

CHAPTER 60
FIRE FIGHTER TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION

[Prior to 9/29/04, see 661—Ch 54]

661—251.1(100B) Definition. The following definition applies to rules 661—251.1(100B) to 251.204(100B):

“*NFPA*” means the National Fire Protection Association, Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02269. References to the form “NFPA xx,” where “xx” is a number, refer to the NFPA standard or pamphlet of the corresponding number.

661—251.2 to 251.200 Reserved.

FIRE FIGHTER CERTIFICATION

661—251.201(100B) Fire fighter certification program. There is established within the fire service training bureau of the fire marshal division a fire fighter certification program for the state of Iowa, which shall be known as the Iowa fire service certification system. The Iowa fire service certification system is accredited by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress to certify fire service personnel to accepted national standards. All certifications issued by the Iowa fire service certification system shall be based upon nationally accepted standards. Participation in the Iowa fire service certification system is voluntary in that state law does not require certification to work or volunteer as a fire fighter in Iowa. However, some fire departments within the state require certification for continued employment or promotion. Inquiries regarding such requirements should be directed to the hiring or employing department.

Inquiries and requests regarding the Iowa fire service certification system should be directed to Iowa Fire Service Certification System, Fire Service Training Bureau, 3100 Fire Service Road, Ames, Iowa 50010-3100. The bureau can be contacted by telephone at (888)469-2374 (toll-free) or at (515)294-6817, by fax at (800)722-7350 (toll-free) or (515)294-2156, or by electronic mail at fstbinfo@dps.state.ia.us. Further information can be found on the Web site for the fire service training bureau at www.state.ia.us/government/dps/fm/fstb.

251.201(1) Eligibility. Any person seeking certification through the Iowa fire service certification system shall be a current member of a fire, emergency, or rescue organization within the state of Iowa and shall be at least 18 years of age.

EXCEPTION: Persons not meeting the requirement of membership in a fire, emergency, or rescue organization may be granted exceptions to this requirement on an individual basis. Individuals seeking such exceptions shall address these requests to the fire service training bureau.

251.201(2) Application. Application forms for each level of fire fighter certification may be obtained from the fire service training bureau, or on the bureau’s Web site at www.state.ia.us/government/dps/fm/fstb. In order to enter the certification program, an applicant shall submit a completed application, accompanied by the required fee, to the fire service training bureau. The fee must accompany the application form, although a purchase order from a public agency or private organization may be accepted in lieu of prior payment. The application and fee shall be submitted no less than two weeks prior to the date of any examination in which the applicant wishes to participate.

661—251.202(100B) Certification standards. Standards for Iowa fire fighter certification are based upon nationally recognized standards established by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), 1 Batterymarch Park, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy, Massachusetts 02269-9101. Certification at each level in the Iowa fire service certification system results in national certification as well.

251.202(1) Fire fighter.

a. Fire fighter I. Certification as a fire fighter I is based upon the requirements for fire fighter I certification established in NFPA 1001, “Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications,” 2002 edition, chapter 5.

b. Fire fighter II. Certification as a fire fighter II is based upon the requirements for fire fighter II certification established in NFPA 1001, “Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications,” 2002 edition, chapter 6.

251.202(2) Driver/operator.

a. Driver/operator (pumper). Certification as a driver/operator (pumper) is based upon the requirements for fire department vehicle driver/operator (pumper) certification established in NFPA 1002, “Standard for Fire Vehicle Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications,” 2002 edition, chapter 5.

b. Driver/operator (aerial). Certification as a driver/operator (aerial) is based upon the requirements for fire department vehicle driver/operator (aerial) certification established in NFPA 1002, “Standard for Fire Vehicle Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications,” 2002 edition, chapter 6.

251.202(3) Fire officer.

a. Fire officer I. Certification as a fire officer I is based upon the requirements for fire officer I certification established in NFPA 1021, “Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications,” 2003 edition, chapter 4.

b. Fire officer II. Certification as a fire officer II is based upon the requirements for fire officer II certification established in NFPA 1021, “Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications,” 2003 edition, chapter 5.

251.202(4) Fire inspector. Certification as a fire inspector I is based upon the requirements for certification as a fire inspector I established in NFPA 1031, “Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspector and Plans Examiner,” 2003 edition, chapter 4.

251.202(5) Fire investigator. Certification as a fire investigator is based upon the requirements for certification as a fire investigator established in NFPA 1033, “Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator,” 2003 edition, chapter 4.

251.202(6) Fire service instructor.

a. Fire service instructor I. Certification as a fire service instructor I is based upon the requirements for certification as a fire service instructor I established in NFPA 1041, “Standard for Fire Service Instructor Professional Qualifications,” 2002 edition, chapter 4.

b. Fire service instructor II. Certification as a fire service instructor II is based upon the requirements for certification as a fire service instructor II established in NFPA 1041, “Standard for Fire Service Instructor Professional Qualifications,” 2002 edition, chapter 5.

251.202(7) Responder to hazardous materials incidents.

a. Responder to hazardous materials incidents (awareness). Certification as a responder to hazardous materials incidents (awareness) is based upon the requirements for certification as a responder to hazardous materials incidents (awareness) established in NFPA 472, “Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents,” 2002 edition, chapter 4.

b. Responder to hazardous materials incidents (operations). Certification as a responder to hazardous materials incidents (operations) is based upon the requirements for certification as a responder to hazardous materials incidents (operations) established in NFPA 472, “Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents,” 2002 edition, chapter 5.

661—251.203(100B) Fees. Current certification application fees and any other fees related to participation in the certification process shall be listed in the publication Certification Procedures Guide for each level of certification, published by the fire service training bureau and available on request from the fire service training bureau. The information in each guide shall be effective upon publication until superseded by publication of a later edition. Prospective candidates who are considering application for a particular level of certification should contact the fire service training bureau for the latest date of publication of the Certification Procedures Guide.

Fees may be paid by personal check made payable to Iowa Department of Public Safety—Fire Service Training Bureau, credit card, purchase order from a public agency or private organization, check or draft from a public agency or private organization, or money order. The check, credit card information, purchase order, money order or draft shall be submitted with the application.

661—251.204(100B) Certification, denial, and revocation of certification.

251.204(1) Certification. Upon completion of the requirements for certification, the applicant's name shall be entered into the Iowa certification database maintained by the fire service training bureau for the respective level of certification and into the National Certification Data Base maintained by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress. Individuals who successfully complete the certification requirements shall also receive an individualized certificate awarding national certification from the fire service training bureau, which will bear a numbered seal from the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress, and additional insignia from the fire service training bureau.

251.204(2) Denial of certification. Certification shall be denied to any applicant who fails to meet all of the requirements for the type of certification, who knowingly submits false information to the fire service training bureau, or who engages in fraudulent activity during the certification process.

251.204(3) Revocation. The fire marshal may revoke the certification of any individual who is found to have knowingly provided false information to the fire service training bureau during the certification process or to have engaged in fraudulent activity during the certification process.

251.204(4) Appeals. Any person who is denied certification or whose certification is revoked may appeal the denial or revocation. An appeal of a denial or revocation of certification shall be made to the commissioner of public safety within 30 days of the issuance of the denial or revocation using the contested case procedures specified in 661—Chapter 10.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 100B.

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