



FIRE FIGHTER 1 AND 2 (2024) Implementation Plan

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OVERVIEW

This document provides State Fire Training (SFT) stakeholders with details on the updated Fire Fighter 1 (2024) and Fire Fighter 2 (2024) curriculum and certification requirements and the retirement of the 2019 editions. Stakeholders should review this information carefully and seek clarification from SFT as needed.

The Fire Fighter 1 (2024) and Fire Fighter 2 (2024) updates were integrated into the California Fire Service Training and Education System (CFSTES). SFT revised the Certification Training Standards (CTS), Certification Task Book, Skill Sheets, Training Record, guides, application forms, and two Course Plans, aligning them with California Professional Qualifications and NFPA 1010: Standard on Professional Qualifications for Firefighters (2024 edition).

FIRE FIGHTER 1 AND 2 (2024) IMPLEMENTATION

Fire Fighter 1 and Fire Fighter 2 (2024) Available July 1, 2025

SFT will release the Fire Fighter 1 & 2 (2024) curriculum on July 1, 2025. Candidates entering the SFT system should enroll in the 2024 Fire Fighter courses and adhere to the latest requirements.

New Curriculum	Hours
FF1A: Structure (2024)	265.5* hours
FF2A: Structure (2024)	48* hours

**These hours identify the instructor-student contact hours (cognitive domain) and do not include the practice drill hours (skills). Testing hours are not included in this table. It is essential to consider that safe and efficient skill delivery by fire fighter applicants can only be mastered with extensive practice (sets & reps) in the academy.*

HazMat and Wildland Modules:

SFT confirms that the FF1B: Hazardous Materials/WMD (2022) and FF1C: Wildland (2022) modules have not been modified during this update.

Certification Exam:

All applicants seeking Fire Fighter 1 (2024) and Fire Fighter 2 (2024) Certification(s) are required to complete the applicable Certification Exams. A notable change with this edition of the Certification Exam is the implementation of a single publisher test bank for the cognitive exam. Previously, SFT provided one test bank correlated to both textbooks (International Fire Service Training Association and Jones and Bartlett). The 2024 edition of the cognitive exam allows the Registered Lead Evaluator to select either an IFSTA-only or Jones & Bartlett-only test bank during exam scheduling. All students in the same event must use the same test bank. All Fire Fighter 1 and 2 (2024) cognitive exam modules are delivered through the SFT User Portal. SFT has redesigned and published a new Certification Exam Scheduling Request form to accommodate new form fields. These new form fields allow testing sites to indicate which test bank to assign. Download the new scheduling form from the Fire Fighter (2024) web page.

NEW Digital Exam Results Submission and Invoicing:

*****This feature has been postponed until further software development has been completed. Status is TBD.***

~~The Fire Fighter 1 & 2 (2024) Certification Exam utilizes a new process for returning exam results and generating and paying certification exam invoices. The Registered Lead Evaluator enters skill exam results directly into the system via the SFT User Portal, and the user portal generates the invoice electronically once the submission has been approved. Billing parties may also pay electronically via credit card (with a 2.99% fee) or TeleCheck (at no cost). There is also still an option to mail in a physical check. This process will reduce the time from submission to invoice generation for the Certification Exam. Fire Fighter 1 & 2 (2019) Certification Exams will not utilize this new Digital Exam Results Submission and Invoicing process.~~

Certification Exam Retakes:

The Certification Exam retake policy has been updated from three skill reattempts to two skill reattempts, and cognitive exams will remain the same with two reattempts. Additionally, Candidates who fail to complete the certification exam (cognitive or skills) within the academy or thirty (30) days before the initial exam date will be required to undergo remedial education before reapplying for subsequent SFT Certification Exams.

FF1ABC Exam Module and Transcript Update

The Fire Fighter 1 (2024) Certification Exam is now scheduled as a single module and listed in the SFT User Portal as “FF1ABC-Fire Fighter 1 Certification Exam”. The 2019 Fire Fighter 1 Certification Exam edition was listed as three modules (and six modules for the 2013 edition), making confirming exam completion difficult. Scheduling the exam as a single module consolidates the training history on an individual’s SFT User Portal. It also allows SFT to enable the digital exam results and invoicing functionality. Exam candidates who complete the Fire Fighter 1 (2024) certification exam will see only one event for the Fire Fighter 1 Certification Exam, aligning with how the Fire Fighter 2 Certification Exam is displayed.

Additionally, the FF1ABC Exam Transcript includes the results of all exams (cognitive and skills) for each module (i.e., FF1A, FF1B, and FF1C) within the certification exam and all exam attempts for that event. Merging all modules into a single transcript dramatically reduces the documents necessary to determine exam eligibility or proof of exam completion. The exam transcript is available for download from the SFT User Portal for any registered exam candidate at any time.

Certification Task Book:

The Fire Fighter Certification Task Book (2024) incorporates the job performance requirements (JPRs) for Fire Fighter 1 (2024) and Fire Fighter 2 (2024) and is required for Fire Fighter 2 (2024) certification. The Fire Fighter Certification Task Book can be self-initiated during the academic training of Fire Fighter 1 (2024). The Fire Fighter 2 (2019) certification experience requirement requires six months of full-time or one year of part-time/volunteer employment.

