

NFPA®

1001

Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications

2019



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NFPA® 1001

Standard for

Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications

2019 Edition

This edition of NFPA 1001, *Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications*, was prepared by the Technical Committees on Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications, released by the Correlating Committee on Professional Qualifications and acted on by NFPA at its June Association Technical Meeting held June 11–14, 2018, in Las Vegas, NV. It was issued by the Standards Council on August 14, 2018, with an effective date of September 3, 2018, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of NFPA 1001 was approved as an American National Standard on September 3, 2018.

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 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 (JPRs) 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 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 Annex B.

The intent of the technical committee was to develop clear and concise JPRs 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 JPRs 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 *Manual of Style for NFPA Technical Committee Documents*.

In the 2008 edition of this document, a complete revision was done. The changes included the following: a skills maintenance requirement was added, specific knot-tying requirements were deleted and replaced with those required by the authority having jurisdiction, the inspection and public education requirements were moved from Chapter 5 to Chapter 6, and the JPR on flow testing of fire hydrants was deleted from Chapter 6.

For the 2012 edition of NFPA 1001, the technical committee made several changes, including the use of essential job tasks in consideration for the medical requirement referenced in NFPA 1582, *Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments*. The 1-minute time component for donning personal protective clothing was removed because the technical committee believes it is more important to perform the procedure correctly rather than quickly, to keep the person safe. NFPA 1001 also addressed the activation of an emergency call for assistance so that fire fighters can be located and rescued. The term *life safety initiatives* was replaced with *prevention* in Fire Fighter II to bring attention to the greater issue of community risk reduction.

For the 2019 edition of NFPA 1001, the technical committee consolidates general requirements for fire fighters into one chapter and added a chapter to recognize the role of fire fighters in providing emergency medical services at various levels. The committee defines and requires the concept of field reduction of contaminants to address chronic exposure to carcinogens. The committee also includes a job performance requirement regarding the behavioral health challenges faced by fire fighters and recognition of critical incident stress. Annexes are updated, and a new JPR matrix is included to provide an overview of job performance requirements. An annex section is added that recognizes the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation.

IN MEMORIAM

Chief Edward T. Bent passed away on March 27, 2012. Ed had a long career as a member of the Los Angeles Fire Department and then moved on to become the first State Director of California State Fire Training. The California State Fire Instructor of the Year Award is named in his honor. He was also a long-time member of the International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA) and served several terms on the IFSTA Executive Board.

Ed had a long history of involvement with the NFPA, dating back to the 1960s. He was one of the original members of the NFPA 1001, *Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications*, committee that was formed in 1974. He was also a long-time member of the NFPA Fire Service Training Committee and held Emeritus Member status at the time of his passing. In 2000, he was awarded the NFPA Committee Member Service Award, which is given for continuous voluntary service as a technical committee member for a substantial period of time in recognition and appreciation of distinguished service to NFPA in the development of NFPA codes and standards.

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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.

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

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NFPA 1001

Standard for

Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications

2019 Edition

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

Chapter 1 Administration

1.1 Scope. This standard identifies the minimum job performance requirements (JPRs) for Fire Fighter I and Fire Fighter II professional qualifications.

1.2 Purpose. The purpose of this standard is to specify the minimum JPRs for service as Fire Fighter I and Fire Fighter II.

1.2.1 This standard shall define Fire Fighter I and Fire Fighter II professional qualifications.

1.2.2 The intent of this standard shall be to ensure that personnel serving as Fire Fighter I and Fire Fighter II are qualified.

1.2.3 This standard shall not address organization or management responsibility.

1.2.4 It is not the intent of this standard to restrict any jurisdiction from exceeding or combining these minimum requirements.

1.2.5 JPRs for each level and position are the tasks personnel shall be able to perform to carry out the job duties.

1.2.6 Fire Fighter I and Fire Fighter II level individuals shall remain current with the general knowledge, skills, and JPRs addressed for each level or position of qualification.

1.3 Application.

1.3.1 The application of this standard is to specify which requirements within the document shall apply to Fire Fighter I and Fire Fighter II levels. The JPRs shall be accomplished in accordance with the requirements of the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) and all applicable NFPA standards.

1.3.2 It shall not be required that the JPRs be mastered in the order in which they appear. The AHJ shall establish instructional priority and the training program content to prepare personnel to meet the JPRs of this standard.

1.3.3* Performance of each requirement of this standard shall be evaluated by personnel approved by the AHJ.

1.3.4 The JPRs for each level or position shall be completed in accordance with recognized practices and procedures or as defined by law or by the AHJ.

