



# INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN

## Psychomotor Skills Exam Changes

Issued: October 2020

### OVERVIEW

The Fire Fighter 1 (2013), Fire Fighter 1 (2019), and Fire Fighter 2 (2019) require both cognitive and psychomotor exam(s) for Certification. The *State Fire Training Procedures Manual (January 2019)* has been updated with to include Chapter 11: Fire Fighter Certification Exams which outlines the requirements that ALAs, ARTPs, Registered Lead Evaluators, and Registered Skills Evaluators must follow in the delivery of the cognitive and psychomotor exams. The following are the updated changes to the proctoring of Certification Exams. The [Alternate Psychomotor Skill Evaluation Interim Procedures](#) show the changes made to the *State Fire Training Procedures Manual (January 2019)*.

### RANDOM SKILLS NOTIFICATION

SFT is now sending the random skill selection at the time of exam approval. The Registered Lead Evaluator shall ensure that the random skills remain secured and confidential until a minimum of three (3) weeks before starting the scheduled Psychomotor Exam module. Staff involved with the ongoing training shall not be privy to the randomly selected psychomotor skills at any time before the date of the Certification Exam. The requirement to keep the random skills confidential is to ensure that candidates are not coached to the assigned random skills.

### RANDOM SKILL TESTING / EXAM SECURITY

For randomly selected skills, SFT requires that all candidates are tested on the same day to ensure that all candidates are tested on the random skill without prior notice. If an ALA or ARTP delivers the same random skill over a two-day period, it gives the candidates an unfair advantage, as they are provided additional study and preparation to prepare for the Exam. If an ARTP or ALA is unable to test all candidates on the same day, they must notify SFT and request a new random skill for candidates not tested on the original date.

### ALTERNATE PSYCHOMOTOR SKILL EVALUATION

ARTP and ALAs that deliver Fire Control 3, Fire Control 4, and Vehicle Extrication FSTEP courses within their Fire Fighter 1 and 2 academies can now evaluate the eligible Fire Fighter 1 and 2 psychomotor skills at the conclusion of the FSTEP course instead of the end of the training module. This change will reduce academy cost and the logistics of having to obtain additional vehicles, materials, or flammable liquid gas props, for the exam at the end of the training module.

Skills tested using the alternate psychomotor skill evaluation do not have to be retested during the module's psychomotor exam. For example, if Fire Fighter 2A Skill "4-1: Extricate a Victim Entrapped in a Motor Vehicle" is assigned as a random skill to an ALA or ARTP, and they utilize the alternate psychomotor skill evaluation at the conclusion of a Vehicle Extrication (2019) FSTEP course, then they would not have to retest the skill during the Certification Exam at the



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end of the training module. To be eligible for the alternate psychomotor skill evaluation, all candidates participating in the Certification Exam must have completed the FSTEP course and alternate psychomotor skill evaluation.