



California State Fire Training

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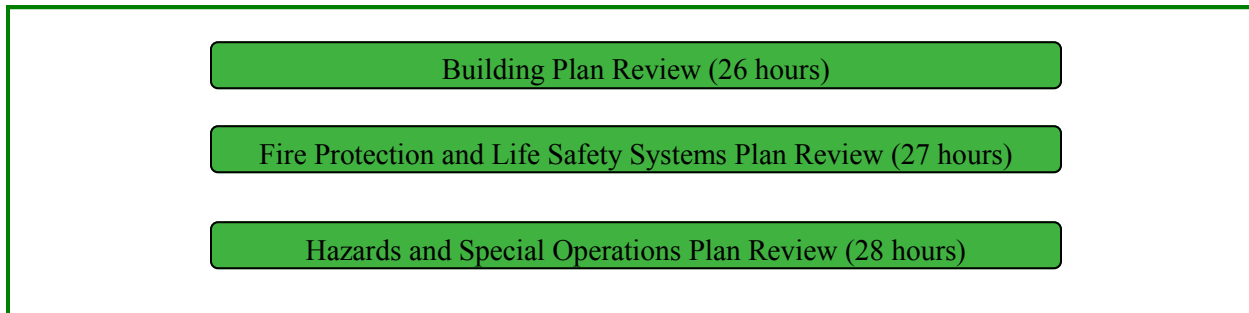


Plan Examiner Certification Implementation of New Curriculum and Certification Requirements

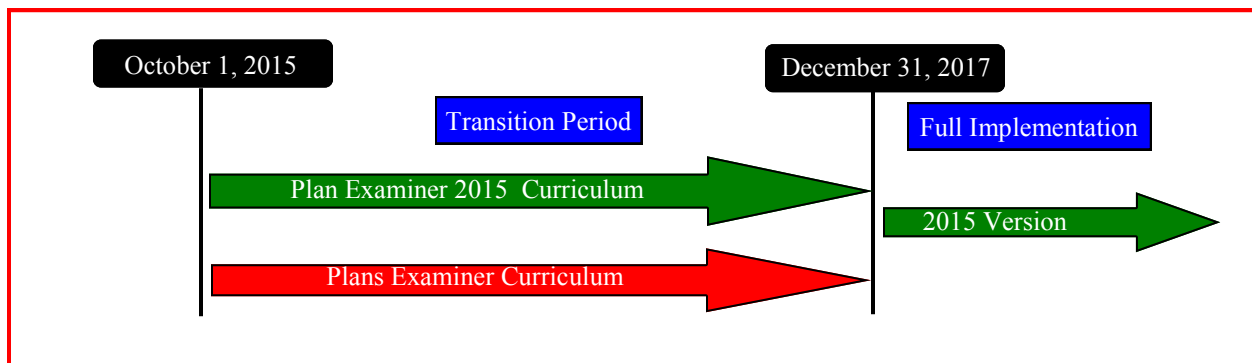
This document is intended to provide information for all State Fire Training (SFT) stakeholders on changes to Plan Examiner curriculum and certification requirements. Stakeholders are encouraged to study this information carefully and seek clarification from SFT if questions arise.

New Plan Examiner (2015) will be phased in as the new Plan Examiner curriculum for the California Fire Service Training and Education System. A new Certification Training Standard (CTS) and three (3) Course Plans have been developed based on current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards which includes NFPA 1031, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspector and Plan Examiner. The CTS and Course Plan are available on the SFT website.

New Courses for Plan Examiner



Plan Examiner Curriculum Change Time Line



Existing Plans Examiner Certification and courses will continue to be available until December 31, 2017 for those candidates that find it most advantageous to continue pursuing this certification track. Candidates must choose to meet either the existing Plans Examiner or the new Plan Examiner certification requirements as a cross over between the two will not be allowed.

Certification Testing: In response to Blueprint 2020 stakeholder comments, certification examinations will become a standardized process statewide. SFT anticipates implementation of certification examinations for Plan Examiner Certification at a future date.

Task Books/Application Form: Implementation of the new Plan Examiner (2015) requires that candidates complete a comprehensive task book. This task book covers all of the job performance requirements contained in the aforementioned professional qualification standards and CTS. The task book will be made available to candidates by SFT upon completion of all course work and with authorization from their employer. Occupational experience will be verified by the Fire Chief or designee on file signing the task book upon completion. In addition a new application form will be implemented.

TRANSITION PERIOD..... Effective October 1, 2015 – December 31, 2017

SFT recognizes that many candidates are vested in the current Plan Examiner Certification track and, therefore, the existing Plans Examiner Curriculum and Certification requirements will be available for those candidates during the transition period. Candidates entering the certification system should enroll in the new Plan Examiner courses and comply with the new Plan Examiner Certification requirements. Cross over between courses will not be allowed.

COURSE PHASE OUT..... Effective December 31, 2017

Effective December 31, 2017 Fire Prevention 3A and 3B will no longer be supported by SFT and will be retired.

INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS..... Effective October 1, 2015

Current Fire Prevention 3A and 3B instructors are authorized to be registered to instruct the new courses. All current registered instructors must attend a Instructor Update Course prior to instructing any of the new Plan Examiner courses.

Building Plan Review: New instructors will be required to either complete the new course or apply for a PACE II review of their instructor qualifications, including appropriate education and practical experience relating to course content.

Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems Plan Review New instructors will be required to either complete the new course or apply for a PACE II review of their instructor qualifications, including appropriate education and practical experience relating to course content.

Hazards and Special Operations Plan Review: New instructors will be required to either complete the new course or apply for a PACE II review of their instructor qualifications, including appropriate education and practical experience relating to course content.

POTENTIAL AGENCY IMPACTS

Fire agencies utilizing the existing Plans Examiner Certification or Curriculum as a requirement for their recruitment/promotion activities need to review the new Plan Examiner Curriculum and certification requirements to be sure that all agency training needs are being met. After review, Fire Agencies should update their job specifications and recruitment documentation to reflect these new courses and certification requirements. Fire agencies should also evaluate how these new courses and certification requirements will impact their existing labor agreements.

Accredited Regional Training Programs (ARTP), Accredited Local Academies (ALA), community colleges and all other local delivery venues need to review the curriculum and seek approval from their curriculum committee / program sponsor, as appropriate. ARTPs should review the new Plan Examiner curriculum and discuss potential impacts with their advisory committees.