROBOARD, and represents the Board on technical committees such as the National Fire Protection Association or likeminded organizations. This may be delegated in whole or in part as the Chair deems necessary to another Board member.

The Chair is responsible for creating the agenda, scheduling and chairing NSFSPQB meetings.

Professional Qualification Board Coordinator

The Administrative Assistant to the Fire Marshal or designate of the Board is responsible to:

- a. Maintain a list of available Proctors/Evaluators;
- b. Schedule testing and assign Proctors/Evaluators in conjunction with the agency;
- c. Generate and provide examinations;
- d. Receive and correct examinations;
- e. Maintain records of activities;
- f. Provide exam results to sponsoring agency; and
- g. Provide to the board, a test analysis indicating the number of students, distribution of test scores, and number of incorrect answers by question.

On notification of the requirement for testing (theoretical and manipulative) the Program Coordinator or designate of the Board will coordinate/schedule with the Member Entities for the appropriate staff.

Member Entities

Member entities for the purposes of the *Roles and Responsibilities* are the members of the NSFSPQB. Member entities are responsible to ensure compliance with the “Mission and Goals” of the NSFSPQB Policies and Procedures manual. The member entities shall contribute to the development of courses for accreditation and this shall include the development and adoption of skill sheets for the examination of manipulative skills.

Training Divisions

Training divisions are those bodies contained within the Member entities, which provide for the training, testing and certification of firefighters. In the case of the Fire Service Association of Nova Scotia (*FSANS*) Training Division shall mean the person or persons appointed by FSANS to carry out the advisory function.

Training divisions shall provide through their Board Member, names of personnel qualified and willing to act as Proctors and Evaluators. These names shall be forwarded to the Program Coordinator or designate of the Board.

Training divisions are responsible for the development of course material including manipulative skill test sheets/data. This material will be vetted through the NSFSPQB for final adoption. The board must approve entity Proctors.

Prior to the commencement of training the Member Entities shall inform the Program Coordinator or designate of the Board in writing of the date of testing for both theoretical and manipulative skills.

PART II - POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Section 1 General

1.1 In 1997 the Nova Scotia Fire Service Professional Qualifications Board (NSFSPQB) was formed under the auspices of the Nova Scotia department of Business and Consumer Services, Registry of Joint Stock Companies. This Board is governed by and reports to the Office of the Fire Marshal, Province of Nova Scotia.

1.2 The policies and procedures to certify in the Nova Scotia Fire Service Voluntary Certification System are contained in the following guidelines. Questions, clarification, or interpretation of these guidelines should be addressed in writing to:

NSFSPQB
C/o N.S. Office of the Fire Marshal
Department of Municipal Affairs
1505 Barrington St, 11 South, Suite 1135
P.O Box 231, Halifax Central
Halifax, NS B3J 2M4

Section 2 Definitions

2.1 The following definitions apply only to Boards Policies and Procedures and **DO NOT** in any way apply to the rules, regulations, practices, or procedures of a local Fire Service Unit or other Participating Agencies.

2.2 **Administrator**--shall mean the head of an organization, public or private.

2.3 **Annulment**--an act, approved by the Board to annul the certification of a certified participant.

2.4 **Advisory Committee** - shall mean members of the Nova Scotia Fire Service Professional Qualifications Board.

2.5 **Applicant** - refers to a member of a Fire Service Unit or Member entity who has satisfied training requirements to be examined for certification.

2.6 **Approved Proctor** - The Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) shall make application to the Board to register "Approved Proctor". All approved Proctors must meet and maintain the necessary skill sets for the appropriate level of written evaluation.

2.7 **Board** - shall mean the members of the Nova Scotia Fire Service Professional Qualifications Board.

2.8 **Candidate** - individual who has made application to be certified.

2.9 **Certified** - shall mean candidates who have met cognitive and psychomotor behavioural objectives of the Certification Program and who have applied and been granted certification by the Board

2.10 **Certifying Agency** - refers to the Nova Scotia Fire Service Professional Qualifications Board.

2.11 **Chairperson** - is the presiding officer of the Nova Scotia Fire Service Professional Qualifications Board

2.12 **Chief/Commissioner/Director** - shall mean the head of a Fire Service Unit.

2.13 **Cognitive Objective** - pertinent questions, lists, or problems relative to the level at which an applicant is being tested

2.14 **Course** - any grouping of classes or series of lessons or lectures combined to attain particular education objectives or fire service training.

2.15 **Decertified** - shall mean a candidate who does not possess a valid certification certificate recognized by the Board

- 2.16 **Demonstrate** - is to show by actual use, illustration, simulation, or explanation.
- 2.17 **Denial** - an act, approved by the Board, to deny certification to a Candidate.
- 2.18 **Department** - is a Fire Service unit, defined in 2.22 of this section.
- 2.19 **Employed**--shall mean active participation, either paid or volunteer, in Fire Prevention, Fire Investigation, Fire control, or Suppression, and on the membership roll of a public or private Fire Service Unit
- 2.20 **Proctor** - means an individual recognized by the Board to perform an examination of written skills.
- 2.21 **Firefighter** - a member of a Fire Service Unit.
- 2.22 **Fire Service Unit** - is a public or private Fire Department/Brigade or organization of the Province, City, County, special District, or Federal government whose primary duty is Fire Prevention/Suppression.
- 2.23 **Identify** - is to physically select, indicate, or explain verbally or in writing, using the standard terms recognized by the Fire Service.
- 2.24 **IFSTA Manual** - shall mean the appropriate International Fire Service Training Association publication.
- 2.25 **NFPA** - shall mean the National Fire Protection Association.
- 2.26 **Participant** - shall mean any individual participating in the Nova Scotia Fire Service Certification system.
- 2.27 **Member entity**- any agency, public or private, who has been accepted by the Board to participate in the Certification System
- 2.28 **Prerequisite Requirements** - necessary psychomotor (manipulative) and/or cognitive (written) skill requirements from preceding certification levels
- 2.29 **Program Coordinator** - Person(s) appointed by the Fire Marshal to handle correspondence, records and routine duties of the Board. The Fire Marshal's Administrative Assistant would normally carry out these duties.
- 2.30 **Psychomotor Objective**--to accomplish by actual use or performance, safely and efficiently and in accordance with established procedures and standards.
- 2.31 **Revocation** - an act, approved by the Board to revoke the certification of a certified participant.

