



DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
State Fire Training Division
P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
(916) 568-2911
Website: www.fire.ca.gov



Date: April 8, 2022

To: Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee
State Board of Fire Services

From: Caryn Petty, Deputy State Fire Marshal III (Specialist)

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:

Fire Fighter Certification Exam Psychomotor Skill Issuance

Recommended Actions:

Approval of Fire Fighter Certification Exam Psychomotor Skill Issuance with consideration to the skill level, cost, and associated Registered Evaluator/staffing needs.

Background Information:

State Fire Training (SFT) manages the Fire Fighter 1 and 2 curriculum, Certification Exams, and Certification requirements. SFT has 65 Accredited Regional Training Programs (ARTPs) and Accredited Local Academies (ALAs) currently administering the Certification Exams with student participation increasing exponentially. To accommodate the complexity of statewide participants, the Certification Exam processes have been expanded to allow for simulation of select Certification Exam skills.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

Several academies were queried for their feedback regarding the delivery of the Fire Fighter 1 and 2 (2019) Certification Examination processes with specific input on costs, assessed skill level, and the associated cost/time of Registered Lead/Skill Evaluator or other staff needs for successful exam delivery. The participants included Long Beach Fire Department, Sacramento Fire Department, Santa Ana College, and Santa Rose Junior College.

Each were provided a prepared Excel spreadsheet will fillable columns for each Fire Fighter 1 and 2 (2019) skill, requiring identification within those columns of Low-Medium-High. Each ALA/ARTP reviewed each skill and provided feedback specific to their agency/facility. The intent was to identify the most costly and time-consuming skills while

further identifying those skills that require specific and/or excess staff (personnel, cost, hours) to complete.

The Psychomotor Certification Exam skill issuance is:

- Fire Fighter 1A
 - o Seven (7) Required (Mandatory) Skills
 - o Three (3) Random Skills
- Fire Fighter 1B
 - o One (1) Required (Mandatory) Skill
 - o Two (2) Random Skills
- Fire Fighter 1C
 - o Six (6) Required (Mandatory) Skills
 - o Two (2) Random Skills
- Fire Fighter 2A
 - o Two (2) Required (Mandatory) Skills
 - o Three (3) Random Skills

The data shows that the existing Mandatory Skills do not incur any excess cost or staffing needs. The feedback received finds common identification of the Random Skills that require additional personnel, materials, and time for set-up/reset between candidates. These findings support the proposal for a tiered system that will provide academies with equitably distributed skills with consideration to the cost and materials associated with the higher skill-level tasks. The categorization of the skills will provide equitable assignment of Random Skills to balance the issuance inclusive of the three groupings.

Table 1: Finalized tiering of Fire Fighter 1A (2019) Psychomotor Random Skills

| Fire Fighter 1A (2019) - Structure | |
|---|----------|
| 1-3: Inspect SCBA | 1 |
| 1-8: Doff SCBA and PPE for Gross Decontamination | 1 |
| 2-1: Initiate a Response to an Emergency | 1 |
| 2-2: Receive a Telephone Call | 1 |
| 2-3: Operate a Fire Department Radio | 1 |
| 3-1a: Replace an SCBA Air Cylinder | 1 |
| 3-1b: Use SCBA During Emergency Operations | 2 |
| 3-2: Respond to an Emergency Scene on an Apparatus | 1 |
| 3-3: Operate at an Emergency Scene | 1 |
| 3-4: Force Entry into a Structure | 1 |
| 3-5: Activate an Emergency Call and Exit a Hazardous Area | 2 |
| 3-7: Attack a Passenger Vehicle Fire | 3 |
| 3-8: Operate a Portable Master Stream | 1 |
| 3-9a: Search for and Rescue a Victim with no Respiratory Protection | 2 |
| 3-9b: Rescue a Fire Fighter | 3 |
| 3-9c: Use a Ladder for Rescue | 2 |
| 3-10a: Operate a Charged Attack Hoseline from a Ground Ladder | 2 |
| 3-10d: Extend a Hoseline | 1 |

