



NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING ACTION (NOPA)

45-Day Public Comment Period
January 31, 2025, through March 21, 2025

California Code of Regulations
TITLE 19. Public Safety
DIVISION 1. State Fire Marshal
CHAPTER 13. California Fire Service Training and Education Program
ARTICLE 2. General Provisions

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Government Code, §11346, that the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection – Office of the State Fire Marshal (“OSFM”) or (“SFM”) proposes to take the regulatory action described below in the Informative Digest implementing Title 19, Division 1, Chapter 13, Article 3 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), related to the certification and training standards for the California fire service described below after considering public comments, objections, or recommendations regarding the proposed action.

WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

Any interested person or their authorized representative may submit written comments relevant to the proposed regulatory action. Written comments will be accepted for 45 days beginning January 31, 2025, through March 21, 2025. All written comments received through the end of March 21, 2025, will be considered and responded to as part of the compilation of the rulemaking file and are subject to disclosure under the Public Records Act (Gov. Code § 6250, et. Seq.). Written comments should be directed to:

- **Email:** Title19regulations@fire.ca.gov
- (include in the subject line of the email “**Comments: State Fire Training 2025 Revisions**”)
- **Postal Mail:**
CAL FIRE/Office of the State Fire Marshal
PO Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460
Attn: Caryn Petty, State Fire Training

Pursuant to Government Code § 11346.9, the SFM shall respond to comments submitted during the Comment Period containing objections and/or recommendations specifically directed at the SFM’s proposed action or to the procedures followed by the agency in proposed or adopting the action.

PUBLIC HEARING

The SFM has not scheduled a public hearing on this proposed action. However, the SFM will hold a public hearing to accept comments if a written request is received from any interested party or their authorized representative no later than 15 days before the close of the 45-day written comment period, pursuant to Government Code Section 11346.8. Submit requests to the contact person indicated below.

AUTHORITY & REFERENCE

The State Fire Marshal is proposing this regulatory action pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 13157 with reference to 13155, 13157, 13159, and 13159.1, to verify that minimum curriculum requirements are being met pertaining to, facilities, and faculty standards for schools, seminars, or workshops operated by, or for the state, for the specific purpose of training fire service personnel. The proposed regulations implement, interpret, and make specific sections 13155 through and 13159.10 of the Health and Safety Code.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST - POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

The regulations proposed in this rulemaking action implements, interprets, clarifies, and/or makes specific Health and Safety Code § 13157 by making the following changes:

Specifically, this action proposes to amend certification and training standards for the California fire service. The broad objective of this proposed rulemaking action is to better define the regulatory requirements of the SFM Fire Service Training and Education Program and the enforcement and maintenance of those requirements for students, instructors, and academies.

This rulemaking action proposes to amend CCR, Title 19, Chapter 13, Sections 1990.00, 1990.01, 1990.02, 1990.03, 1990.04, 1990.05, 1990.06, 1990.07, 1990.08, 1990.09, 1990.10, 1990.11, and 1990.12.

- Provide editorial updates, changes without regulatory effect, identified in Title 19 California Code of Regulations (CCR).
- Update the following referenced documents incorporated by reference: *State Fire Training Procedures Manual* (May 2020) version to the (2025) version as identified in Title 19, California Code of Regulations, Section 1990.00.
- Update the forms incorporated by reference in the May 2020 version of the *State Fire Training Procedures Manual* to current (2025) edition.
- Revise and update the forms incorporated by reference identified in the text of regulations in CCR, Title 19, Section 1990.00(a).
- Revise and update the Training Standards identified in CCR, Title 19, Section 1990.01(a).
- Provide editorial update to include Course Training Standards in CCR, Title 19, Section 1990.01(b).

- Provide editorial updates to align with State Fire Training terminology and provide grammatical revisions in CCR, Title 19, Section 1990.02, 1990.04-1990.06, and 1990.11-1990.12.
- Provide editorial update to Instructor requirements and qualifications in CCR, Title 19, Section 1990.04.
- Clarify violations warranting suspension, decertification, revocation, and expulsion processes in CCR, Title 19, Section 1990.08.
- Revise and update the Appeals Process identified in CCR, Title 19, Section 1990.09.
- Revise and update the Reinstatement process for system participants in CCR, Title 19, Section 1990.10.
- Repeal the document incorporated by reference titled “Course Information and Required Materials (CIRM)” dated (January 2019).

Documents incorporated by reference in Title 19 are updated and included in this rulemaking file as follows:

- The *State Fire Training Procedures Manual (2025)* has been updated and reformatted and replaces the May 2020 version.