2.32 **Safely**--shall mean to perform the objective without endangering, or injuring oneself, equipment, or others.

2.33 **Skills Check**--manipulative skills examination administered by the Board or a Board approved Proctor.

2.34 **Suspension**--an act, approved by the Board to suspend the certification of a Certified Participant.

2.35 **Swiftly**--shall mean the maximum allowable time, as determined by the Board, that it takes to satisfactorily perform the objective defined.

2.36 **With Competence**--shall mean to possess knowledge, skills, and judgment according to an approved standard(s) needed to satisfactorily and safely perform indicated objectives, as determined by the NSFSPQB.

2.37 **Skills Test** – the physical testing of manipulative skills.

2.38 **Written Tests** - Examinations designed to ensure competency in theoretical knowledge.

2.39 **Approved Evaluator** - The Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) shall make application to the Board to register “Approved Evaluator”. All approved Evaluators must meet and maintain the necessary skill sets for the appropriate level of skills evaluation

2.40 **Evaluator** – means an individual recognized by the Board to perform an examination of manipulative skills.

2.41 **Test items** - test items include written questions, manipulative skills and project methodology.

Section 3 Not Allocated

Not Allocated

Section 4 Rationale

4.1 It is the objective of the NSFSPQB to provide a forum for firefighters to access a Provincial Certification Program. It is the goal of the NSFSPQB that the combined efforts of the member entities will provide for an effective, efficient and cost-effective certification program.

4.2 The NSFSPQB will provide a mechanism for the establishment of uniformity in fire service training and testing and promote safety for firefighters and civilians through certification.

Section 5 Mission and Goals

5.1 To promote the Fire Service in the Province of Nova Scotia and/or New Brunswick as a professional service with safety being a prime concern.

5.2 To improve the performance and coordination of all certification efforts through the development of minimum performance requirements.

5.3 To develop competent and reliable Fire Service personnel by establishing minimum fire service-training standards.

5.4 To establish and maintain valid procedures that measure specific levels of skills, abilities and knowledge consistent with standards approved and adopted by the NSFSPQB

5.5 To establish and maintain guidelines that assist in the certification of all Candidates who satisfactorily fulfill qualification requirements, as adopted by the Board, irrespective of departmental affiliation and in accordance with the Human Rights Act of Nova Scotia and/or New Brunswick.

5.6 To insure complete impartiality and confidentiality and that the program be designed in such a manner that it will safeguard against misuse and abuse.

5.7 To establish province-wide uniform testing procedures for a consistent means of evaluation.

Section 6 Certification Requirements

6.1 All participating agencies and their participants shall follow established certification Policies and Procedures.

6.2 Each member entity is responsible to ensure that candidates meet the medical and physical fitness requirements for the testing agency.

6.3 Candidates must be age 18 prior to testing and certification.

6.4 Candidates applying for certification through their department or agency must have the approval of the Chief/Commissioner, Chief Administrator or Director of that agency.

6.5 Experience, training and education credits and/or a combination of these areas may be used to determine eligibility for certification. Candidates may challenge the certification or may follow the formalized courses offered by the entities

6.6 Members of participating agencies meeting Section 6.5 shall be tested on the written and manipulative skills performance behaviour objectives as outlined for each level of certification.

6.7 All candidates must meet established skill and written test objectives.

6.8 Candidates may enter the certification process at any level, providing all prerequisite requirements for that level are met, prior to certification. Candidates must show proof of prior certifications/prerequisites before they are issued a certificate. Candidates may take higher levels of certificate training however they will not gain certification until proof of certification has been met.

6.9 Participating agencies shall provide copies of applicable certification standards to their personnel for any level in which they are participating

6.10 All apparatus and equipment shall meet or exceed NFPA standards or their equivalent.

6.11 All candidates entering the certification process must have all prerequisites signed off by the entity, upon application, confirming that all prerequisites have been met.

6.12 All candidates will be required to provide the Proctor government approved photo identification at time of examination.

6.13 Candidates who have been diagnosed with a learning disability shall advise the entity at the time of application. The entity shall make all reasonable accommodations to ensure that the candidate is tested using methods which have been recognized as appropriate for the candidate.

Note: Testing shall only be performed at locations which are able to test all levels of the standard in accordance to Occupational Health and Safety and NFPA standards.

Section 7 Examinations

7.1 Written examinations shall be conducted for all certification levels. Oral examinations will not be permitted for written examinations.

7.2 Certification Proctors shall administer written examinations and a time of 1.5 minutes shall be allowed for each question.

7.3 The Board shall be responsible for the validity and reliability of the Test Items. The test items shall be reviewed by subject matter experts for validity and reliability prior to being placed in service.

7.4 Test Items will be taken from reference manuals for each level as approved by the Board.

7.5 Written examinations may be randomly generated from the Board's Certification Test Banks. The test bank is programmed, by the Program Coordinator, to select a minimum of one (1) question from each category of the test bank with the remainder of the questions drawing from the entire bank.

7.6 At least three (3) versions of the written examination shall be in-service for each level of certification being offered. This is accomplished by using the same questions and have LXR scramble the answers and/or the questions.

7.7 New versions of written examinations shall be generated periodically as defined in test specifications, or if an examination is compromised, lost or there is a change in the standard.

7.8 Board Certification Test Banks and written examinations shall be maintained with the highest level of security.

7.9 Copies of the written examinations shall be secured in a locked cabinet unless they are in use or under review by personnel approved by the Board.

7.10 Electronic copies of the test banks and/or written examinations shall be locked with a password or other security measure, which will deny unauthorized access.

