



Fire Service Certifications

The fire service has many different specialized certifications to enable firefighters to fill a vast array of functions. Most certifications have several levels that must be completed in order, usually level I and II or an operational and technician level. To obtain certification a firefighter must attend training classes and pass a certification test. The basic certification to be a firefighter at Wellington Fire/EMS is Firefighter I with Hazardous Materials Operations level. All other certifications are needed to perform specialized roles or for promotion. Listed below are common certifications. Each certification is linked to a brief description below.

[Fire Fighter I- Fire Fighter II - Hazardous Materials - Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator - Airport Fire Fighter Rescue Operations and Technician - Fire Officer I, II, III - Fire Inspector I, II - Fire Investigator I, II - Public Fire and Life Safety Educator - Fire Service Instructor I, II - Wildland Fire Fighter and Fire Department Safety Officer](#)

Firefighter I NFPA 1001

180 hr class Firefighter I (FF I) certification requires basic understanding of fire suppression, fire prevention and rescue operations. FF I must have basic understanding of the departments role, duties as assigned, standard operating procedures, locate information in departmental documents and standard or code materials and know rules and regulations as they apply to the FF I.

Understanding of the importance of physical fitness and a healthy lifestyle to the performance of the duties of a fire fighter. FF I must have an understanding of personal protection equipment (PPE) and ability to don PPE within 1 min. Use of self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and don within 1 min. Knot types and usage; the difference between life safety and utility rope; reasons for placing rope out of service; the types of knots to use for given tools, ropes, or situations; hoisting methods for tools and equipment; and using rope to support response activities. This duty shall involve performing activities necessary to ensure life safety, fire control, and property conservation.

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Firefighter II NFPA 1001

180 hr class Must obtain FF I, plus have knowledge in assuming and transferring command within an incident management system, performing assigned duties in conformance with applicable NFPA and other safety regulations, and the role of a Fire Fighter II within the organization. This duty shall involve performing activities necessary to ensure life safety, fire control, and property conservation. FF II possesses knowledge of advanced fire suppression and rescue techniques and situations.

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Hazardous Materials NFPA 472

Operations level 40 hr class Technician level 80 hr class Operations level requires general knowledge of hazardous material management. Operations level requires

ability to get a general identification and recognize hazard. Also operations level can assist a technician prepare.

Technician level is responsible for being able to identify all types of hazardous materials. Technician also must have the knowledge to safely contain and clean a hazardous materials incident. Technicians also handle public safety associated with hazardous materials. Technician level requires in-depth knowledge of chemicals and how they react. Technicians are the only level allowed to enter a 'hot zone' and physically handle a hazardous materials incident.

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Driver Operator NFPA 1002

Pump operations 40 hr class Aerial operations 40 hr class Driver operator has two classes, Pumper and Aerial operators. Both must be able to perform routine tests, inspections, and servicing functions on the systems and components specified in the following list, given a fire department vehicle and its manufacturer's specifications, so that the

operational status of the vehicle is verified: Operate a fire department vehicle, given a vehicle and a predetermined route on a public way that incorporates the maneuvers and features, specified in the following list, that the driver/operator is expected to encounter during normal operations, so that the vehicle is operated in compliance with all applicable state and local laws, departmental rules and regulations. The effects on vehicle control of liquid surge, braking reaction time, and load factors; effects of high center of gravity on roll-over potential, general steering reactions, speed, and centrifugal force; applicable laws and regulations; principles of skid avoidance, night driving, shifting, and gear patterns; negotiating intersections, railroad crossings, and bridges; weight and height limitations for both roads and bridges; identification and operation of automotive gauges; and operational limits. PUMPER Hydraulic calculations for friction loss and flow using written formulas and estimation methods, safe operation of the pump, problems related to small-diameter or dead-end mains, low-pressure and private water supply systems, hydrant coding systems, and reliability of static sources.

(B) Requisite Skills. The ability to position a fire department pumper to operate at a fire hydrant and at a static water source, power transfer from vehicle engine to pump, draft, operate pumper pressure control systems, operate the volume/pressure transfer valve (multistage pumps only), operate auxiliary cooling systems, make the transition between internal and external water source AERIAL This certification is responsible for understanding aerial apparatus. This requires ability to safely operate as well as ability to troubleshoot any problems that might arise. This requires knowledge of capabilities as well as limitations of apparatus.

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Standard for Airport Fire Fighter NFPA 1003

Fundamental aircraft fire-fighting techniques, including the approach, positioning, initial attack, and selection, application, and management of the extinguishing agents; limitations of various sized hand lines; use of proximity protective personal equipment (PrPPE); fire behavior; fire-fighting techniques in oxygen-enriched atmospheres; reaction of aircraft materials to heat and flame; critical components and hazards of civil aircraft construction and systems related to ARFF operations; special hazards associated with military aircraft systems; a national defense area and limitations within that area; characteristics of different aircraft fuels; hazardous areas in and around aircraft; aircraft fueling systems (hydrant/vehicle); aircraft egress/ingress (hatches, doors, and evacuation chutes); hazards associated with aircraft cargo, including dangerous goods; hazardous areas, including entry control points, crash scene perimeters, and requirements for operations within the hot, warm, and

cold zones; and critical stress management policies and procedures.

