

CHAPTER 73
STANDARDS FOR FIRE SERVICE TRAINING
AND CERTIFICATION

Authority

N.J.S.A. 52:27D-198.

Source and Effective Date

R.2000 d.30, effective December 22, 1999.
See: 31 N.J.R. 3257(a), 32 N.J.R. 273(c).

Chapter Expiration Date

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1c, Chapter 73, Standards for Fire Service Training and Certification, expires on June 20, 2005. See: 36 N.J.R. 3652(a).

Chapter Historical Note

Chapter 73, Standards for Fire Service Training and Certification, was originally codified in Title 5 as Chapter 18C, Standards for Fire Service Training and Certification. Chapter 18C was adopted as R.1990 d.114, effective February 5, 1990. See: 21 N.J.R. 1655(a), 22 N.J.R. 337(c).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66 (1978), Chapter 18C, Standards for Fire Service Training and Certification, was readopted as R.1995 d.58, effective January 3, 1995. See: 26 N.J.R. 4258(a), 27 N.J.R. 878(b).

Subchapter 6, Hazardous Materials/Incident Commander Certifications, was adopted as R.1996 d.84, effective March 4, 1996. See: 27 N.J.R. 1845(a), 28 N.J.R. 1377(b).

Pursuant to Reorganization Plan No. 002-1998, Chapter 18C, Standards for Fire Service Training and Certification, was recodified as N.J.A.C. 5:73, effective July 1, 1998. See: 30 N.J.R. 1347(a), 30 N.J.R. 2644(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 73, Standards for Fire Service Training and Certification, was readopted as R.2000 d.30, effective December 22, 1999. See: Source and Effective Date.

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SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

5:73-1.1 Titles, division into subchapters

(a) The rules contained in this chapter shall be known as "Standards for Fire Service Training and Certification" and are referred to herein as the Standards.

(b) The Standards are divided into seven parts:

1. Subchapter 1 is entitled "General Provisions" and may be cited throughout the Standards as N.J.A.C. 5:73-1, and when referred to in subchapter 1 of this chapter, may be referred to as this subchapter.

2. Subchapter 2 is entitled "Educational Programs and Facilities" and may be cited throughout the Standards as N.J.A.C. 5:73-2, and when referred to in subchapter 2 of this chapter, may be referred to as this subchapter.

3. Subchapter 3 is reserved.

4. Subchapter 4 is entitled "Firefighter I" and may be cited throughout the Standards as N.J.A.C. 5:73-4, and when referred to in subchapter 4 of this chapter, may be referred to as this subchapter.

5. Subchapter 5 is entitled "Instructor" and may be cited throughout the Standards as N.J.A.C. 5:73-5, and when referred to in subchapter 5 of this chapter, may be referred to as this subchapter.

6. Subchapter 6 is entitled "Incident Management System Certification" and may be cited throughout the Standards as N.J.A.C. 5:73-6, and when referred to in subchapter 6 of this Chapter, may be referred to as this subchapter.

7. Subchapter 7 is entitled "Fire Police Officer Training" and may be cited throughout the Standards as N.J.A.C. 5:73-7, and when referred to in subchapter 7 of this chapter, may be referred to as this subchapter.

Amended by R.1998 d.85, effective February 17, 1998.
See: 29 N.J.R. 3210(a), 30 N.J.R. 641(a).

In (b), substituted a reference to six parts for a reference to five parts, and added 6.

Amended by R.2001 d.57, effective February 20, 2001.
See: 32 N.J.R. 3253(a), 33 N.J.R. 692(b).

In (b), substituted "seven" for "six" in the introductory paragraph, and added (b)7.

5:73-1.2 Authority

These standards are promulgated by the Commissioner of Community Affairs pursuant to the authority of the Uniform Fire Safety Act (P.L. 1983, c.383, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-192 et seq., specifically 52:27D-198 and 52:27D-219) and of the Act which establishes a Division of Fire Safety in the Department of Community Affairs (P.L. 1983, c.382, amended by P.L. 1993, c.218; N.J.S.A. 52:27D-25a et seq., specifically 52:27D-25d, and further amended by P.L. 1995, c.266; N.J.S.A. 52:27D-25a et seq., specifically 52:27D-25i, j, k and m.)

Administrative change.

See: 27 N.J.R. 2886(b).