| | |
|---|---|
| 3-10e: Load, Deploy, and Advance an Attack Line | 2 |
| 3-10f: Load Supply Hose | 1 |
| 3-11: Perform Horizontal Ventilation | 2 |
| 3-12: Perform Vertical Ventilation | 3 |
| 3-13a: Overhaul a Fire Scene | 2 |
| 3-13b: Remove Charred Materials | 1 |
| 3-14a: Control Water Flow from a Sprinkler System | 1 |
| 3-14b: Remove Water from the Interior of a Structure | 2 |
| 3-14c: Salvage a Room and its Contents | 2 |
| 3-14d: Cover Building Openings | 1 |
| 3-15a: Deploy Portable Tank and Prepare for Drafting Operations | 3 |
| 3-16: Select, Carry, and Operate a Portable Fire Extinguisher | 1 |
| 3-17: Light a Scene | 1 |
| 3-18: Turn Off Building Utilities | 1 |
| 3-19: Combat a Ground Cover, Debris, or Exterior Fire | 2 |
| 3-20a: Tie Knots | 1 |
| 3-20b: Hoist Tools Aloft | 1 |
| 3-21: Operate Hand and Power Tools | 1 |
| 3-22: Operate an Air-Monitoring Instrument | 1 |
| 4-1: Clean and Check Equipment | 1 |
| 4-2a: Replace a Burst Section of Hose | 1 |
| 4-2b: Build Hose Rolls | 1 |
| 4-2c: Clean and Maintain Hose and Mark Defective Hose | 1 |

Table 2: Finalized tiering of Fire Fighter 1B (2019) Psychomotor Random Skills

| Fire Fighter 1B (2019) - Hazardous Materials/WMD | |
|--|---|
| 5-2b: Identify Markings | 1 |
| 5-4: Initiate Required Notifications | 1 |
| 6-2: Identify the Scope of a Hazardous Materials/WMD Incident | 1 |
| 6-3: Identify Action Options for a Hazardous Materials/WMD Incident | 1 |
| 6-4: Perform Assigned Tasks at a Hazardous Materials/WMD Incident | 2 |
| 6-5: Perform Emergency Decontamination | 3 |
| 6-6: Evaluate and Report Progress for a Hazardous Materials/WMD Incident | 1 |
| 7-1: Don, Work In, and Doff Chemical Protective Clothing | 2 |
| 7-2: Perform Product Control | 2 |

Table 3: Finalized tiering of Fire Fighter 1C (2019) Psychomotor Random Skills

| Fire Fighter 1C (2019) - Wildland | |
|--|---|
| 9-1: Maintain Assigned Personal Protective Equipment | 1 |
| 9-2: Maintain Hand Tools and Equipment | 1 |
| 10-1: Assemble and Prepare for Response | 1 |
| 10-2a: Use Incident Response Pocket Guide | 1 |
| 10-3a: Assemble, Use, and Maintain a Back Pump | 3 |

| | |
|---|---|
| 10-3c: Construct a Fireline Using Hand Tools | 2 |
| 10-3d: Perform Mobile Pumping | 3 |
| 10-4a: Ignite and Extinguish Road Flares and Fusees | 1 |
| 10-4b: Assemble, Ignite, Extinguish, and Disassemble a Drip Torch | 2 |
| 10-5: Prep and Defend a Structure | 1 |
| 10-6: Perform Mop Up Operations | 1 |
| 10-7: Patrol the Fire Area | 1 |

Table 4: Finalized tiering of Fire Fighter 2A (2019) Psychomotor Random Skills

| Fire Fighter 2A (2019) - Structure | |
|--|---|
| 2-1: Complete a Basic Incident Report | 1 |
| 2-2: Communicate the Need for Team Assistance | 1 |
| 3-1: Extinguish an Ignitable Liquid Fire | 2 |
| 3-2: Control a Flammable Gas Cylinder Fire | 3 |
| 3-4: Protect Evidence of Fire Cause and Origin | 1 |
| 4-1: Extricate a Victim Entrapped in a Motor Vehicle | 3 |
| 4-2: Assist a Rescue Operations Team | 1 |
| 5-1: Perform a Fire Safety Survey in an Occupied Structure | 1 |
| 5-2: Present Fire Safety Information | 1 |
| 5-3: Prepare a Preincident Survey | 1 |
| 5-4: Maintain Power Plants, Tools, and Equipment | 1 |
| 5-5: Perform an Annual Service Test on a Fire Hose | 2 |

SFT staff will be using the data collected to assign Psychomotor Random Skills that have similar cost to deliver (consumables), demonstrated skill level, and time to deliver the exam per candidate.