1.3.5 Personnel assigned the duties of Fire Fighter I and Fire Fighter II shall meet all the requirements defined in Chapter 1 prior to being qualified. Personnel assigned the duties of Fire Fighter I shall meet all the requirements defined in Chapter 4 prior to being qualified. Personnel assigned the duties of Fire Fighter II shall meet all the requirements defined in Chapter 5 prior to being qualified. Personnel assigned the duties related to emergency medical service delivery shall meet one of the levels identified in Chapter 6 prior to being qualified.

1.3.6 The AHJ shall provide personal protective clothing and the equipment necessary to conduct assignments.

1.3.7 JPRs involving exposure to products of combustion shall be performed in approved personal protective equipment (PPE).

1.3.8 Prior to training to meet the requirements of this standard, personnel shall meet the following requirements:

- (1) Educational requirements established by the AHJ
- (2) Age requirements established by the AHJ
- (3) Medical requirements established by the AHJ
- (4) Job-related physical performance requirements established by the AHJ
- (5) Background investigation and character traits as reference established by the AHJ

1.3.9 Wherever in this standard the terms *rules, regulations, policies, procedures, supplies, apparatus, and equipment* are referred to, it is implied that they are those of the AHJ.

1.3.10 Fire Fighter I and Fire Fighter II level individuals shall meet all of the requirements defined in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS), as mandated by Homeland Security Presidential Directives 5 and 8 (see www.FEMA.gov/emergency/NIMS) and as directed by the NIMS Integration Center.

1.3.11 General.

1.3.11.1 Prior to entering training to meet the requirements of Chapters 4 and 5 of this standard, the candidate shall meet the following requirements:

- (1) Minimum educational requirements established by the AHJ
- (2) Age requirements established by the AHJ
- (3)* Medical requirements of NFPA 1582

1.3.11.2 Fitness Requirements. Physical fitness requirements for entry-level personnel shall be developed and validated by the AHJ.

1.3.11.3* Emergency Medical Services.

1.3.11.3.1 Minimum emergency medical care performance capabilities for entry-level personnel shall be developed and validated by the AHJ.

1.3.11.3.2 Emergency medical services shall meet the requirements of Chapter 6.

1.4 Units. In this standard, equivalent values in SI units, should not be considered as the requirement, as these values can be approximate. (See Table 1.4.)

Table 1.4 SI Conversions

Quantity	U.S.	SI	Conversion Factor
	Unit/Symbol	Unit/Symbol	
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, Quincy, MA 02169-7471.

NFPA 450, *Guide for Emergency Medical Services and Systems*, 2017 edition.

NFPA 472, *Standard for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents*, 2018 edition.

NFPA 1500, *Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program*, 2018 edition.

NFPA 1581, *Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program*, 2015 edition.

NFPA 1582, *Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments*, 2018 edition.

NFPA 1710, *Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments*, 2016 edition.

NFPA 1999, *Standard on Protective Clothing for Emergency Medical Operations*, 2018 edition.

2.3 Other Publications.

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 11th edition, Merriam-Webster, Inc., Springfield, MA, 2003.

2.4 References for Extracts in Mandatory Sections.

NFPA 1000, *Standard for Fire Service Professional Qualifications Accreditation and Certification Systems*, 2017 edition.

NFPA 1002, *Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications*, 2017 edition.

NFPA 1031, *Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspector and Plan Examiner*, 2014 edition.

NFPA 1710, *Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments*, 2016 edition.

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 defined in this chapter or within another chapter, they shall be defined using their ordinarily accepted meanings within the context in which they are used. *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, 11th edition, shall be the source for the ordinarily accepted meaning.

3.2 NFPA Official Definitions.

3.2.1* Approved. Acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

3.2.2* Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). An organization, office, or individual responsible for enforcing the requirements of a code or standard, or 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 service meets appropriate designated standards or has been tested and found suitable for a specified purpose.

3.2.4 Shall. Indicates a mandatory requirement.

3.2.5 Should. Indicates a recommendation or that which is advised but not required.

3.2.6 Standard. An NFPA Standard, the main text of which contains only mandatory provisions using the word "shall" to indicate requirements and that is in a form generally suitable for mandatory reference by another standard or code or for adoption into law. Nonmandatory provisions are not to be considered a part of the requirements of a standard and shall be located in an appendix, annex, footnote, informational note, or other means as permitted in the NFPA Manuals of Style. When used in a generic sense, such as in the phrase "standards development process" or "standards development activities," the term "standards" includes all NFPA Standards, including Codes, Standards, Recommended Practices, and Guides.

3.3 General Definitions.

3.3.1 Field Reduction of Contaminants. A nonmechanical process or method of reducing contamination in the field for fire fighter personal protective clothing and equipment.

3.3.2 Fire and Life Safety Initiatives. Programs, actions, and services that prevent or reduce the loss of life and property associated with fire and other risks to the community.