It would be cumbersome, unduly expensive, or otherwise impractical to public this document in the CCR. The documents are made available from the agency or are reasonably available to the affected public from a commonly known or specified source: Office of the State Fire Marshal website at: <https://osfm.fire.ca.gov>.

Summary of Existing Laws

Health and Safety Code Section 13157 authorizes the California Fire Service Training and Education Program to be established in the Office of the State Fire Marshal and to:

- (a) Promulgate and adopt rules and regulations necessary for implementation of the program.
- (b) Establish the courses of study and curriculum to be used in the program.
- (c) Establish prerequisites for the admission of personnel who attend courses offered in the program.
- (d) Establish and collect admission fees and other fees that may be necessary to be charged for seminars, conferences, and specialized training given, which shall not be deducted from state appropriations for the purposes of this program.

(e) Collect such fees as may be established pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 13142.4.

Summary of Existing Regulations

Existing regulations regarding the proposed changes establish the requirements in California Code of Regulations, Title 19, Division 1, Chapter 13, for the California Fire Service Training and Education Program.

The State Fire Marshal is proposing to amend CCR, Title 19, Chapter 13, Sections 1990.00, 1990.01, 1990.02, 1990.04, 1990.05, 1990.06, 1990.08, 1990.09, 1990.10, 1990.11, and 1990.12.

The SFM consulted with the Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) along with the State Board of Fire Services (SBFS) for recommendations and analysis of the proposed amendments and they concur with this proposal. Further, both advisory committees, STEAC and SBFS, had made recommendations to the State Fire Marshal to adopt these changes. These were conversations only and there were no documents relied upon regarding these consultations.

Summary of Effect

There is negligible effect of these changes will have on the training system. The proposed regulations adjust and updates to a business practice that is firmly established and in-place.

Comparable Federal Statute or Regulations

There are no comparable federal regulations or statutes.

Evaluation of Consistency

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) determined this proposed regulation is not inconsistent or incompatible with existing state regulations. After conducting a review for any regulations that would relate to or affect this area, the OSFM has concluded that this is the only regulation that concerns firefighter training and education for the purposes cited in the Health and Safety Code Section 13157.

Objective and Anticipated Benefits

The broad objective of the proposed action is to further define the regulatory requirements of the SFM fire service training and education program. The specific benefit anticipated from the regulation is the addition of clarified regulatory text for existing processes through editorial updates. Reformatting these documents reduces redundancy, provides clarity, and allows stakeholders to find referenced procedures and forms more easily.

The SFM developed the regulations in cooperation, and with the knowledge and approval of, STEAC and SBFS and has sought out their recommendations and

analysis of the proposed amendments. The advisory committees each concurred with the proposal. Each recommended change is recorded on the minutes of the quarterly meetings for each of the advisory committees.

OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY STATUTE APPLICABLE TO THE AGENCY OR ANY SPECIFIC REGULATION OR CLASS OF REGULATIONS

There are no other matters prescribed by statute applicable to the Office of the State Fire Marshal, or to any specific regulation or class of regulations. There are no other matters to identify.

DISCLOSURES REGARDING THE PROPOSED ACTION

The State Fire Marshal has made the following initial determinations:

1. Mandate on local agencies and school districts: **None**
2. Cost or savings to any other State agency: **None**
3. Cost to any local agency or school district which must be reimbursed in accordance with Government Code, Sections 17500-17630: **None**
4. Other non-discretionary cost or savings imposed upon local agencies: **None**
5. Cost or savings in federal funding to the State: **None**
6. Significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other States: **None**
7. Significant effect on housing costs: **None**

COST IMPACTS ON REPRESENTATIVE PERSON OR BUSINESS:

There is no cost impact that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

Currently, State Fire Training (SFT) requires that a Registered Lead Skills Evaluator to proctor the cognitive Certification Exams. The Registered Exam Proctor role has been added as a recognized person that may administer the cognitive Certification Exams following request of the Accredited Academies that host the Exams. This request was due to the hourly cost that the Accredited Academy pays to a Registered Lead Skills Evaluator, who is a subject matter expert (SME) for the psychomotor skills being evaluated. Registered Exam Proctors can be administrative staff or computer lab personnel that complete required training and register with SFT. Accredited Academies may continue to use Registered Lead Skill Evaluators to proctor cognitive Certification Exams.

SFT will now require full payment for course delivery fees prior to issuing course completion diplomas. This change in business practice is to reduce the overhead cost incurred by SFT when operating as debt collection. This change also guarantees that SFT is collecting fees prior to providing the service of issuing the course completion diplomas. SFT will continue to accept checks as payment for course delivery fees while implementing an online payment option for instructors and host agencies. The online payment option will allow for payment of course delivery fees and will incur a convenience fee that will be paid by the instructor or

host agency to the card processor. The online payment option is not required, as a check or money order can be mailed or delivered to SFT at no additional cost.