7.11 The Program Coordinator or designate of the Board is the only person authorized to reproduce written examinations.

7.12 Written examinations shall be graded at the office of the Program Coordinator or designate of the Board.

7.13 Passing score for all written examinations shall be 70%.

7.14 Candidates shall be given three (3) attempts to meet minimum passing requirements. Rewrite must occur within 120 days of the initial failed examination and the second rewrite must occur within 120 days of the first rewrite..

7.15 If candidates fail to pass the written examination after three (3) successive examination attempts, then they have failed the written examination process and may reapply to take the written examination no sooner than 1 year from the date of the last examination date. The minimum time allowed between the initial examination and the retest exams is thirty (30) days.

7.16 A. Certification test items shall be analyzed for validity and reliability by subject matter experts prior to being placed in service whenever new versions of test banks are purchased or applicable NFPA standards are changed. Test item reliability will be conducted through local review and analysis of the LXR test reports and spreadsheets containing the examination results.

7.16 B. When a new test bank is purchased, the old test bank is electronically archived by the Program Coordinator with one copy of the old exam secured in a locked cabinet. Additional old exam materials are destroyed.

7.17 Test Items found to be unreliable shall be corrected or removed from the test bank.

7.18 Written Test Questions removed from certification test banks shall be replaced with the same number of questions, referenced to the appropriate NFPA objective.

7.19 Manipulative skill examinations shall be conducted for all certification levels where applicable. Manipulative skill examinations are not required for awareness level certifications.

7.20 The board through approved Evaluator(s) may administer manipulative "Skills Check" examinations as part of a testing process.

7.21 Manipulative skills examinations shall consist of at least a minimum of 10% of the total skills for the level being tested or not less than two (2) skills, whichever is greater.

7.22 Manipulative skill examinations shall be selected randomly or by manual generation.

7.23 A selection of manipulative skill examinations shall be done for each test site.

7.24 Safety officer(s) shall be provided by the agency being examined to provide for participant safety during manipulative skill examinations

7.25 Candidates will be scored "Pass" or "Fail", according to Board approved manipulative skills "Performance Competencies".

7.26 Candidates are given three (3) attempts to meet minimum manipulative skill requirements.

7.27 Candidates who fail the manipulative examination, on the first test date, (two attempts), must be re-tested on a manipulative skill from the section(s) in the standard in which they failed, no sooner than thirty (30) days from the date of the failed examination and no later than six (6) months. On the third attempt one additional skill will be added in addition to the failed skill. If retesting is not completed within the 6-month period, the candidate will be required to undergo a complete examination of manipulative skills.

7.28 Candidates shall be given three (3) attempts to meet minimum passing requirements. Retest must occur within 120 days of the initial failed test and the second test must occur within 120 days of the first test.

7.29 [Not used]

7.30 The Board must receive the request for fourth attempt in writing from the candidate's department or agency, signed by the chief or chief administrator of the agency no later than sixty (60) days from the date of the last failed examination. A letter requesting the fourth attempt shall state why the candidate is requesting a fourth attempt, including all information necessary for the Board to make a decision. Candidates must pass the manipulative skills examination for those levels requiring a manipulative skills test, prior to requesting a fourth attempt of the written examination.

7.31 [not used]

7.32 [not used]

7.33 The written and manipulative requirements for selected certification levels may be met through post-secondary education courses, as approved by the Board.

7.34 All written and manipulative skills examinations shall be conducted in accordance with all applicable Occupational Health and Safety Standards of the Province of Nova Scotia and/or New Brunswick.

7.35 Written tests shall be conducted in an area that meets the intent of the applicable Occupational Health and Safety Regulations. Rooms must be appropriately furnished and laid out in examination style. There should be sufficient space between desks to minimize the opportunity for cheating and to allow for safe and organized exit in the event of an emergency.

7.36 Manipulative skills examinations shall be conducted in an area that meets the requirements of NFPA 1403 and has sufficient facilities and equipment to test all areas of the respective certification level being tested.

7.37 The Board shall be prepared to permit a representative designated by the IFSAC Certificate Assembly Board of Governors to observe any testing process upon receiving notice of intent to observe the test at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the test.

7.38 The Program Coordinator shall maintain a database of individual student records. This database will be maintained indefinitely or until the program is no longer provided.

7.39 The Program Coordinator shall maintain old exam development materials, discs etc. These items shall be maintained indefinitely or until the program is no longer provided.

7.40 Fire Officer III and IV examinations may be graded at the approved test site using a marking rubric.

Section 8 Examination Scheduling

8.1 Entities will submit requests for examinations to the Board for each attempt of the written or manipulative skills examinations.

8.2 Manipulative skills examinations and written examinations shall be requested using the appropriate application form.

8.3 A separate application must be submitted for each examination attempt.

8.4 The Chief or Administrator of the member entity shall submit an application to the Board not less than thirty (14) days in advance of the scheduled examination date.

8.5 The Board will not charge a fee for an individual who belongs to a member organization for each level of Certification Examinations. Member Entities may charge a fee based on local criteria to provide the examination.

8.6 A fee as determined and promulgated by the Board shall be charged for an individual who belongs to a non-member organization for each level of Certification Examinations. The fee covers the application cost and is over and above the cost charged by the entity providing for the examination

8.7 [not used]

8.8 The candidates' agency will provide and bear any cost of equipment, apparatus and suitable facilities necessary to conduct the examinations.

8.9 Candidates shall pass the written examination before the manipulative skills examination may be taken.

8.10 A Proctor, approved by the Board, will be assigned to the member entity to administer written examinations. An Evaluator, approved by the Board, will be assigned to the member entity to administer manipulative skills testing.

8.11 Proctors will follow all written examination procedures defined by the Board. Evaluators will follow all manipulative skills testing procedures defined by the Board.

8.12 On receipt of a schedule for examinations from participating agencies the Board will within fourteen (14) days confirm and provide the appropriate exams.

Section 9 Proctor/Evaluator

9.1 A member entity shall have Board approved Proctor(s) to administer certification examinations and approved Evaluator(s) to administer manipulative skills examinations.

