



CAL FIRE - OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Information Bulletin 24-014

Issued: November 13, 2024

New and Renewal Cards to be issued Effective December 16, 2024

BACKGROUND

CAL FIRE-Office of the State Fire Marshal - Fire Engineering & Investigation (FEI) Division, oversees a variety of certifications and licenses. Currently, applicants renewing their licenses or certifications receive an annual sticker to attach to their CAL FIRE card, indicating validity for the year. This process, established under the Health and Safety Code, is self-funded through collected fees.

After a thorough analysis, FEI has determined that the costs of producing annual stickers exceed those of printing new cards. Furthermore, the processing time for issuing new cards is the same or shorter. FEI will transition to issuing new cards for all annual renewals, effective December 16, 2024, to enhance service delivery while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

REQUIREMENTS

Effective December 16, 2024, all annual renewals will receive a new license/certification card with an expiration date. This initiative aims to streamline operations and reduce costs. The implementation will be supported by a comprehensive information-sharing campaign, which will include:

- An Informational Bulletin
- Direct emails to stakeholders
- Discussions during advisory committee meetings
- Written notifications included with newly issued cards

During the transition phase, existing cardholders with legacy cards with valid stickers will maintain their validity until their cards' regular expiration dates. As a result, cardholders may possess either a legacy card with a valid sticker or a new card with an expiration date, depending on the timing of their application submissions.

Important Dates:

- December 16, 2024: All new cards issued by FEI will have an expiration date. Legacy cards with a valid sticker will begin to be phased out.
- January 1, 2026: All cards issued by FEI will have an expiration date. Legacy cards that have a sticker are no longer utilized or valid.

TYPES OF CARDS

Two distinct versions of the cards will be issued:

1. **Horizontal Card:** For all other licensed, certified, and registered cardholders.
2. **Vertical Card:** For Trainees and individuals currently enrolled in an Apprenticeship program.