DECLARATION OF EVIDENCE

The OSFM has not relied on any other facts, evidence, documents, testimony, or other evidence to make its initial determination of no statewide adverse economic impact.

EFFECT ON SMALL BUSINESS

The State Fire Marshal has made the initial determination that the amendments to these regulations will have no effect on small businesses and the State Fire Marshal has not identified any alternatives that would lessen any adverse impact, if any, on small businesses. The proposed regulation will not affect small business because the California Fire Service Training and Education Program targets governmental agencies that employ and/or train fire fighters. Some small businesses also provide training resources, but these proposed regulations will not affect their operation or their ability to profit.

RESULTS OF THE ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS/ASSESSMENT

The SFM concludes that the adoption of these regulations *will not*:

- a) Create or eliminate jobs within California.
- b) Create new businesses or eliminate existing businesses within California; or
- c) Affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business within California.

The State Fire Marshal has assessed that this regulatory proposal:

- a) Will benefit the public health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, and the environment by providing standardized training throughout California.

BENEFITS TO HEALTH AND WELFARE, WORKER SAFETY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The State Fire Marshal has assessed that this regulatory proposal will benefit the public health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, and the environment by ensuring consistency throughout the State to further define the regulatory requirements of the fire service training and education program through updating documents and references and providing clarity to procedures for stakeholders.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

In accordance with Government Code Section 11346.5, subdivision (a)(13), the SFM must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered to the regulation or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the

proposed action described in this Notice, or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

The SM considered reasonable alternatives to the proposed action and determined that no reasonable alternative would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective as, and less burdensome, to affected private persons and small businesses than the proposed action. This conclusion is based on the SFM's determination that the proposed action is necessary to implement legislative enactments expanding the SFM's regulatory authority.

The State Fire Marshal invites interested persons to present statements or arguments with respect to alternatives to the proposed regulations during the written comment period.

BUSINESS REPORT

This regulatory proposal does not mandate any new reporting or recordkeeping requirements beyond the business practice that has already been established by the SFM.

CONTACT PERSON(s)

Inquiries concerning the proposed regulatory action, or requests for copies of the proposed text of the regulations, the initial statement of reasons, the modified text of the regulations or other information upon which the rulemaking is based may be directed to:

- CAL FIRE / Office of the State Fire Marshal:

General Inquiries:

Jena Garcia, Deputy SFM III, Code Development & Analysis
(916) 531-7650
jena.garcia@fire.ca.gov

Substantive or technical questions:

Caryn Petty, Deputy SFM III, State Fire Training
(916) 662-0611
caryn.petty@fire.ca.gov

Chris Fowler, Division Chief, State Fire Training
(916) 508-4120
chris.fowler@fire.ca.gov

AVAILABILITY OF STATEMENT OF REASONS AND TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS

The State Fire Marshal will have the entire rulemaking file available for inspection and copying throughout the rulemaking process at its office indicated above. As of the date this notice is published in the Notice Register, the SFM's rulemaking file consists of this notice, the proposed text of the regulations, the initial statement of reasons for the proposed action, the economic impact assessment contained in the initial statement of reasons and documents incorporated by reference or relied upon. Copies may be obtained through the contact person(s) at the address or telephone number listed above.

AVAILABILITY OF CHANGED OR MODIFIED TEXT

After holding a public hearing, if requested, and considering all timely and relevant comments received by the State Fire Marshal, and following the 45-day comment period, the SFM may adopt the proposed regulations substantially as described in this notice. If modifications are made which are sufficiently related to the originally proposed text, the modified text – with changes indicated – shall be made available to the public for at least 15 days before the SFM adopts, amends, or repeals the regulations as revised. The SFM will accept written comments on the modified regulations for 15 days after the date on which they are made available. To be notified of any modifications, you must submit written/oral comments or request that you be notified of any modified regulations. Please send requests for copies of any modified regulations to the contact person.

AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Upon its completion, copies of the Final Statement of Reasons (FSOR) may be obtained by making a written request to the contact person at the above address or by accessing the website listed below.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS ON THE INTERNET

Copies of the Notice of Proposed Action (NOPR), the Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR), the Text of Proposed Regulations (ET) in underline and strikeout, and any other materials or documents incorporated by reference or relied upon may be accessed through the SFM web site at:

[Title 19 Development | OSFM](#)