9.2 Proctors are authorized by the Board to administer their departments' written examinations, but it is recommended that at least one (1) outside Proctor be used. Evaluators are authorized by the Board to administer their departments' manipulative skills examinations, but it is recommended that at least one (1) outside Evaluator be used.

9.3 Proctors and Evaluators must follow NSFSPQB policies and procedures as specified in the Policy and Procedures Manual.

9.4 Participating agency's Evaluators may work with other participating agency's Evaluators when administering manipulative skills examinations, as needed and approved by the Board.

9.5 Proctors and Evaluators shall meet or exceed all qualifications set by the Board before Proctor/Evaluator status will be issued.

9.6 Evaluators must be certified as Instructor I to conduct manipulative skills testing.

9.7 Evaluators (manipulative skills testing) shall be certified to at least the standard to which the Evaluator is assessing.

9.8 Evaluators (manipulative skills testing) shall make application to the Board showing that the prerequisites for Evaluator approval have been met.

9.9 Proctors and Evaluators shall successfully complete Proctor/Evaluator training or update training as provided by or required by the Board. Through a mentoring program where new Proctors/Evaluators shadow the exam Proctor or skills testing Evaluator. Proctors and evaluators are updated semi-annually on procedural changes.

9.10 Approved Proctors must follow all steps in administering certification examinations as outlined in the certification "Proctors Instructions for Written Exams". Similarly, Evaluators must follow all steps as outlined in "Evaluators Instructions for Manipulative Skills Testing."

9.11 Board approved Proctors/Evaluators must coordinate all activities through the respective member entity.

9.12 Approved Proctors/Evaluators must send in all forms and reports for each examination.

9.13 The Nova Scotia Fire Service Professional Qualifications Board reserves the right to audit unannounced the certification testing, in progress, by Proctors or Evaluators.

9.14 The Board for violation of Policies and Procedures may revoke Proctor/Evaluators approvals.

Section 10 Examinations Grading/Scoring/Appeals

10.1 The Board's program coordinator or Board designate shall grade all written examinations. Written examinations will not be graded in the field.

10.2 The Entity will be mailed a copy of examination results within thirty (30) days after the examination.

10.3 Examination results will not be given over the phone or sent by FAX or by any other electronic means.

10.4 Examination results will not be given to any individual, other than the candidate or the candidates' chief or administrator unless the candidate has filed a written request with the Board and the Board has approved the written request.

10.5 Examinations, individual questions, skills, policies, and procedures may be appealed.

10.6 An official appeal to the NSFSPQB must be in writing identifying:

10.6.1 Candidate with student identification number

10.6.2 Examination date

10.6.3 Item being appealed (question, manipulative skills, policies, etc)

10.6.4 Basis for appeal

10.7 Issues with written examination questions must be brought to the attention of the proctor by the candidate on the date the examination is given. The proctor is to record the question(s) of concern on the Proctor examination sheet.

10.8 Appeals of written and/or manipulative skills examinations must be submitted by the Candidate in writing within thirty (30) days from the date the examination results were sent to the department.

10.9 Only the most recent examination may be appealed.

10.10 The Board must act on the appeal at its next scheduled meeting.

10.11 The Board must notify the applicant of their decision, in writing.

10.12 Written test analysis will be conducted upon appeal or challenge as approved by the Board. The Program Coordinator shall follow procedures for analysis as outlined in Section 7.

10.13 A statistical review is provided to the Board every six (6) months to review statistical reliability.

10.14 Fire Officer III and IV examinations may be graded at the approved test site using a marking rubric.

Note: Program Coordinator: LXR system to select a minimum of one (1) question from each category of the test bank and the remainder of the questions are drawn randomly from the entire bank.

Section 11 Issuing Certification

11.1 Candidates meeting or exceeding standards of written and manipulative skills and behavioural performance objectives will be issued certificates, identifying them as certified at the level being requested.

11.2 The Board will forward the appropriate certificate with seal affixed to the member agency who will in turn distribute the certificates within thirty (30) days of receipt.

11.3 [Not used]

11.4 Upon attaining accreditation for a new certification level, the Board will provide seals to all candidates who have completed their certification under the same methodology and curriculum in which the accreditation was granted for a period not to exceed one year prior.

Section 12 Re-certification

12.1 At this time the Board does not subscribe to a format of recertification for certification levels offered.

12.2 Participants in the certification program must be aware that some entities offering reciprocity may require a form of recertification be completed before acknowledging their certification.

Section 13 Revocation/Suspension/Annulment/Denial of Certification

13.1 The Board may revoke, suspend, annul, or deny the certification of any certified candidate after providing written notice of the violation of policy and procedures, and a hearing by the Board.

13.2 The Board may Revoke, Suspend, Annul, or Deny the certification of anyone who:

- a. Makes any intentional material misstatement on application for certification.
- b. Falsifies training records, signatures, or other intentional misrepresentations or violations of policy, etc. 18

Section 14 Procedures for Evocation/Suspension/Annulment/ Denial of Certification

14.1 If the Board, in accordance with Section 13 believes that grounds exist for the Revocation, Suspension, Annulment, or Denial of certification of any candidate, upon its own motion or by the filing with the Board of a written complaint, the Board shall give written notification of its intention to consider Revocation, Suspension, Annulment, or Denial of the certification. The notice of the hearing shall include a statement of the basis for considering Revocation, Suspension, Annulment, or Denial. Written notification shall be by "Certified Mail" to the last address furnished to the Board by the participating agency.

14.2 The Revocation, Suspension, Annulment, or Denial of certification shall require a majority vote of a quorum of Board members.

14.3 Any person who has had their certification revoked, suspended, annulled or denied pursuant to Section 14 may reapply for certification one (1) year after the date of the order of the Board which revoked, suspended, annulled or denied the certification, unless otherwise specified by the Board.

14.4 Persons who have had certification revoked, suspended, annulled or denied may appeal the decision of the Board to the NSFSPQB.

