

**RULES
OF
THE TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON FIRE FIGHTING
PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION**

**CHAPTER 0360-02-01
CERTIFICATION OF TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

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0360-02-01-.01 LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

- (1) Departments recognized under the Fire Department Recognition Act, T.C.A. §§ 68-102-301 et seq., may participate in any eligible Commission program.
- (2) Certification will only be offered for those courses and programs that have been properly submitted to and certified by the Commission.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-24-101, 4-24-107, and 4-24-112. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 27, 1979; effective October 10, 1979. Amendment filed November 8, 1990; effective December 23, 1990. Repeal and new rule filed October 27, 2014; effective January 25, 2015. Amendments filed April 2, 2025; effective July 1, 2025.

0360-02-01-.02 VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

- (1) If an institution wishes to have its courses certified, it must submit written descriptions of said courses to the Commission for consideration. All courses in fire training leading to certification must meet or exceed the applicable NFPA standard(s) and be consistent with the rules and regulations of the Commission.
- (2) In order to receive course approval, the course content must be submitted, in writing, to the Commission at least sixty (60) days prior to consideration by the Commission. The submission must include specific citations to the portions of the NFPA standard(s) that correlate with the course content.
- (3) Advanced courses and seminars in fire service, fire engineering or other advanced fire related training must be submitted to the Commission in sufficient detail to show adequacy of course content on the subject.
- (4) Any institution desiring to have a program (consisting of one or more courses or seminars) approved must:
 - (a) Submit a detailed description of the program at least sixty (60) days prior to consideration by the Commission; and
 - (b) Have each course or seminar certified by the Commission as set forth above.
- (5) If a course or program has been properly submitted and certified by the Commission, persons completing such course or program will be given credit toward individual certification. Completion of unapproved courses or programs will not result in such credit.

(Rule 0360-02-01-.02, continued)

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-24-101, 4-24-106, and 4-24-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 27, 1979; effective October 10, 1979. Amendment filed November 8, 1990; effective December 23, 1990. Amendment filed December 14, 2009; effective March 14, 2010. Amendment filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2015.

0360-02-01-.03 SPECIAL COURSES AND PROGRAMS.

- (1) Any entity or organization not otherwise covered by these rules and regulations which offers special courses, programs, or seminars in fire related subjects may request approval of such offerings. Approval will be considered, giving due weight to course content and qualifications of instructors.
- (2) When coursework is submitted toward a level of certification, a correlation sheet showing how the coursework meets the appropriate NFPA standard must be attached. Coursework cannot substitute for the practical examination for levels of certification accredited by IFSAC or any other national fire service accreditation body.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-24-101, 4-24-106, and 4-24-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 17, 1979; effective October 10, 1979. Amendment filed November 8, 1990; effective December 23, 1990. Amendment filed December 14, 2009; effective March 14, 2010. Repeal and new rule filed October 27, 2014; effective January 25, 2015.

0360-02-01-.04 RESERVED.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-24-101, 4-24-106, 4-24-106(2), 4-24-107 and 4-24-107(3). **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 27, 1979; effective October 10, 1979. Amendment filed November 8, 1990; effective December 23, 1990. Amendment filed December 14, 2009; effective March 14, 2010. Repeal and new rule filed October 27, 2014; effective January 25, 2015.

0360-02-01-.05 MINIMUM TRAINING.

- (1) (a) In order for the Commission to determine if a training is equivalent to a required training offered by the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy, all training programs seeking such determination of equivalency must submit:
 1. An outline of the training to be used; and either;
 2. A correlation of the program to the applicable NFPA standards; or
 3. A correlation of the program to the class offered by the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy.
- (b) A department may use a previously-approved training program on file with the Commission provided that the program meets or exceeds the current Commission-adopted NFPA standard and is approved by the Commission.
- (2) To sit for certification testing, each individual must submit documentation that the prerequisites for the appropriate level of certification have been met.
 - (a) An applicant sitting for the Fire Fighter I test without completing the prerequisite courses must have satisfied the requirements of T.C.A. § 4-24-112 and the prerequisite Hazardous Materials Awareness (HMA)/Hazardous Material Operations (HMO) certifications.
 - (b) Certificates of course completion do not constitute certification.

(Rule 0360-02-01-.05, continued)

- (c) Certification as Fire Fighter I shall be considered proof of a firefighter's completion of a minimum sixteen (16) hours of initial training and basic and live burn training requirement.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-24-101, 4-24-107, and 4-24-112. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 14, 2009; effective March 14, 2010. Repeal and new rule filed October 27, 2014; effective January 27, 2015. Amendments filed April 2, 2025; effective July 1, 2025.