3.3.3 Fire Department. An organization providing rescue, fire suppression, and related activities, including any public, governmental, private, industrial, or military organization engaging in this type of activity.

3.3.4 Fire Fighter Candidate. The person who has fulfilled the entrance requirements of Chapter 4 of this standard but has not met the job performance requirements for Fire Fighter I.

3.3.5 Fire Fighter I. The person, at the first level of progression as defined in Chapter 4, who has demonstrated the knowledge and skills to function as an integral member of a fire-fighting team under direct supervision in hazardous conditions.

3.3.6* Fire Fighter II. The person, at the second level of progression as defined in Chapter 5, who has demonstrated the skills and depth of knowledge to function under general supervision.

N 3.3.7 Fire Safety Survey. The process of observing and recording conditions of an occupied structure for basic fire and life safety hazards.

3.3.8 Job Performance Requirement (JPR). A written statement that describes a specific job task, lists the items necessary to complete the task, and defines measurable or observable outcomes and evaluation areas for the specific task. [1000, 2017]

N 3.3.9 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

3.3.9.1 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE — Emergency Medical Services). Consists of full protective clothing and respiratory protection as described in NFPA 1999 that protects against potential exposure to bloodborne and airborne pathogens.

Δ 3.3.9.2 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE — Fire Operations). The full complement of garments fire fighters are required to wear while on an emergency scene, including turnout coat, protective trousers, fire-fighting boots, fire-fighting gloves, a protective hood, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), a personal alert safety system (PASS) device, and a helmet with eye protection.

3.3.10 Procedure. The series of actions, conducted in an approved manner and sequence, designed to achieve an intended outcome.

3.3.11 Requisite Knowledge. Fundamental knowledge one must have in order to perform a specific task. [1031, 2014]

3.3.12 Requisite Skills. The essential skills one must have in order to perform a specific task. [1031, 2014]

3.3.13 Structural Fire Fighting. The activities of rescue, fire suppression, and property conservation in buildings or other structures, vehicles, railcars, marine vessels, aircraft, or like properties. [1710, 2016]

3.3.14 Task. A specific job behavior or activity. [1002, 2017]

3.3.15 Team. Two or more individuals who have been assigned a common task and are in proximity to and in direct communications with each other, coordinate their activities as a work group, and support the safety of one another.

Chapter 4 Fire Fighter I

Δ 4.1 General. For qualification at Level I, the fire fighter candidate shall meet the general knowledge requirements in 4.1.1, the general skill requirements in 4.1.2, the JPRs defined in Sections 4.2 through 4.5 of this standard, knowledge of the incident management system, and the requirements defined in Chapter 5 as well as mission-specific competencies in Section 6.2, Personal Protective Equipment, and Section 6.6, Product Control, of NFPA 1072.

Δ 4.1.1* General Knowledge Requirements. The organization of the fire department; the role of the Fire Fighter I in the organization; the mission of fire service; the fire department's standard operating procedures (SOPs) and rules and regulations as they apply to the Fire Fighter I; the value of fire and life safety initiatives in support of the fire department mission and to reduce fire fighter line-of-duty injuries and fatalities; the role of other agencies as they relate to the fire department; the signs and symptoms of behavioral and emotional distress; aspects of the fire department's member assistance program; the importance of physical fitness and a healthy lifestyle to the performance of the duties of a fire fighter; the critical aspects of NFPA 1500.

4.1.2 General Skill Requirements. The ability to don personal protective clothing, doff personal protective clothing, perform field reduction of contaminants and prepare for reuse, hoist tools and equipment using ropes and the correct knot, and locate information in departmental documents and standard or code materials.

4.2 Fire Department Communications. This duty shall involve initiating responses, receiving telephone calls, and using fire department communications equipment to correctly relay verbal or written information, according to the JPRs in 4.2.1 through 4.2.4.

4.2.1* Initiate the response to a reported emergency, given the report of an emergency, fire department SOPs, and communications equipment, so that all necessary information is obtained, communications equipment is operated correctly, and the information is relayed promptly and accurately to the dispatch center.

Δ (A) Requisite Knowledge. Procedures for reporting an emergency; departmental SOPs for taking and receiving alarms, radio codes, or procedures; and information needs of dispatch center.

Δ (B) Requisite Skills. The ability to operate fire department communications equipment, relay information, and record information.

4.2.2 Receive a telephone call, given a fire department phone, so that procedures for answering the phone are used and the caller's information is relayed.

Δ (A) Requisite Knowledge. Fire department procedures for answering nonemergency telephone calls.

Δ (B) Requisite Skills. The ability to operate fire station telephone and intercom equipment.

4.2.3 Transmit and receive messages via the fire department radio, given a fire department radio and operating procedures,