Section 15 Reciprocity

15.1 The Board may elect to give credit for training or certifications received in other provinces, territories, or countries provided such training has been approved and certified by the Authority Having Jurisdiction over certification where the training was received.

15.2 Certifications received in other provinces, territories, or countries must meet the minimum requirements for the Nova Scotia Fire Service Professional Qualifications Board certification as set forth by the Board.

15.3 The Board may enter into standing reciprocity pacts or agreements with provinces, territories or countries that by law regulate and supervise the quality of fire service training and firefighter certification.

15.4 Adoption of any standard or program shall not render invalid any participant's prior certification.

Section 16 Special Certificate and Awards

16.1 The Board may present certificates and awards for the purpose of raising the level of competence of fire service personnel and to foster cooperation among other agencies, groups, organizations, jurisdictions, and individuals, i.e. Honourary Certified firefighter awards.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Proctors

Selection Criteria for Proctors and Evaluators

1. Evaluators shall not have instructed any part of the certification process to the students being examined. They must be independent of the instructional training process.
2. Proctors and Evaluators shall be recommended by the training agency.
3. Proctors for the purpose of administering written exams are not required to be certified to the level being tested.
3. Evaluators administering manipulative skills must be certified at least to the level they are testing.
4. Proctors and Evaluators must strictly abide by the policies and procedures of the Board.

NOVA SCOTIA FIRE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS BOARD

Certification Examination Application

SECTION 1 – EXAMINATION

Date: _____

Print legibly and completely based on the instructions and enter the examination name, ex., Firefighter I / II

Examination: _____

If you are taking this examination for the first time, any retake of portion(s) of this examination, check the check below. Appropriate box (es) below.

Full Examination Written Only Practical Only

Examination Date: _____

Location: _____

SECTION 2 – APPLICANT

Date: _____

Enter the following information. Name will appear on your certificate as it is printed below.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: Home (_____) _____ Work (_____) _____

My firefighting Personal Protective Equipment meets/or exceed current NFPA standards	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am physically capable of conducting all the physical routines required to successfully complete the practical skills requirements of this firefighter level.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am medically fit to participate is all practical skill requirements of this firefighter level	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION 3 – FIRE SERVICE

AFFILIATION _____

I am a member of one or more of the following:

A municipal fire department in the Province of Nova Scotia or New Brunswick, compensated or uncompensated.

A non-municipal organization whose sole function is to provide services equivalent to a municipal fire department to an industry in the Province of Nova Scotia or New Brunswick, compensated or uncompensated.

Full-time, civilian (non-military) members of military fire departments on installations which are located within the Province of Nova Scotia or New Brunswick.

Members of municipal fire departments in provinces other than Nova Scotia New Brunswick.

Current Department or Organization

Name: _____

SECTION 4 – ENTRANCE

CRITERIA

Enter examination prerequisite certification level, if appropriate. If using NSFS Recruit Program to fulfill criteria enter “NSFS Graduate” and graduation date.

Prerequisite Level of Certification:

FF Level I Requirements		FF Level II Requirements	
Subject	Date granted	Subject	Date Granted
Level “C” First Aid		Level “C” First Aid	
Hazmat Awareness Certification		Hazmat Operations	
		FF Level I	

Fire Officer Level I Requirements		Fire Officer Level II Requirements	
Subject	Date granted	Subject	Date Granted
FF Level II		Fire Officer Level I	
Level “C” First Aid		Level “C” First Aid	

NOVA SCOTIA FIRE SERVICE
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS BOARD
Office of the Fire Marshal
P.O. Box 697
Halifax, N.S. B3J 2T8

Proctor Instructions for Written Exam

Name of Test: _____ Date: _____

1. Proctors shall ensure that all candidates are in place prior to passing out written exam.
2. Proctors shall ensure all candidates have appropriate writing material
3. Proctors shall pass out exam and place face down on desktop.
4. Proctors shall review (read aloud) the instructions for students.
5. Proctors shall advise candidates of policy regarding test interruptions.
6. Proctors when responding to a candidate challenging an examination question, proctors shall not reword the question or provide a definition, or in any other way comprise the examination question.
7. Proctors shall give instruction to commence exam and shall note the time of commencement (Note: One Hour, thirty minutes' maximum allowable time for exam).
8. A proctor shall announce, at the remaining 10 to five-minute mark, time remaining.
9. The proctors must remain in the examination room while candidates are completing written test.
10. If, in the opinion of the proctor, a candidate is found to be cheating, talking to other candidates, or conducting themselves in an unacceptable fashion, the proctor may seize the candidates' written exam and request he/she leave the examination room. A written report shall be provided to the Board detailing the event.

Proctor's Name _____

Exam Title _____

Assigned Proctor Number _____

**NOVA SCOTIA FIRE SERVICE
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS BOARD
Office of the Fire Marshal
P.O. Box 697
Halifax, N.S. B3J 2T8**

Procedures for Practical Skills Examiner/Evaluator

*To provide secure staging for students to ensure unevaluated students cannot observe candidates being tested, candidates are to be placed in an area out of sight of the skills being tested and monitored by an assistant Evaluator.

*Timing of exams for the skill tests will be adjusted to suit the number of students and the facility being used to allow for a reasonable time frame for the students to complete the task.

*The locations will meet the applicable NFPA requirements (1403)

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Evaluators* shall verify the identification of each student by reviewing their government approved photo identification.
2. *Evaluators* evaluating skills on fire ground shall be dressed in full protective clothing as required of candidates.
3. *Evaluators* shall ensure they take the most beneficial position to assess the displayed skill of the candidate (i.e.: if it is the Proctors responsibility to assess the candidate's ability to conduct a proper fire attack then he shall don all necessary protective clothing and equipment and enter into the involved fire area with the candidate, or even ahead of the candidate, so as to be in the most beneficial position to evaluate the candidate's performance in that specific skill).
4. *Evaluators* should not interrupt a procedure once in progress, but may ask verbal questions to candidates once the procedure is completed.

SAFETY NOTE:

Evaluators may interrupt or stop a procedure if he (they) considers the process unnecessarily life threatening to the candidate.

