



HOME IGNITION ZONE / DEFENSIBLE SPACE INSPECTOR (2022) Implementation Plan

Issued: November 2022

OVERVIEW

AB38 established requirements for property transfer inspections in areas designated Very High and High Fire Hazard Severity Zones through Civil Code Section 1102.9. Further, catastrophic fire losses in recent years have increased the demand for Defensible Space and Home Ignition Zone inspections. This demand has been highlighted in numerous reports and publications, to include the 2021 Legislative Analyst’s Office report.

<https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4457>.

This course provides the skills and knowledge needed to perform in the role of a Home Ignition Zone / Defensible Space Inspector (HIZ/DSI) including roles and responsibilities, wildfire in the natural and built environment, codes and regulations, defensible space, home hardening, and the inspection process. SFT will post the course materials on the SFT website.

IMPLEMENTATION

| New Curriculum | Hours |
|--|----------|
| Home Ignition Zone / Defensible Space Inspector (2022) | 24 Hours |

Home Ignition Zone / Defensible Space Inspector (2022) Curriculum.....December 1, 2022

INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS

Instructor Registration.....December 1, 2022

New Instructors

New instructors must meet the requirements for SFT Registered Instructor and are required to either successfully complete the new course or apply through the PACE 2 process:

- SFT Registered Instructor **and**
- Successful course completion **or**
- PACE 2 **and**
- Provide a letter signed by their Fire Chief or authorized designee that verifies qualification with Home Ignition Zone / Defensible Space inspection responsibilities in one of the following positions:
 - Defensible Space Inspector with a minimum of three years’ experience or a
 - Fire Inspector with a minimum of three years’ experience or a
 - Fire Marshal with a minimum of three years’ experience or a
 - Battalion Chief or higher.

POTENTIAL AGENCY IMPACTS

Fire agencies desiring to use the Home Ignition Zone / Defensible Space Inspector (2022) curriculum as a requirement for their recruitment/promotion activities need to review the curriculum requirements and ensure all agency training needs are met. After review, fire agencies should update job specifications and recruitment documentation to reflect the new course requirements.

Accredited Regional Training Programs (ARTP), Accredited Local Academies (ALA), community colleges, and all other local delivery venues should review the curriculum and seek approval from their curriculum committee/program sponsor, as appropriate. ARTPs should review the new Home Ignition Zone / Defensible Space Inspector (2022) curriculum and discuss potential impacts with their advisory committees.