6.1.1.4 General Skills Requirements. Don PrPPE; operate hatches, doors, and evacuation chutes; approach, position, and initially attack an aircraft fire; select, apply, and manage extinguishing agents; shut down aircraft systems, including engine, electrical, hydraulic, and fuel systems;

operate aircraft extinguishing systems, including cargo area extinguishing systems, s, and assemble hose lines, nozzles, valves, and appliances.

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Rescue Technician NFPA 1006

Rope rescue – Operations 40hr, Technician 80hr Surface water - Swift water 16 hr, Flood water 28 hr class Vehicle and machinery extrication -Vehicle 16hr, Machinery 12hr Confined space – Operations 40 hr, Technician 40 hr Structural collapse – Operations 45 hr, Technician 45 hr Trench - Operations 24 hr, Technician 40 hr Dive (SCUBA) – Basic 32hr, Dive master 32 hr

Because technical rescue is inherently dangerous and rescue technicians are frequently required to perform rigorous activities in adverse conditions, regional and national safety standards shall be included in agency policies and procedures. Rescue technicians shall complete all activities in the safest possible manner and shall follow national, federal, state, provincial, and local safety standards as they apply to the rescue technician. Size up a rescue incident, given background information and applicable reference materials, so that the type of rescue is determined, the number of victims is identified, the last reported location of all victims is established, witnesses are identified and interviewed, resource needs are assessed, search parameters are identified, and information required to develop an incident action plan is obtained. Manage incident hazards, given scene control barriers, personal protective equipment, requisite equipment, and available specialized resources, so that all hazards are identified, resource application fits the operational requirements, hazard isolation is considered, risks to rescuers and victims are minimized, and rescue time constraints are taken into account. Inspect and maintain hazard-specific personal protective equipment, given clothing or equipment for the protection of the rescuers, including respiratory protection, cleaning and sanitation supplies, maintenance logs or records, and such tools and resources as are indicated by the manufacturer's guidelines for assembly or disassembly of components during repair or maintenance, so that damage, defects, and wear are identified and reported or repaired, equipment functions as designed, and preventive maintenance has been performed and documented consistent with the manufacturer's recommendations.

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Firefighter officer I, II, III NFPA1021

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Officer I 60 hr Officer II 42 hr Officer III 48 hr Firefighter Officer enables a firefighter to take the role of manager and leader. Officer teaches the many aspects of command, not only on the fire ground but also how to be a leader during everyday operations. It is important for an officer to be well informed of rules and regulations as well as legal issues that will confront the fire service.

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Fire Inspector I, II, III NFPA 1031

Inspector I 40 hr Inspector II 40 hr This duty involves the preparation of correspondence and inspection reports, handling of complaints, and maintenance of records, as well as participation in legal proceedings and maintenance of an open dialogue with the plan examiner and emergency response personnel according to the following job performance requirements.

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Fire investigator I, II, III NFPA 1033

Investigator I 40hr plus 80 hr law enforcement class Investigator II 40 hr Investigator II 40 hr

Duties shall include inspecting and evaluating the scene so as to determine the area or point of origin, source of ignition, material(s) ignited, and act or activity that brought ignition source and materials together and to assess the subsequent progression, extinguishment, and containment of the fire. Secure the fire ground, given marking devices, sufficient personnel, and special tools and equipment, so that unauthorized persons can recognize the perimeters of the investigative scene and are kept from restricted areas and all evidence or potential evidence is protected from damage or destruction.

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Public fire and life safety officer I, II, III
NFPA 1035 Juvenile fire setter
intervention specialist I, II

40 hr Responsibilities include educating the public on fire and life safety. Learns about human behavior during a fire. Also responsible for intervention and education of arsonist and juvenile fire setters. Also responsible for some topic on homeland security and risks associated with fire threats.

Fire instructor I, II, III NFPA 1041

Instructor I 30 hr Instructor II 30 hr Instructor III 30 hr Handles the management of basic resources and the records and reports essential to the instructional process. Responsible for assembling course materials, given a specific topic, so that the lesson plans and all materials, resources, and equipment needed to deliver the lesson are obtained.

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Wildland professional Firefighter I, II, Officer I, II NFPA 1051

48 hr Learns the principals and practice of Wildland firefighting, including, fire line safety, use, and limitations of personal protective equipment, agency policy on fire shelter use, basic wildland fire behavior, fire suppression techniques, basic wildland fire tactics, the fire fighter's role within the local incident management system, and first aid. Officer I, II Authority and responsibility of cooperating jurisdictional agencies, formal and informal agreements between jurisdictional agencies, the incident management system used by the jurisdiction, and the Wildland Fire Officer I's role within that system.

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Fire Dept Safety Officer NFPA 1521

15 hours The health and safety officer (HSO) shall be involved in the development, implementation, and management of the official written risk management plan as specified in Chapter 4 of NFPA 1500, Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program. The health and safety officer shall communicate the health and safety aspects of the risk management plan to all members through training and education. The health and safety officer shall make the written risk management plan available to all fire department members. The health and safety officer shall develop, implement, and maintain health and safety programs to control risks as identified within the risk management plan. The health and safety officer shall monitor the effectiveness of the risk management plan and shall ensure the plan is revised annually as it relates to fire fighter health and safety. The health and safety officer shall develop an incident risk management plan that is incorporated into the fire department's incident management system.

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