5. *Evaluators* shall follow instructions for manipulative skill test sheets (copy attached).
6. Evaluators when responding to a candidate challenging instructions for a particular skill, may repeat the instructions but shall not reword the instructions or provide a definition, or in any other way comprise the skill being examined.

Manipulative Skill Test Grading Policy

This policy will assist Evaluators in evaluating each particular criterion found on the manipulative skill test sheets based on a competency scale. The competency scale is determined as follows:

Full Points - The student completes all criteria accurately, safely and without hesitation.

Zero Points - The student completed the task in an unsafe manner or improperly to the point of being ineffective.

Instructions for Completing Manipulative Skill Test Sheet

1. Evaluators may only grade those skills within their assigned skill area Skill test rated as failed must be documented below and on the back of the manipulative skill test sheet.
2. Proctors should assign scores for individual student performance upon completion of the skill test.
3. The lead Evaluators must review the pass/fail skill test sheets and complete a skill summary form for each participating student
4. An overall passing score requires the student to pass each manipulative skill test set out in any skill set.

Scoring explanation:

The Evaluator shall award points for each particular criterion based on a competency scale found in the grading policy as follows:

Full Points - The student completes all criteria accurately, safely and without hesitation

Zero Points - The student completed tile task in an unsafe manner or improperly to the point of being ineffective

Comments: (Required for any failing score or unusual circumstances)

Evaluators Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

**NOVA SCOTIA FIRE SERVICE
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Office of the Fire Marshal
P.O. Box 697
Halifax, N.S. B3J 2T8**

**NOTE: Cellular phones, personal audio equipment,
and other electronic communication devices
must be turned off and out of sight
for the duration of this examination**

Proctors Instructions for Written Exam

Name of Exam: _____ Test Date: _____

As proctor of this exam, **YOU** are representing the Nova Scotia Fire Services Professional Qualifications Board. You will need to follow the following instructions and sign that you have done so.

* These exams will not be reproduced! Doing so will invalidate this exam and all persons taking this exam will receive a failure. Exams have been provided for the students listed on the attendance roster. Any person whose name does not appear on the list is not eligible to write.

* Proctors are responsible for test security. You must secure these tests in accordance with NSFSPQB test security procedures. Failure to do so is a direct violation of Policy.

Before the start of the exam, the Proctor will ensure that there is adequate spacing between desks to minimize the opportunity for cheating and to allow for safe and organized exit in the event of an emergency. The Proctor shall ensure the restrooms are checked to ensure there are no items present that could be used to cheat on the exam. The Proctor shall point out the exits, restroom facilities, ensure the lighting and ventilation of the room is appropriate for the candidates.

* While administering the exam, you should remain in the room at all times.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Before students sign the examination attendance roster, ensure that students review the spelling of their names (first and last), and their student Identification is correct. **The Proctor shall verify the identification of each student by reviewing their government approved photo identification.**
2. Ensure that any changes are printed and are legible. Have students place all materials (book, purses, etc.) on the floor.
3. Explain to the students that it is extremely important that all information and answers on the scan sheet be within the circles and dark. If they change an answer, they need to erase the circle completely. Marks that are too light or not completely erased may result in that answer being wrong.
 - a. Use a no. 2 pencil only.
 - b. Make dark heavy marks that fill the oval completely.
 - c. Erase unwanted marks cleanly.
 - d. Make no stray marks on the answer sheet.
 - e. Failure to mark the appropriate answer in the correct location may result in a zero score for that question.
 - f. Multiple marks on a given question will result in a zero score for that question.
 - g. For true or false questions: A = true B = false
4. Provide each student with:
 - a. No. 2 pencil
 - b. Sealed envelope, which contains an answer sheet(s), exam booklet, unsealed envelope
 - c. A copy of an MSDS Sheet (if applicable)
 - d. Scratch paper
5. After everyone has the above material instruct the candidates to open the envelope and check the following:
 - a. Once this is done have them turn the exam booklet face down and instruct them not to turn it over until told to do so.
 - b. On the answer sheet, have the students fill in the following information using a no. 2 pencil:
 1. Exam number (found on envelope and roster sheet) first four letters of last name and last four digits of Social Insurance No. (See ID Number)

2. Last name, first name, middle initial
3. Exam date (optional)
4. Version Number (found in the heading of the exam booklet)
(see Special Code)

Note: It is very important to have all this information filled in completely. If it is not completed correctly, the test may be void.

Provide candidates with the following information:

- c. Number of exam questions _____
- d. Allotted time for completion of the exam is _____
- e. Minimum passing score – 70%
6. After completion of candidate information on the answer sheets, instruct the candidates to turn the test booklet over.
7. Candidates must raise their hand to receive permission from the Proctor to take a washroom break. Only one (1) person at a time may take a break and a maximum of five (5) minutes will be allowed. No test materials or electronic devices, such as cell phones or MP3 players, may be taken from the room.
8. The candidate is not allowed to go to his/her stored personal belongings, unless supervised. Anything retrieved from his/her belongings must be shown to the Proctor to verify it has no relationship to the examination.
9. In the case of a personal emergency of any sort (e.g., illness), students are to inform the proctor of their circumstances and request assistance or permission to leave the examination room, as circumstances warrant.
10. Announce when time has begun and post the time in a place that the students can see.\
11. **The students can now begin the test**
12. When the candidate has finished the examination, please put the exam booklet, answer sheet and scrap paper used inside the new envelope and seal it and return it to you. Failure to follow these instructions could result in a failure of the exam.
13. List any problems or comments below (i.e., missing tests, unusual activities, no-shows, etc.). Complete the following information about yourself for our records.

14. Sample Question

Note: Proctors when responding to a candidate challenging an examination question, proctors shall not reword the question or provide a definition, or in any other way comprise the examination question.

1. The knot used to join two ropes of unequal diameters is:
 - A. half hitch.
 - B. clove hitch.
 - C. becket bend.
 - D. bowline knot.

