



# CERTIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS

## Fire & Emergency Services Instructor 1 (2019)

### Overview

The California Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) Fire and Emergency Services Instructor 1 Certification (2019 edition) is based on the NFPA 1041: Standard for Fire and Emergency Services Instructor Professional Qualifications (2019) set by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

### Certification Options

The Fire and Emergency Services Instructor 1 (FESI) Certification offers two options for those seeking Instructor Certification: a California Recognized certification or a Nationally Recognized certification (California recognized + IFSAC/Pro Board seals).

#### California Recognized Certification

The California OSFM Certification pathway for FESI 1 maintains the requirements established by State Fire Training (SFT), with no certification exam. Candidates follow the legacy structure—completing the FESI 1 course, fulfilling the FESI Task Book (including the experience requirement), and applying through the standard state process. No exam or nationally recognized seals are issued. Importantly, those opting for State Certification retain the ability to pursue the nationally accredited option later, should they decide to take the certification exam.

#### Nationally Accredited Certification

The Nationally Accredited Certification option offers the California OSFM FESI 1 Certification along with IFSAC and Pro Board accreditation. Candidates must complete the FESI 1 course and pass a certification exam (instead of the FESI Task Book and experience requirement). Certification is automatically issued once the exam results have been processed. This pathway provides national portability and broader recognition for instructors seeking certification.

### California Recognized Certification

To obtain a California FESI 1 Certification, complete all prerequisites and educational requirements. Then, download and have your certification task book initiated. Initiation instructions are listed within the task book. Once completed, follow the application submission instructions to apply.

#### Certification Requirements

##### Prerequisites

- None

##### Education

- Instructor 1: Instructional Methodology Course

##### Certification Task Book

- FESI 1 Certification Task Book OR Instructor 1 Certification Task Book with all applicable Task Book Updates

##### Certification Fee

- \$100 non-refundable FESI 1 certification fee - payable to: State Fire Training

### **Application Submission**

To apply for the California OSFM FESI 1 Certification, follow the steps below. Note: It is not necessary to submit SFT course diplomas or certifications if it is listed in your SFT User Portal.

1. Ensure completion of all certification requirements
2. Mail the required documentation (i.e., certification application, task book, and fee) to:
  - State Fire Training, FESI 1 Certification, PO Box 944246, Sacramento, CA 94244-2460
3. Application Review by State Fire Training (SFT):
  - If approved – A digital certification will be issued and made available through your [SFT User Portal](#).
  - If denied - A notice of denial with information regarding unmet eligibility requirements will be sent via email.

### **Nationally Accredited Certification**

To obtain a Nationally Accredited FESI 1 Certification, complete all prerequisites and educational requirements. Then, locate and register for a FESI 1 Certification Exam directly with the testing site of your choosing. FESI Certification Examinations are only available at Accredited Academies. A list of Accredited Academies can be found on the [Accredited Academies webpage](#) of the SFT website. Some courses delivered at an Accredited Academy may automatically include the certification exam; therefore, inquire with the site prior to course registration to see if this is an option. Otherwise, you may need to register separately for the certification exam. Once the certification exam has been completed, follow the application submission instructions to apply.

### **Certification Requirements**

#### **Prerequisites**

- None

#### **Education**

- Instructor 1: Instructional Methodology Course

#### **Certification Exam**

- NFPA 1041: Fire & Emergency Services Instructor 1 (FESI 1) Certification Exam

#### **Certification Fee**

- Combined into the exam registration fee and paid upon exam registration.

### **Application Submission**

There is no application for the nationally accredited FESI 1 certification; instead, once you have completed the education requirement, locate and register for a FESI 1 Certification Exam directly with the testing site of your choosing.

1. Once the certification exam has been completed, SFT will automatically conduct an eligibility review while processing the certification exam results
2. If the applicant meets the eligibility requirements, SFT issues the digital certification(s) through the applicant's [SFT User Portal](#).

## **Upgrade Option**

The FESI 1 Upgrade option is for those already certified by California OSFM who wish to earn additional accreditation by IFSAC and Pro Board. To obtain a FESI 1 Upgrade, complete the upgrade requirements below. Then, locate and register for a FESI 1 Certification Exam directly with the testing site of your choosing. FESI Certification Examinations are only available at Accredited Academies. A list of Accredited Academies can be found on the [Accredited Academies webpage](#) of the SFT website. Bring all required documentation to the testing site as proof of eligibility for successful exam registration. Once the certification exam has been completed, follow the application submission instructions to apply.

### **Upgrade Requirements**

#### **Certification**

- California OSFM Instructor 1 Certification. The following versions qualify for the FESI upgrade:
  - Fire and Emergency Services Instructor 1 certification
  - Instructor 1 certification
  - Training Instructor I certification
  - Fire Instructor I certification

#### **Certification Exam**

- NFPA 1041: Fire & Emergency Services Instructor 1 (FESI 1) Certification Exam

#### **Certification Fee**

- Combined into the exam registration fee and paid upon exam registration.

### **Application Submission**

There is no application for a FESI 1 Upgrade; instead, locate and register as an “Upgrade Candidate” for a FESI 1 Certification Exam directly with the testing site of your choosing. Don’t forget to bring any required eligibility documents, as they may be requested by the test site.

1. Once the certification exam has been completed, SFT will automatically conduct an eligibility review while processing the certification exam results
2. If the applicant meets the eligibility requirements, SFT issues the digital certification(s) through the applicant’s [SFT User Portal](#).

## **Certification Reciprocity (Out-of-State Certified Instructors) Option**

The FESI 1 Reciprocity option is for individuals certified in Fire and Emergency Services Instructor 1 by IFSAC and/or Pro Board who are seeking recognition in California. Additional details are provided in the Fire and Emergency Services Instructor 1 Reciprocity Application located on the Fire and Emergency Services Instructor 1 webpage.