Fire Fighter 2 Application and Exam Fee Update:

The Fire Fighter 2 Certification Exam registration fee is \$75, and the Fire Fighter 2 Certification fee is \$75. To streamline the Fire Fighter 2 (2024) application process and mirror Fire Fighter 1, SFT merged Fire Fighter 2 fees (\$75 + \$75) into a single \$150 fee and will collect this fee during exam registration. This change allows SFT to retire the Fire Fighter 2 Application Form and replace it with a digital web form where applicants upload their Fire Fighter Task Book within the SFT User Portal, eliminating the need to mail in a physical payment or application. This change is reflected on the new Scheduling Request Form for Certification Exams.

FF1 (2024) Certification Issuance:

SFT will issue IFSAC and Pro Board accredited Certifications to all eligible applicants for Fire Fighter 1 (2024) and Fire Fighter 2 (2024) Certification(s). The IFSAC and Pro Board seals are included in the cost of Certification.

Fire Fighter 1 (2024) California Academy applicants will now receive only three (3) certificates, each bearing IFSAC and Pro Board seals. Under previous editions, applicants were issued these three certificates and a combined California Fire Fighter 1 certificate (Structure, HazMat FRA/FRO, & Wildland FF 1) without IFSAC/Pro Board seals. This combined certificate will be issued to Reciprocity (out-of-state) applicants only. This change aligns with the Fire Fighter 2 certificate issuance process and will continue to be the policy for future levels of national accreditation.

IFSAC/Pro Board Upgrade

The upgrade process is designed for applicants with a California Office of the State Fire Marshal Fire Fighter 1 or 2 certification(s) seeking accredited certification from IFSAC and Pro Board. All applicants shall complete the required certification exams. Fire Fighter 1 Upgrade applicants should refer to the upgrade application for details. Fire Fighter 2 Upgrade applicants no longer need to apply to SFT and receive an exam authorization before the exam registration. Instead, inquire directly with the Fire Fighter 2 accredited testing site for details regarding registration.

IFSAC/Pro Board Reciprocity

The reciprocity process is designed for out-of-state applicants with a Fire Fighter 1 or 2 accredited certification(s) from IFSAC and/or Pro Board and seeking California Fire Fighter 1 and/or 2 Certification. Refer to the upgrade or reciprocity applications for details.

FIRE FIGHTER 1 (2019) AND FIRE FIGHTER 2 (2019) RETIREMENT

SFT recognizes that applicants may be vested in Fire Fighter 1 (2019) and Fire Fighter 2 (2019); therefore, the existing curriculum and certification will be available during the transition period. New Fire Fighter 1 academic training participants should utilize the Fire Fighter 1 (2024) and Fire Fighter 2 (2024) editions.

Fire Fighter (2024) Released July 1, 2025	Fire Fighter (2019) Curriculum & Exam Retire July 1, 2026	Fire Fighter (2019) Retake Exam, Task Book, and Certification Retire July 1, 2027

Fire Fighter 1 & 2 (2019) Curriculum & Exam Retirement July 1, 2026
Effective July 1, 2026, SFT will retire the Fire Fighter 1 & 2 (2019) Exam and remove the curriculum from the SFT course catalog. Candidates eligible for a retake will still have up to one year from the original exam attempt.

Fire Fighter (2019) Retake Exam and Certification Task Book Retirement July 1, 2027
Effective July 1, 2027, SFT will retire the Fire Fighter 1 & 2 (2019) retake exam and the Fire Fighter Certification Task Book.

Fire Fighter 1 & 2 (2019) Certification Retirement July 1, 2027
Effective July 1, 2027, SFT will retire Fire Fighter 1 & 2 (2019) Certification and no longer issue certification from this edition. Applications for Fire Fighter 2 (2019) must be submitted postmarked on or before June 30, 2027. Applicants who do not qualify or apply before this date shall utilize the 2024 edition of the certification.

INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS

Instructors for Fire Fighter 1 (2024) and Fire Fighter 2 (2024) curricula shall meet the SFT requirements for Fire Fighter Instructor (State Fire Training Procedures Manual). SFT does not register Fire Fighter Instructors. However, Instructors shall have the appropriate certification, education, and suppression experience related to the specific course content. Each fire agency’s Fire Chief or academic institution’s Fire Technology Director shall ensure that individuals teaching in the Fire Fighter program meet the instructor qualifications.

POTENTIAL AGENCY IMPACTS

Agencies or educational delivery programs desiring to use the Fire Fighter 1 (2024) and Fire Fighter 2 (2024) curriculum as a requirement for their recruitment/promotion activities need to review the curriculum requirements to be sure that all agency training needs are met. After review, fire agencies should update their job specifications, recruitment, and any associated course materials to reflect these updated courses and certification requirements.

A Fire Fighter Training Record shall be required to be completed by the agency to provide a complete record of JPRs. A copy of the Fire Fighter Training Record shall be provided to the applicant. The agency shall maintain the Fire Fighter Training Record per the SFT Procedures Manual.

Accredited Regional Training Programs (ARTP), Accredited Local Academies (ALA), community colleges, and all other local delivery venues must review the curriculum and seek approval from their curriculum committee/program sponsor, as appropriate. ARTPs should review the new Fire Fighter 1 (2024) and Fire Fighter 2 (2024) curricula and discuss potential impacts with their advisory committees.