Proctor's Name: (PRINT) _____

Exam Title _____

Assigned Proctor Number: _____

Comments: _____

Read and sign:

As proctor, I have followed the above guidelines in administering this test. I have maintained security and integrity of the testing process.

_____ / _____
(Signature) (Date)

Procedure for Test Item Development

When available, the NSFSPQB will use the Test Items provided by the publisher or third part vendor. All test items shall be reviewed by a Subject Matter Expert (SME) to ensure they meet the intent of the standard.

The SME shall create a test item when:

- a. it has been determined that a test item does not meet the intent of the standard, or
- b. a test item is not provided.

To create a test item, the SME, shall use the job performance requirement found in the standard.

The test item shall be reviewed by a second SME and where necessary field tested for example skills, to ensure compliance with the standard.

Test item development and field testing shall be done in compliance with all applicable occupational health and safety requirements.

Guideline Standards

1. The NSFSPQB has elected to use the following NFPA standards and corresponding IFSTA manuals and other approved reference manuals as guides as amended for developing certification standards.
2. NFPA 472 Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents 2013 Edition
3. NFPA 1001 Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications 2013 Edition
4. NFPA 1002 Standard on Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications 2014 Edition
5. NFPA 1003 Standard for Airport Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications 2015 Edition
6. NFPA 1021 Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications 2014 Edition
7. NFPA 1031 Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspector and Plan Examiner 2014 Edition
8. NFPA 1033 Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator 2014 Edition
9. NFPA 1035 Standard for Professional Qualifications for Public Fire and Life Safety Educator 2015 Edition
10. NFPA 1041 Standard for Fire Service Instructor Professional Qualifications 2012 Edition
11. NFPA 1521 Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer 2013 Edition
12. The Board shall endeavour to complete transition to the newest standard within one (1) year of release, but not later than three (3) years.

FIREFIGHTER I - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Firefighter I Bank - **683 Questions**
2. Questions written from text:
 - *Essentials of Fire Fighting*, 6th Edition
 - *Essentials of Fire Fighting* Curriculum, IG
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1001 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **100 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Every 6 months**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 30 Days Apart**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills in – **171 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1001**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **12 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service - **Every session**
8. Passing score – **Pass/Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days.**

FIREFIGHTER II - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Firefighter II Bank - **376 Questions**
2. Questions written from text:
 - *Essentials of Fire Fighting*, 6th Edition
 - *Essentials of Fire Fighting* Curriculum, IG
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1001 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **100 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once a Year**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 30 Days Apart**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills in – **24 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1001**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **8 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation – **Manual Random Sampling**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exam**
7. New examinations placed in-service – **Every Session**
8. Passing score – **Pass/Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days**

HAZMAT AWARENESS - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in HazMat. Awareness Bank – **181 Questions**
2. Questions written from text:
 - *IFSTA, Hazardous Materials for First Responders, 4th Edition*
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination – **50 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once every year**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Day**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

All skills are covered during examination process.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OPERATION (Ch 5, 6.2 & 6.6) - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Haz. Mat. Bank – **521 Questions**
2. Questions written from text:
 - *IFSTA, Hazardous Materials for First Responders, 4th Edition,*
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **100 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once every year**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **3**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills - **7 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **3 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service – **Every Session**
8. Passing score – **Pass / Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days**

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OPERATIONS (Ch 5 & 6.3) - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Haz. Mat. Bank – **521 Questions**
3. Questions written from text:
 - *IFSTA, Hazardous Materials for First Responders, 4th Edition,*
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **100 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once every year**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **3**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills - **1 Skill**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **1 Skill**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service – **Every Session**
8. Passing score – **Pass / Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days**

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OPERATIONS (Ch 5 & 6.4) - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Haz. Mat. Bank – **521 Questions**
4. Questions written from text:
 - *IFSTA, Hazardous Materials for First Responders, 4th Edition,*
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **100 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once every year**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **3**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills - **3 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **3 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service – **Every Session**
8. Passing score – **Pass / Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days**

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OPERATIONS (Ch 5 & 6.5) - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Haz. Mat. Bank – **521 Questions**
5. Questions written from text:
 - *IFSTA, Hazardous Materials for First Responders, 4th Edition,*
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **100 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once every year**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **3**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills - **1 Skill**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **1 Skill**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service – **Every Session**
8. Passing score – **Pass / Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days**

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OPERATIONS (Ch 5 & 6.7) - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Haz. Mat. Bank – **521 Questions**
6. Questions written from text:
 - *IFSTA, Hazardous Materials for First Responders, 4th Edition,*
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **100 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once every year**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **3**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills - **5 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **5 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service – **Every Session**
8. Passing score – **Pass / Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days**

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OPERATIONS (Ch 5 & 6.8) - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Haz. Mat. Bank – **521 Questions**
7. Questions written from text:
 - *IFSTA, Hazardous Materials for First Responders, 4th Edition,*
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **100 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once every year**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **3**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills - **6 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **6 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service – **Every Session**
8. Passing score – **Pass / Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days**

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OPERATIONS (Ch 5 & 6.9) - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Haz. Mat. Bank – **521 Questions**
8. Questions written from text:
 - *IFSTA, Hazardous Materials for First Responders, 4th Edition,*
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **100 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once every year**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **3**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills - **1 Skill**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **1 Skill**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service – **Every Session**
8. Passing score – **Pass / Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days**

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TECHNICIAN - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Haz Mat Tech Bank – **429 Questions**
2. Questions written from text – **IFSTA Hazardous Materials technician 1st Edition**
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472 and Texts**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **100**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once every year**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **3**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills - **28 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **6 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service – **Every Session**
8. Passing score - **Pass/Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Day**

FIRE OFFICER I - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Fire Officer 1 Bank – **294 Questions**
2. Questions written from text:
 - *IFSTA, Fire and Emergency Services Company Officer, 5th Edition*
3. Questions referenced to - NFPA Standard 1021 and Text
4. Number of questions on each examination - **100 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once every year**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **3**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills – **15 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1021**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **13 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service – **Every Session**
8. Passing score – **Pass/Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days**

