

NFPA® 405

Standard for the Recurring Proficiency of Airport Fire Fighters

2015 Edition



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An International Codes and Standards Organization

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NFPA® 405
Standard for the
Recurring Proficiency of Airport Fire Fighters
2015 Edition

This edition of NFPA 405, *Standard for the Recurring Proficiency of Airport Fire Fighters*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting. It was issued by the Standards Council on November 11, 2014, with an effective date of December 1, 2014, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of NFPA 405 was approved as an American National Standard on December 1, 2014.

Origin and Development of NFPA 405

In 1994, the Standards Council approved the request of the Technical Committee on Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting to develop a new document to address the maintaining of proficiency of aircraft rescue and fire-fighting services at airports. This recommended practice evolved from the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR), Part 139, Certification and Operations: Land Airports Serving Certain Air Carriers. In NFPA 405, the Committee had expanded the training curriculum provided in Part 139.319 by providing airport authorities with more specific information with which to develop comprehensive programs in order to maintain proficiency of ARFF services at airports.

The 1999 edition was a recommended practice. The document was changed to a standard for the 2004 edition.

In the 2010 edition, the technical committee made several additions to the requirements of this document, the most significant addition being the inclusion of all the requirements of NFPA 1003, *Standard for Airport Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications*. The technical committee recognized that fire fighters must meet certain minimum qualifications prior to being assigned to aircraft rescue and fire fighting (ARFF) activities and that NFPA 1003 contained such minimum requirements. While NFPA 1003 sets the initial minimum qualifications required, NFPA 405 builds on NFPA 1003 and includes the recurrent training requirements that are to be used by those assigned to ARFF activities. The technical committee also added recurrent training requirements that involve the use of proximity personal protective equipment (PrPPE). The technical committee also brought the document in line with the *Manual of Style for NFPA Technical Committee Documents*, as well as updated many of the references that are used in the document.

For the 2015 edition, many of the changes to the recurrent training requirements have been made in order to bring the document more in line with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requirements for recurrent training for airport fire fighters. To allow for increased use of this document internationally, the Committee also included requirements that the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has for airport fire fighters governed by ICAO.

One of the most significant and highly discussed changes for this edition is the change in time interval for skills evaluations, from 18 months to 12 months, which was done to line up with the time interval the FAA requires. Another significant change included in this edition is a greater focus on safety management for airport fire fighters and their important roles as team members. The committee also has included requirements to ensure that airport fire fighters are aware of the environmental impacts of extinguishing agents. Given the potential for international use of this document, the committee has modified the EMS requirements to where the AHJ is to determine what the minimum level of EMS is to be provided. Lastly, the committee has rewritten the entire chapter on recurrent live fire to address the skills and knowledge that are to be evaluated for live fire and live spill fire training. These changes have been made to align the document with what the FAA and the ICAO require airport fire fighters to be evaluated against.

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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.

Committee Scope: This Committee shall have primary responsibility for documents on aircraft rescue and fire-fighting services and equipment, for procedures for handling aircraft fire emergencies, and for specialized vehicles used to perform these functions at airports, with particular emphasis on saving lives and reducing injuries coincident with aircraft fires following impact or aircraft ground fires. This Committee also shall have responsibility for documents on aircraft hand fire extinguishers and accident prevention and the saving of lives in future aircraft accidents involving fire.

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