

NFPA 1001

Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications

2002 Edition



NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, PO Box 9101, Quincy, MA 02269-9101
An International Codes and Standards Organization

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NFPA 1001
Standard for
Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications
2002 Edition

This edition of 1001, *Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications, released by the Technical Correlating Committee on Professional Qualifications, and acted on by NFPA at its May Association Technical Meeting held May 19–23, 2002, in Minneapolis, MN. It was issued by the Standards Council on July 19, 2002, with an effective date of August 8, 2002, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of NFPA 1001 was approved as an American National Standard on July 19, 2002.

Origin and Development of NFPA 1001

In 1971, the Joint Council of National Fire Service Organizations (JCNFSO) created the National Professional Qualifications Board (NPQB) for the fire service to facilitate the development of nationally applicable performance standards for uniformed fire service personnel. On December 14, 1972, the Board established four technical committees to develop those standards using the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards-making system. The initial committees addressed the following career areas: fire fighter, fire officer, fire service instructor, and fire inspector and investigator.

The Committee on Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications met through 1973 and 1974 producing the first edition of this document. The first edition of NFPA 1001 was adopted by the Association in November of 1974.

Subsequent to the adoption of the initial edition, the committee has met regularly to revise and update the standard. Additional editions were adopted and issued by the NFPA under the auspices of the NPQB in 1981 and 1987.

The original concept of the professional qualification standards as directed by the JCNFSO and the NPQB was to develop an interrelated set of performance standards specifically for the fire service. The various levels of achievement in the standards were to build on each other within a strictly defined career ladder. In the late 1980s, revisions of the standards recognized that the documents should stand on their own merit in terms of job performance requirements for a given field. Accordingly, the strict career-ladder concept was abandoned, except for the progression from fire fighter to fire officer. The later revisions, therefore, facilitated the use of the documents by other than the uniformed fire services.

In 1990, responsibility for the appointment of professional qualifications committees and the development of the professional qualifications standards were assumed by the NFPA.

The Correlating Committee on Professional Qualifications was appointed by the NFPA Standards Council in 1990 and assumed the responsibility for coordinating the requirements of all of the Professional Qualifications documents.

For the 1997 edition, NFPA 1001 was converted to the job performance requirement (JPR) format to be consistent with the other standards in the Professional Qualifications Project. Each JPR consists of the task to be performed; the tools, equipment, or materials that must be provided to successfully complete the task; evaluation parameters and/or performance outcomes; and lists of requisite knowledge and skills one must have to be able to perform the task. More information about JPRs can be found in Appendix B.

The intent of the technical committee was to develop clear and concise job performance requirements that can be used to determine that an individual, when measured to the standard, possesses the skills and knowledge to perform as a fire fighter. The committee further contends that these job performance requirements can be used in any fire department in any city, town, or private organization throughout North America.

In the 2002 edition of this document, the technical committee made several small additions to the standard. The committee also made changes in the document to bring it into conformance with the new NFPA *Manual of Style*.

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Committee Scope: This Committee shall have primary responsibility for the management of the NFPA Professional Qualifications Project and documents related to professional qualifications for fire service, public safety, and related personnel.

Technical Committee on Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications

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Committee Scope: This Committee shall have primary responsibility for documents on professional competence required of fire fighters.

These lists represent the membership at the time the Committees were balloted on the final text of this edition. Since that time, changes in the membership may have occurred. A key to classifications is found at the back of the document.

NOTE: Membership on a committee shall not in and of itself constitute an endorsement of the Association or any document developed by the committee on which the member serves.

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NOTICE: An asterisk (*) following the number or letter designating a paragraph indicates that explanatory material on the paragraph can be found in Annex A.

Changes other than editorial are indicated by a vertical rule beside the paragraph, table, or figure in which the change occurred. These rules are included as an aid to the user in identifying changes from the previous edition. Where one or more complete paragraphs have been deleted, the deletion is indicated by a bullet between the paragraphs that remain.

A reference in brackets [] following a section or paragraph indicates material that has been extracted from another NFPA document. As an aid to the user, Annex D lists the complete title and edition of the source documents for both mandatory and nonmandatory extracts. Editorial changes to extracted material consist of revising references to an appropriate division in this document or the inclusion of the document number with the division number when the reference is to the original document. Requests for interpretations or revisions of extracted text shall be sent to the appropriate technical committee.

Information on referenced publications can be found in Chapter 2 and Annex D.

Chapter 1 Administration

1.1 Scope. This standard identifies the minimum job performance requirements for career and volunteer fire fighters whose duties are primarily structural in nature.

1.2 Purpose. The purpose of this standard is to specify the minimum job performance requirements for fire fighters. It is not the intent of the standard to restrict any jurisdiction from exceeding these requirements.

1.3 General.

1.3.1 The job performance requirements shall be accomplished in accordance with the requirements of the authority having jurisdiction and NFPA 1500, *Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program*.

1.3.2* It is not required for the job performance requirements to be mastered in the order they appear. The authority having jurisdiction shall establish instructional priority and the training program content to prepare individuals to meet the job performance requirements of this standard.

1.3.3* Performance of each requirement of this standard shall be evaluated by individuals approved by the authority having jurisdiction.

1.3.4 The entrance requirements in Chapter 4 of this standard shall be met prior to beginning training at the Fire Fighter I level.

1.3.5* Prior to being certified at the Fire Fighter I level, the fire fighter candidate shall meet the general knowledge and

skills requirements and the job performance requirements of Chapter 5.

1.3.6 Prior to being certified at the Fire Fighter II level, the Fire Fighter I shall meet the general knowledge and skills requirements and the job performance requirements of Chapter 6.

1.3.7 Wherever in this standard the terms *rules, regulations, procedures, supplies, apparatus, or equipment* are referred to, it is implied that they are those of the authority having jurisdiction.

1.4 Units. In this standard, values for measurement are followed by an equivalent in SI units, but only the first stated value shall be regarded as the requirement. Equivalent values in SI units shall not be considered as the requirement, as these values can be approximate. (See Table 1.4.)

Table 1.4 SI Conversions

Quantity	U.S. Unit/Symbol	SI Unit/Symbol	Conversion Factor
Length	inch (in.)	millimeter (mm)	1 in. = 25.4 mm
	foot (ft)	meter (m)	1 ft = 0.305 m
Area	square foot (ft ²)	square meter (m ²)	1 ft ² = 0.0929 m ²

Chapter 2 Referenced Publications

2.1 General. The documents or portions thereof listed in this chapter are referenced within this standard and shall be considered part of the requirements of this document.

2.2 NFPA Publications. National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy, MA 02269-9101.

NFPA 472, *Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents*, 2002 edition.

NFPA 1500, *Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program*, 2002 edition.

NFPA 1582, *Standard on Medical Requirements for Fire Fighters and Information for Fire Department Physicians*, 2000 edition.

2.3 Other Publications. (Reserved)

Chapter 3 Definitions

3.1* General. The definitions contained in this chapter shall apply to the terms used in this standard. Where terms are not included, common usage of the terms shall apply.

3.2 NFPA Official Definitions.

3.2.1* Approved. Acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

3.2.2* Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). The organization, office, or individual responsible for approving equipment, materials, an installation, or a procedure.

3.2.3* Listed. Equipment, materials, or services included in a list published by an organization that is acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction and concerned with evaluation of products or services, that maintains periodic inspection of production of listed equipment or materials or periodic evaluation of services, and whose listing states that either the equipment, material, or