FIRE OFFICER 2 - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Fire Officer 2 Bank – **161 Questions**
1. Questions written from text - **IFSTA Fire Department Company Officer 5th Edition**
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1021 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **75 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once every year**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **3**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills - **12 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1021**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **12 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service – **Every Session**
8. Passing score – **Pass /Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days**

FIRE OFFICER 3 - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Fire Officer III Requirements

Prerequisite

- Fire Officer I and II (from somewhere else)
- Fire Service Instructor II (from somewhere else)

Required courses from our program

- Station Officer Dealing with People
- Station Officer Dealing with New Operations
- Environment of the Fire Station
- Fire Prevention Management
- Human Resources Management I
- Human Resources Management II
- Municipal Finance
- Strategic Planning I
- Organizational Behaviour
- Fire Suppression Management
- Disaster Management or Incident Command courses

FIRE OFFICER 4 - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Fire Officer IV Requirement

Prerequisite

- Fire Officer I
- Fire Officer II
- Fire Officer III (from Dalhousie University)

Required courses

- Municipal Government and Service Delivery
- Strategic Planning I
- Human Resources I
- Human Resources II
- Program Evaluation and Statics
- Incident Command
- Emergency Medical Services Management and the Fire Department

INSTRUCTOR 1 - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Instructor 1 Bank – **352 Questions**
2. Questions written from text - **IFSTA Fire & Emergency Services Instructor 8th Edition**
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1041 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination – **50 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once every year**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **3**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills - **6 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1041**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination – **4 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service – **Every session**
8. Passing score – **Pass/Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days**

INSTRUCTOR II - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Instructor II Bank – **172 Questions**
2. Questions written from text - **IFSTA Fire & Emergency Services Instructor 8th Edition**
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1041 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **75 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once a Year**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **3**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills – **12 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1041**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **8 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation – **Manual Random Sampling**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service – **Each Session**
8. Passing score – **Pass/Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days**

FIRE INSPECTOR I - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Fire Investigator Bank – **340 Questions**
2. Questions written from text - **IFSTA Fire Inspection and Code Enforcement 7th Edition**
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA 1031 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **100 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once a Year**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **3**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills – **24 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1031**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **12 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation – **Manual Random Sampling**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service – **Each Session**
8. Passing score – **Pass/Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days**

FIRE INVESTIGATOR - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Fire Investigator Bank – **399 Questions**
2. Questions written from text - **IFSTA Fire Investigator 2nd Edition**
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA 1033 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **100 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once a Year**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **3**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills – **25 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1033**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **12 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
6. Type of generation – **Manual Random Sampling**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Each Session**
8. Passing score – **Pass/Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days**

INDUSRTRIAL INCIPIENT TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Industrial Incipient Bank - **267 Questions**
2. Questions written from text:
 - *INDUSTRIAL Emergency Services Training: Incipient Level 2nd Edition*
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1081 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **75 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **2 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Every 6 months**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 30 Days Apart**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills in – **13 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1081**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **8 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service - **Every session**
8. Passing score – **Pass/Fail**
9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days.**

INDUSRTRIAL ADVANCED EXTERIOR TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Industrial Incipient Bank - **355 Questions**
2. Questions written from text:
 - *INDUSTRIAL Exterior and Structural Fire Brigades 1st Edition*
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1081 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **75 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **2 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Every 6 months**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 30 Days Apart**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills in – **26 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1081**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **8 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service - **Every session**
8. Passing score – **Pass/Fail**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days.**

INDUSRTRIAL INTERIOR TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Industrial Incipient Bank - **106 Questions**
2. Questions written from text:
 - *INDUSTRIAL Exterior and Structural Fire Brigades 1st Edition*
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1081 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **50 Questions**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **2 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Every 6 months**
9. Passing score - **70 %**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 30 Days Apart**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills in – **23 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1081**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **8 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service - **Every session**
8. Passing score – **Pass/Fail**
11. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days.**

FIREFIGHTER I & II - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in Firefighter I Bank - **683 Questions**
Number of test questions in Firefighter II Bank - **376 Questions**
2. Questions written from text:
 - *Essentials of Fire Fighting*, 6th Edition
 - *Essentials of Fire Fighting* Curriculum, IG
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1001 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **200 Questions (100 FFI & 100 FFII)**
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Every 6 months**
9. Passing score - **70 % of FFI and FFII scored separately**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 30 Days Apart**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of Firefighter I manipulative skills – **171 Skills**
Number of Firefighter II manipulative skills – **24 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 1001**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **20 Skills (12 FFI & 8 FFII)**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service - **Every session**
8. Passing score – **Pass/Fail**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days.**

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AWARENESS & OPERATIONS (Ch 4, 5, 6.2 & 6.6) - TEST SPECIFICATIONS

Written Examination:

1. Number of test questions in HazMat. Operations Bank – **521 Questions**
Number of test questions in HazMat. Awareness Bank – **181 Questions**
9. Questions written from text:
 - *IFSTA, Hazardous Materials for First Responders, 4th Edition,*
3. Questions referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472 and Text**
4. Number of questions on each examination - **150 Questions** (100 HMO & 50 HMA)
5. Examination generated by - **NFPA Reference**
6. Type of generation - **Manual Random Sampling**
7. Number of examinations in-service - **3 Exams**
8. New examinations placed in-service – **Once every year**
9. Passing score - **70 % of HMA and HMO scored separately**
10. Attempts to pass examination - **3**

Manipulative Skills Examination:

1. Number of manipulative skills - **7 Skills**
2. Skills referenced to - **NFPA Standard 472**
3. Number of skills tested on each examination - **3 Skills**
4. Examination generated by – **Manual Random Sampling**
5. Type of generation - **Skills Hand Selected for Each Examination**
6. Number of examinations in-service - **1 Exams**
7. New examinations placed in-service – **Every Session**
8. Passing score – **Pass / Fail**

9. Attempts to pass examination - **(3), 2 Attempts First Test Date, 3rd Attempt in 30 Days**