Amended by R.1998 d.85, effective February 17, 1998.
See: 29 N.J.R. 3210(a), 30 N.J.R. 641(a).

Added a reference to P.L. 1995, c.266; N.J.S.A. 52:27D-25a et seq., specifically 52:27D-25i, j, k, and m.

5:73-1.3 Intent and purpose

(a) It is the intent of the Standards to control all matters relating to qualifications for, and the training and certification of all members of the fire service, including firefighters and officers engaged in, or to be engaged in, fire suppression activities, and all fire service instructors.

1. For purposes of this chapter, "fire service" shall not include wildland and forestland firefighters in the State forest fire service.

(b) The Uniform Fire Safety Act and related legislation, specifically N.J.S.A. 52:27D-25a et seq., have been adopted to ensure public safety and welfare. In order for fire suppression activities to be conducted adequately and effectively, members of the fire service will need to have sufficient knowledge and competence. This can best be achieved through the creation of an education and training program and the development of certification requirements.

1. It is the purpose of this chapter to establish standards and procedures for the certification of persons involved in fire suppression activities including but not limited to firefighter recruits, firefighters, fire officers, and fire service instructors.

(c) Unless otherwise specifically provided, all references to article or section numbers or to provisions not specifically identified by number, shall be construed to refer to such article, section or provision of this chapter.

Amended by R.1997 d.286, effective July 21, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 722(a), 29 N.J.R. 3243(a).

Added (a)1.

5:73-1.4 Definitions

The following terms shall have the meanings indicated except where the context clearly requires otherwise.

"Acquired building" means any structure acquired by the eligible organization from a property owner for the purpose of conducting live fire training exercises.

"Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs or his or her delegate.

"Department" means the Department of Community Affairs.

"Division" means the Division of Fire Safety of the Department of Community Affairs.

"Eligible organization" means a fire department or district, or a combination of fire departments or districts, a fire brigade, an institution of higher learning, the New Jersey State Fire College or a recognized governmental entity which has been approved by the Division to offer courses or modules which meet the requirements of this chapter.

"Evolution" means a set of prescribed actions that result in an effective fireground activity.

"Fire police officer" means any member of a duly organized volunteer fire company who has the duty for performing traffic control, scene security, and other related duties at the scene of a public event, fire, fire drill or any other similar occasion.

"Fire service" means the State, a county or municipal agency or fire district utilizing volunteer, career or part-paid firefighters for rescue, fire suppression and related activities.

2. Have satisfactorily met the training and demonstration of competency requirements for Hazardous Materials—On-Scene Incident Commander as set forth in 29 CFR 1910.120.

(b) It shall be the responsibility of the employer to maintain the necessary documentation as set forth in 29 CFR 1910.120.

5:73-6.5 Continuing education

Continuing education requirements set forth in 29 CFR 1910.120 shall apply to all individuals holding Hazardous Materials—Awareness, Hazardous Materials—Operational and/or Hazardous Materials On-Scene Commander certification(s).

SUBCHAPTER 7. FIRE POLICE OFFICER TRAINING

Authority

N.J.S.A. 52:27D-198.

Source and Effective Date

R.2001 d.57, effective February 20, 2001.
See: 32 N.J.R. 3253(a), 33 N.J.R. 692(b).

5:73-7.1 Intent and purpose

These rules establish standards governing the training and appointment of fire police officers.

5:73-7.2 Fire police officer training program

(a) No member of a volunteer fire company shall be appointed or perform the duties of a fire police officer unless the member is properly trained by the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Fire Safety.

(b) Candidates for fire police officer shall:

1. Be a member of a duly organized volunteer fire company;
2. Document the successful completion of the “New Jersey Fire Police Basic Training Course” or an equivalent course approved by the Division of Fire Safety; and
3. Take and subscribe an oath administered by the municipal clerk and subscribed to in triplicate.
 - i. The original copy of the oath shall be filed with the municipal clerk;
 - ii. A copy of the oath shall be filed with the secretary of the fire company making the appointment.

(c) Qualified members shall serve for a term of office not exceeding five years from the date of appointment.

(d) After proper training and appointment, a qualified member shall be recognized as a fire police officer and shall serve in such a capacity anywhere in the county in which he or she is appointed or in any other county where the member is called upon to act.

5:73-7.3 Exemptions

Any person serving as a fire police officer on or before the effective date of P.L. 1998, c.61 (July 30, 1998) may continue to serve in that capacity.

SUBCHAPTER 8. FIRE OFFICERS

Authority

N.J.S.A. 52:27D-25d(c) and 25k.

Source and Effective Date

R.2003 d.78, effective February 18, 2003.
See: 34 N.J.R. 3601(a), 35 N.J.R. 1056(a).

5:73-8.1 General provisions

(a) It is the object of this subchapter to establish criteria for certification of various levels of fire officers.

(b) Copies of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards incorporated by reference in this subchapter may be obtained by writing to: NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02269.

(c) Copies of Thomson Delmar Learning publications incorporated by reference in this subchapter may be obtained by writing to: Delmar Learning, 5 Maxwell Drive, Clifton Park, NY 12065-2919.

Amended by R.2005 d.200, effective July 5, 2005.
See: 36 N.J.R. 5287(a), 37 N.J.R. 2474(b).
Added (c).

5:73-8.2 Fire Officer

(a) A certification for Fire Officer I shall be granted to a member of the fire service who meets the following requirements:

1. Shall have obtained Firefighter 1 certification per N.J.A.C. 5:73-4.2;
2. Shall have obtained Incident Management Level 1 certification per N.J.A.C. 5:73-6.1;
3. Shall have obtained Hazardous Materials-Operational Certification per N.J.A.C. 5:73-6.3;
4. Satisfactorily completes a Fire Officer course of instruction that meets the requirements of NFPA 1021, Fire Officer I, 1997 edition, incorporated herein by reference, as specified in (b) below, utilizing the Thomson Delmar Learning publication titled “The Company Offi-

cer—New Jersey Edition, and Addendum,” incorporated herein by reference; and

5. Satisfactorily pass a written test specified in (c) below.

(b) The following standard applies to programs designed to satisfy the requirements of (a)4 above:

1. The minimum hours required are 45;
2. The course must cover the following subject areas:
 - i. Human resource management;
 - (1) Verbal communication during emergency and non-emergency situations;
 - (2) Techniques used to make assignments under stressful and routine situations;
 - (3) Methods of confirming understanding;
 - (4) Verbal communications techniques to facilitate learning;
 - (5) The signs and symptoms of member-related problems;
 - (6) Causes of stress in emergency service personnel;
 - (7) Adverse effects of stress on the performance of emergency service personnel;
 - (8) The use of human resource policies and procedures; and
 - (9) Principles and supervision and basic human resource management;
 - ii. Community and government relations;
 - (1) Interpersonal relationships and verbal and nonverbal communication; and
 - (2) Written and verbal communication techniques to address the public;
 - iii. Administration;
 - (1) Written and verbal communications to address members of the department; and
 - (2) The need and use of administrative policies, procedures, and record management;
 - iv. Inspection and investigation;
 - (1) The common causes of fire;
 - (2) Fire growth and development;
 - (3) Policies and procedures for calling for investigators; and
 - (4) The importance of scene security;
 - v. Emergency service delivery;
 - (1) The elements of a pre-incident plan;

- (2) Basic building construction;
- (3) Basic fire protection systems and features;
- (4) Basic water supply;
- (5) Basic fuel loading;
- (6) Fire growth and development;
- (7) Preparing written reports;
- (8) The elements of size-up;
- (9) Standard operating procedures for emergency operations;
- (10) Fire behavior;
- (11) Basic fire control and emergency operation procedures; and
- (12) The personnel accountability system;
- vi. On-scene incident commander;
 - (1) Know and be able to implement New Jersey's Incident Management System;
 - (2) The fire department's emergency operations plan;
 - (3) The hazards and risks associated with employees working in chemical protective clothing;
 - (4) The local emergency response plan;
 - (5) The State emergency response plan;
 - (6) The Federal Regional Response Teams; and
 - (7) Decontamination procedures;
- vii. Safety;
 - (1) The common causes of injuries and accidents;
 - (2) The need and use of safety policies and procedures;
 - (3) Basic workplace safety;
 - (4) The components of an Infectious Disease Control Program;
 - (5) Conducting an accident investigation;
- viii. New Jersey Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health Act;
 - (1) Know of and be able to implement and administer the following:
 - (A) Personal protective clothing and equipment requirements;
 - (B) A respiratory protection program;
 - (C) A bloodborne pathogen program; and
 - (D) Right to Know requirements; and
- ix. Conducting training sessions;